

Nevada Indian Commission
 December 2, 2016
 Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 Nevada Indian Commission Office, 5500 Snyder Ave., Carson City, Nevada

Committee Member	Seat Filled	Present	Absent
Buck Sampson	Stewart Indian School 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: JoAnne Peden and Carl Sampson, members of the public

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - A. Buck Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:07 am and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

- II. Invocation
 - A. Buck gave the invocation.

- III. Initial Public Comment
 - A. Max shared that Eric Burke, the man that painted a mural in north Carson is interested in painting a mural on the Stewart Indian School. She asked Committee members to think of possible locations on where a mural could be painted and Sherry suggested the Carson Colony Gym or Rupert's Auto Body.
 - B. Terri asked for Mr. Burke's contact information so she can invite him to a Carson City Cultural Commission meeting as they may be able to collaborate on a project.
 - C. Karyn recognized Buck for his work on the historic Hillside Cemetery in Reno. She recognized the impact that he and other tribal members made in making sure the project of a developer moving human remains did not go forward. Terri asked where the issue stands now and Buck said the project has been put on hold.

- IV. Approval of October 7, 2016 Meeting Minutes
 - A. Sherry reported that these minutes are not available and the minutes for October 7, 2016 will be tabled until the next meeting.

- V. Update on Recruitment for Stewart Indian School Cultural Center Staff
 - A. Sherry reported that Chris Gibbons has accepted the position of Curator II. Sherry said she has received a listing for Chris's former position of Program Officer I and has also received approval for opening the Museum Director position. Sherry said she wants to open it up nationwide. Karyn asked Sherry if there are specific qualifications for this position and Sherry replied that they are the same as for any Nevada Museum Director position.

- VI. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan
 - A. Sherry said there isn't much to update. Museum Management Consultants (MMC) met with the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) in October. They understand that the Stewart Facility is very unique and they are looking forward to beginning the project. Sherry said she doesn't believe that there is a contract for MMC yet and is disappointed at the lack of progress. Karyn asked if the lack of progress has to do with funding and Sherry said no.

- VII. Update on Grants for the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy
 - A. Chris said the NIC received a Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation (CCCHP) Grant in the amount of \$147,000 to fund structural repair, strengthening and seismic retrofit of Building #1 at the Stewart Facility. The Commission has submitted a revised scope of work and budget for the grant and the funding agreement has been signed and returned to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).
 - B. On September 8, 2016, the State Public Works Board (SPWB) met, revised and approved their recommendations for the 2017 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). The Stewart project includes construction on Buildings #1 and #2 (future Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Welcome Center) as well as museum exhibit development. This project was first on the historic preservation capital construction recommendation list and the total amount for the project is \$4,655,168. The final list provided by the SPWB went to the Governor's Office on October 1, 2016 and the status of the list will be unknown until Governor Sandoval gives his State of the State address in January 2017.
 - C. NV 150 Grant – Stewart Indian School Oral History Project. Chris shared that the NIC has signed the required state contract for Terri McBride to proceed with creating a comprehensive collection of at least 15 oral history interviews with alumni and former employees of the Stewart Indian School. Terri is currently working on setting up the first series of interviews for the project and has about 15-16 people lined up. Terri also said she is working with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Special Collections department on creating a Permission Form and how it can be used for the oral history interviews.
 - D. Sherry reported that she, Terri, and Chris had a table at the Stewart Indian School Reunion in Arizona, in early November. Chris said she was amazed by the number of alumni that were in attendance. Karyn asked how many people attended and Terri said there were approximately 150 people in attendance. Buck commented that many Stewart Indian School alumni now live in Arizona and he once attended a Stewart Indian School Reunion in which 500 people attended.

