

Nevada Indian Commission
 October 7, 2016
 Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 Nevada Indian Commission Office, 5500 Snyder Ave., Carson City, Nevada

Committee Member	Seat Filled	Present	Absent
Buck Sampson	Alumni	✓	
Terri McBride	Knowledge of School	✓	
Karyn deDufour	State Historic Preservation Office		✓
Betty Badgett	State Buildings & Grounds	✓	
Meg McDonald	Knowledge of School	✓	
Rachel Delovio	Nevada State Museum		✓
Skip Canfield	State Lands	✓	
Max Symonds	Knowledge of School	✓	
Bonnie Thompson	Knowledge of School		✓

NIC Staff Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Curator II, Nevada Indian Commission; Denise M. Becker, Administrative Assistant III, Nevada Indian Commission

Others Present: Martin Phillips, State Buildings and Grounds; Ron Bodnar, Stewart Buildings and Grounds

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - A. Buck Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:08am and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

- II. Invocation
 - A. The invocation was given by Buck Sampson.

- III. Initial Public Comment
 - A. Terri reported she has scheduled a focus group for former students and employees of Stewart on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 11:00am in the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) conference room. Sherry asked Meg to post information at the Carson Colony Senior Center. Meg asked why the focus group will be occurring and Terri said she is hoping to receive stories from alumni that need to be told about the Stewart Indian School. Sherry said that this information will be e-mailed through the agency listserves and faxed to the local tribal senior centers. Meg commented that because they are seniors, she may have to go to them. Terri said she is unable to go to every senior center in the Great Basin and is hopeful they would be willing to come to a central location such as the Commission.

- IV. Approval of August 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes
 - A. Terri made a motion to approve the August 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes and Betty seconded. Motion carried.

- V. Approval of Appointment of Representative Forms for the Stewart Advisory Committee
 - A. Sherry reported that she didn't receive any forms this time around. This Committee has nine members and most of them are present today. Skip asked how long terms are for members. Sherry replied that the term for each member is two years.

- VI. Update on Recruitment for Stewart Indian School Cultural Center Staff
 - A. Sherry reported that before the Museum Director can be hired, a class specification study had to be done per the Department of Human Resource Management. While the NIC waits for approval to begin the recruitment of a Museum Director, Chris Ann Gibbons was hired as the Curator II. Chris earned a Bachelor's Degree in History and graduated with two minors; one in Art History and the other in Native American Studies from Southern Oregon University. Currently, Chris is working on her Master's Degree in Museum Studies at the University of Oklahoma. Sherry publicly congratulated Chris and said that her transition into this new position will be seamless because Chris has been involved in the preservation of Stewart for eleven years. Chris said that she is ecstatic about her new role and although she will officially be starting on Monday, she will continue performing Program Officer duties until the vacancy is filled.

- VII. Update on Excess Lodging Tax Funds Received through the Division of Tourism
 - A. Sherry distributed handouts to the Committee and commented on the Original Master Plan Scope and how it included a Strategic Plan, Preservation Plan, and an Implementation Plan, developed by H&K Architects. Sherry reported that lodging tax revenues came in more than expected, so the Director of Tourism and Cultural Affairs (DTCA) decided to authorize expansion of the Master Plan to include an Assessment, Market Study, Visitor Experience, and a Strategic Business Plan. Sherry clarified that the "Visitor Experience" would be an Interpretive Plan. The Commission received a total of \$400,000 from the DTCA. \$325,000 is going to the NIC and \$75,000 is going towards the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy budget account. \$245,546 of the \$325,000 will be going to the expansion of the Master Plan.
 - B. Sherry stated that \$73,188.00 is going toward hiring someone to write the National Historic Landmark (NHL) application. She said that this is something the Commission has wanted to do for a long time, but that resources weren't available until now. The NIC has been working with State Purchasing on an RFP and October 11, 2016 is the deadline to submit proposals. A panel featuring Sherry, Peter Barton, the Director of the Division of Museums and History, and Karyn deDufour, of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will select a person to write the application. Sherry went on to say that \$6,265.00 will be used to replace the phone system at the NIC. An additional \$75,000 will be going towards Building #4 to house the Museum Director and the Curator II positions. Buildings and Grounds (B&G) is working on refurbishing the building to get it ready for occupancy. Chris said the renovations include electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, roof shingles, abatement and interior work which

will include paint, carpet, lighting, door hardware and replacement of broken window panes.