- E. Meg asked Sherry if any of the alumni at the reunion had any ideas on what they want to see happen at their former school. Sherry said she received positive feedback from the alumni on how things are progressing at Stewart.
 - F. Chris went on to say that while in Arizona, she and Sherry met with the Curator for the Heard Museum and were able to tour their boarding school exhibit.
- VIII. Update on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project
- A. Chris updated the Committee on behalf of Buildings & Grounds (B&G) and said they continue to collaborate with the NIC on the implementation of projects in the Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Plan. Currently, B&G is working on the logistics for restoration of the front entrance to the facility and various pavement projects. The NIC will be working with B&G to prioritize future projects. Sherry asked Chris to reach out to Betty to set up a meeting to go over priorities.
 - B. Max asked if the arch has been decided upon or if there will be pillars. Sherry said that a meeting needs to take place so a decision can be made on this issue. Karyn suggested that the correct SHPO person be invited to this meeting as well.
- IX. Update on Contract for the Stewart Indian School National Historic Landmark
- A. Sherry reported that the NIC is using the State Purchasing system and put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) and the University of Utah won the bid and have identified a person that they are interested in helping with the project. Sherry said they were able to negotiate the indirect cost rate down from the original amount. The America West Center needs to have a business license in the State of Nevada and they are waiting to hear back. It may not go to the Board of Examiners (BOE) for approval until February.
 - B. Karyn said SHPO would be happy to help the Commission with any assistance that is needed. Sherry thanked Karyn and said she would update the Committee on the project's progress as it unfolds.
- X. Update on Stewart Indian School Documentary
- A. Chris said that a member of the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) was not available to present today, but Chris reported on their behalf. She said that an additional grant from the NV 150 Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 was awarded to SISPA. On November 9, 2016, the NIC met with documentary filmmaker, JoAnne Peden to discuss the scope of work for the project and to discuss the existing footage that she has of alumni and former employees that have already been interviewed. After that meeting, Ms. Peden submitted a scope of work and budget to the NIC and it was approved by SISPA. Their contract is ready for JoAnne to review and sign today so she can get started on the project.
 - B. JoAnne said she has spoken to the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC) and their pre-schoolers will sing the ABC song at the beginning of the documentary. JoAnne asked the Committee for their input on a title for the documentary. She feels that "Home of the Braves" would be a good title and members of the Committee agreed. JoAnne said she is interested in speaking to Ralph Burns' mother, but due to illness, she will talk to Ralph instead. JoAnne stated she is trying to locate Roger Sam so she can interview him. Reynelda James and Helena Jones Melendez have confirmed that they are on board for

- the documentary as well.
- C. Buck suggested that JoAnne contact and interview local native artist, Steve Nighthawk's father, Rolf Brown. Buck commented that Mr. Brown was a boxer when he attended the Stewart Indian School in the 1930s.
 - D. JoAnne shared that the documentary will need to be narrated and she is hopeful that NIC Commissioner, Richard Arnold will agree to do it.
 - E. JoAnne said she has a deadline of June 15, 2017 because she wants to show the documentary at the Stewart Indian School Alumni Reception during the 2017 Stewart Father's Day Powwow.
- XI. Update on Status of Request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to Transfer Ownership of the Stewart Indian School Collection to the Nevada Indian Commission
- A. Sherry said she reviewed the documents that Rachel had provided to her and was made aware that that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) does not have policies to transfer collections. Sherry stated that NIC Attorney General Wayne Howle will be working on this issue of returning the Stewart Indian School collection. Sherry said there are two differing views. Chris said the NIC could be a repository for the collection, but there are too many restrictions.
 - B. Rachel asked Max if people donated items and Max stated that several items were donated by Stewart Indian School students. She said everything was identified as to whom the items were received from, and although everything was labeled, the information never got to the right place. Max stated that the BIA had copies of all the documented items at the former museum.
 - D. Meg asked when Max worked at the Stewart Indian School Museum and she said 1997-2001. She stated that items in the Stewart collection never belonged to the BIA and doesn't understand why the BIA would want to keep it since it's not theirs.
- XII. Report on the American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction, Governor's Mansion, November 19, 2016
- A. Sherry thanked the members of the Committee who were able to attend the event. She reported that the event produced a preliminary amount of \$14,534.79, with \$3,000 of it being Program Ad sales. Sherry commented that this is the most the event has raised and she thinks it may be due to the awardees as well as interest from new partners.
 - B. The NIC chose the standard Eagle Head awards and gave out wool blankets to the awardees. In the past, Pendleton blankets had been given out, but this year Sherry decided to purchase from Eighth Generation, a Native company located in the state of Washington. She likes knowing that five percent of proceeds go back to the native artists.
 - C. The Banquet had two major sponsors - Barrick Gold and NIC Commissioner, Dr. Dan Carpenter of Henderson, NV. As always, the Gold Dust West was a great supporter of the event and purchased a table.
 - D. During the banquet, there was a segment in which a tribal headdress was presented to Lindsey Manning, Chairman of the Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe. The headdress had belonged to a prominent elder and had been stored at the Elko County Museum for many years. A representative from Barrick saw it and felt that the

headdress should be returned back to the Tribe.