- C. Sherry distributed another handout displaying an organizational chart for the Stewart Indian School Projects, created by H&K Architects. The document is separated into columns by Funding Source, Agency, Primary Contact, and Consultants. The projects listed are: The Master Plan, Anthropologist, Oral Histories, National Historic Landmark Application, Cultural Center (Building #1), Welcome Center (Building #2), and the Stewart Documentary. The Master Plan is part of a State of Nevada Capital Improvement Project (CIP) and will be managed by the State Public Works Division (SPWD) with the primary contract being H&K Architects. Funding from the Nevada 150 Commission will be going to Terri McBride for the Oral Histories project. Sherry said that she is interested in obtaining the list of interviews that oral historian JoAnne Peden did so as to not duplicate efforts; it is imperative that the same people are not interviewed again. The Nevada 150 Commission is also providing funding for the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) to hire a consultant to work on the Stewart Indian School Documentary and that funding must be used by June 30, 2017.
- D. Terri commented that it is exciting to see everything finally moving forward and publicly thanked Sherry for her hard work.

VIII. Update on Grants for the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy

- A. 2016 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation (CCCHP) Grant Award
Chris reported that the NIC received an FY 16/17 CCCHP grant in the amount of \$147,000 to fund a portion of the structural repair, strengthening and seismic retrofit of Building #1. She stated that demolition of some of the earth work, rough carpentry and masonry needs to be done first. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) had various questions for the NIC about the project and the NIC consulted Max Hershenow at H&K Architects for assistance in how best to respond. Max will provide answers on Monday and if SHPO finds the answers satisfactory, a funding agreement can then be signed for the project.
- B. 2017 Nevada Arts Council Project Grant Award
Chris said the NIC received an increase to \$5,648.00 for the 2017 Stewart Father's Day Powwow. The NIC applied for this grant a year ago and this award will fund the sound, radio spots, and Powwow head staff.
- C. NV 150 Grant – Stewart Indian School Oral History Project
Chris reported that the NIC has received the \$20,000 award and the first invoice arrived today and will be forwarded to the Division of Tourism fiscal staff for processing.
- D. Positive Train Control, Cultural Resource Fund Grant Awarded to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
Terri reported that SHPO is waiting for the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) to approve it prior to receiving the grant award. Meg asked what the term 'Interpretive Plan' actually means. Sherry responded by saying that all of the research and conversations that occur will turn into themes and concepts to be used to interpret or tell the story of the Stewart Indian School. Sherry said that the Stewart Indian School Trail is an interpretive trail by interpreting the campus through stories. Terri offered that an Interpretive Plan is a way to

identify useful and important ways to tell the Stewart story to people that think Stewart is “just a school.” It is not.

- IX. Update on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project
- A. Betty asked the group whether there should still be an arch at the entrance, as it was originally and Committee members agreed that would be best. Betty shared that B&G received the “Carry Forward” Funding which is leftover funding from last year carried over into this year. She stated that the corridor is the first project they want to work on, but also continue with the concrete projects of repairing sidewalks and walkways. She said they would also like to work on some of the unoccupied buildings by cleaning them up and painting them if necessary. Meg asked how much money was received and Betty said the amount was \$65,000. Sherry suggested that Betty look at the issue of parking because needs will increase when the Cultural and Welcome Centers open.
 - B. Betty created a “Use of Property” form for agencies to use before any alternations to buildings on campus can be done. This form must be approved by Gus Nunez, Administrator of Public Works, Rebecca Palmer, Administrator of SHPO, and Sherry Rupert, Executive Director for the NIC. If one person denies it, then it goes back to the requesting agency. Betty assured the group that projects won’t move forward even if the agencies have the money; the form must be approved by all three members of this panel. Sherry asked Betty for a copy of the form and Betty suggested that a cover sheet be attached and distributed to all of the agencies out at the Stewart campus.
 - C. Chris suggested that there should be a discussion on what era of landscaping is the Committee wanting to bring back. Terri suggested asking Jim Bertolini of SHPO for his input. Sherry said that a separate meeting will be arranged with SHPO, SPWD, and the NIC to discuss this issue.
 - D. Terri asked Skip if the easement problem has been resolved and Skip said no, that it is still being worked on. Betty also reported that the “No Trespassing” signage on the property is now with their Deputy Attorney General to see if there can be better signage on campus. Once the determination has been made, Betty will bring the documentation to the next Stewart meeting.
- X. Update on Status of Request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to Transfer Ownership of their Stewart Indian School Collection to the Nevada Indian Commission
- A. Sherry stated the NIC sent a letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and was notified that the BIA does not have disposition authority due to having restrictions on their collections. The Stewart Indian School collection never belonged to the BIA and should be returned. Sherry said that she would ask Wayne Howle, the NIC’s Deputy Attorney General to write a letter to the BIA to let them know that the Stewart Indian School collection isn’t a federal collection and to transfer the collection back to the NIC. Sherry asked if the group supported this. The group consensus was that it should be pursued.

- XI. Update on Planning for the American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction, Governor's Mansion, November 19, 2016
 - A. Sherry reported that five tables have been sold and that there will be a Stewart Indian School table for any Committee members that want to attend. Barrick Gold of North America is sponsoring the Achievement Awards at the \$5,000 level in addition to purchasing a table. NIC Commissioner, Dan Carpenter, M.D., is also sponsoring a table and will be donating eight seats back to the Commission for people that are unable to afford a ticket. Sherry stated that the NIC has received several ads to be used in the event program. Sherry said that nominations for American Indian Community Leader of the Year, American Indian Youth Ambassador of the Year, American Indian Youth Services/Role Model of the Year, and the Contributor/Supporter of the Year are still being accepted and that the deadline for nominations is October 14, 2016. Sherry also reminded the group that donations to the Silent Auction would be greatly appreciated and that all proceeds from the event go to the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy.

- XII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
 - A. NIC letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs regarding the Stewart Collection
 - B. Updates on all NIC projects
 - C. Update on the documentary
 - D. Update on the Stewart Indian School Master Plan

- XIII. Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting
 - A. The next Stewart Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 9:00am on Friday, December 2, 2016.

- XIV. Committee Member Comments and Announcements
 - A. Sherry commented that the NIEA Convention is holding a Powwow at the Grand Sierra Resort tonight, October 7, 2016, in the Silver State Pavilion.
 - B. Sherry gave highlights from the SISPA meeting in that they discussed the upcoming Legislative Session and the issues that need advocacy. Sherry is hopeful that Neena Laxalt, Lisa Menante, Kostan Lathouris, Scott Carey, Alex Tanchek, and NIC board member, Marla McDade Williams will testify on behalf of the Stewart Indian School. SISPA wants a project list they should be working on and Sherry suggested that the Stewart track and field project should be a priority. Sherry reported that while SISPA has received its non-profit status, each member is a volunteer and cannot devote as much time as they would like to SISPA. Sherry asked Skip for contact information on grant writers as Kostan will be working on grants. Skip said he would forward Sherry a link.
 - C. Meg asked Sherry if SISPA will be doing their event again and Sherry said she isn't sure, but will encourage them to do so.
 - D. Nevada Tribes Legislative Day will take place in Room 3100 of the Legislative Council Bureau on February 14, 2016. Sherry asked Buck to speak about his time at Stewart that day.
 - E. Meg asked if tribal people will be able to meet with their legislators as they did in 2015, and Sherry said yes. Meg suggested that some of the elders should be invited to attend

the Nevada Tribes Legislative Day reception. Sherry commented that she is interested in having the oldest Stewart alumni present.

XV. Final Public Comment

- A. Buck said he would like to hear updates from tribal leaders about their current projects and priorities.
- B. Max asked if there will be an NIC float for the Nevada Day Parade and Sherry said that NIC participation happens every other year.
- C. Buck asked about the possibility of doing a Stewart Indian School calendar. Sherry responded by saying that Nevada Magazine will be working on a calendar for Indian Territory and may include a segment on the Stewart Indian School too.

XVI. Adjournment

- A. Betty motioned to adjourn the meeting and Skip seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:54am.