- D. Sherry commented that the Silent Auction was a huge success and raised \$3,256.00 in proceeds. She thanked Max for hitting the pavement and getting several donations of art from local artists.
 - E. Sherry wants the input of the Committee about whether the ticket price should be increased from the current price of \$55.00 per person to \$60.00. She asked the members what they thought of increasing table purchases from \$500 to \$750.00. Sherry commented that she prefers having the podium on the side of the stage instead of in the middle.
 - F. As far as programming, the NIC needs to begin the event at 4:30pm instead of 5:00pm because the Commission was informed that all events at the Governor's Mansion must end by 8:00pm. Sherry also said that the NIC will list the prior year's awardees in the program next year. Sherry stated that many volunteers are needed to make sure the event turns out well. Next year, NIC staff should be at the front of the building, ready to check in attendees, while other volunteers can be used as ushers, coat-checkers, and being available for all other duties.
 - F. JoAnne complimented Sherry and staff on how well the banquet went.
 - G. Sherry told the Committee that the American Indian Community Leader of the Year made the evening extra special. Ralph Burns, Robert James and Johnnie Williams, Jr. are veterans of the United States Armed Forces and recently sued the Nevada Secretary of State regarding the violation of their civil rights as voters. They asked that Washoe and Mineral counties install and operate in-person voting for their tribal communities. Patricia Williams Hicks was awarded the American Indian Youth Services/Role Model of the Year. She has spent her life teaching traditional Paiute songs and dances to tribal youth. Sierra Reel was named American Indian Youth Ambassador of the Year and is a Moapa Band of Paiutes tribal member. She is a singer, fancy shawl dancer, and is an activist on American Indian issues, all while excelling in honors classes at Moapa Valley High School. Scott Nebesky, Planner for the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, was honored with the Contributor/Supporter of the Year award for his work on the Nevada Native Nations Land Act which was signed into law by President Obama in October 2016.
- XIII. Discussion on Upcoming Legislative Session and Nevada Tribes Day at the Legislature
- A. Sherry said the Legislative Session is coming up quickly and reported that the Tribal Legislative Forum will be held on January 17, 2017 in the Commission Chambers at the Division of Tourism. Assemblyman Jason Frierson, Senator Pete Goicoechea, and lobbyists Neena Laxalt and John Ocegüera have been invited to participate. The Forum is an opportunity to learn more about the Nevada State Legislature, the legislative process, and how to be an effective advocate for the issues that are important to you.
 - B. Sherry reported that Nevada Tribes Day at the Legislature will be on February 14, 2017 in the afternoon. Sherry said she is working with SISPA about getting some of the legislators out to the Stewart campus for a tour. She shared that the NIC will also have an exhibit in the Atrium on the Senate side during the event as well.
 - C. Sherry said the NIC has Senate Bill 83 which will expand the purpose of the Commission to include considering and acting on matters and the jurisdiction of the Commission to include all matters affecting American Indians and tribal governments in Nevada. Sherry said she would put a listing out to get a group of tribal leaders and community partners to testify on behalf of the NIC for this bill. Sherry will e-mail the legislative bill to the

listserve so Committee members can be informed. Sherry also asked the Committee to advocate for the CIP and the \$4.6 million dollars the Commission has requested.

XIV. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- A. Follow up on all the above projects
- B. The Legislative Session
- C. Two sets of minutes

XV. Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting

- A. The next meeting will be on February 3, 2017 at the Nevada Indian Commission Office.

XVI. Committee Member Comments and Announcements

- A. Terri commented that it would be great if the Carson City Historical Society would use the Stewart Indian School on their yearly commemorative ornament. She will contact the Society next year and suggest they use Stewart on their ornaments.
- B. Sherry shared that a story was written about the Stewart Indian School in the latest issue of Nevada Magazine and that the Committee's own Chairman, Buck Sampson, is also featured in the magazine.
- C. Sherry shared information on next year's Powwow. She said there will be a 5K Stewart Color Fun Run. Participants will start at the Stewart Community Gym and will run on the Stewart Indian School campus. The Fun Run is in partnership with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California.
- D. Sherry reported that the NIC worked with SHPO on creating an approval form that agencies must complete prior to beginning any projects at the Stewart campus. Rebecca Palmer, Administrator for SHPO will review each form and if she approves, it will be sent to the NIC. As the coordinating agency for the Stewart Facility, the NIC is trying to make sure that all projects are in line with the vision for Stewart.
- E. Chris said the renovation of Building #4 was supposed to be done by the end of November, but that some unexpected issues have hampered the building's completion. Chris is hopeful that she will be in her new office by the date of the next meeting. Chris added that excess room tax funds from the Division on Tourism are making the rehabilitation of this building possible.
- F. Meg mentioned that two Stewart alumni passed away very recently, Erwin Miller and Bernadine Frank James.

XVII. Final Public Comment

- A. There were no final public comments.

XVIII. Adjournment

- A. Rachel made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Terri seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:16am.