

**NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION
STEWART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

December 1, 2017- 9:00am

Nevada Indian Commission Office, 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701

Committee Member	Seat Filled	Present	Absent
Buck Sampson, Chairman	Alumni	x	
Betty Badgett, Vice-Chairwoman	State Buildings and Grounds Division	x	
Kristen Brown	State Historic Preservation Office	x	
Skip Canfield	NV Division of State Lands	x	
Rachel Delovio	Nevada State Museum	x	
Meg McDonald	Knowledge of School	x	
Max Symonds	Knowledge of School	x	
Terri McBride	Knowledge of School	x	
Bonnie Thompson-Hardin	Knowledge of School	x	

NIC Staff Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director; Sari Nichols, Program Officer I; Denise M. Becker, Administrative Assistant III; Bobbi Rahder, Museum Director, Stewart Indian School Cultural Center

Others Present: Larry Hale, Retired Buildings and Grounds Supervisor; Kostan Lathouris, President, Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Executive Director Rupert called the meeting to order at 9:09am and asked all those present to introduce themselves.

II. Invocation

Chairman Sampson provided the invocation.

III. Initial Public Comment

No initial public comments were made.

IV. Approval of October 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Terri McBride found an incorrect name in two sections of the minutes. The Carson City Visitors Bureau is now called the Carson City Culture and Tourism Authority and must be corrected.

Ms. Symonds made a motion to approve the October 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes with the two corrections, seconded by Mr. Canfield. The motion carried.

V. Approval of Stewart Advisory Committee Appointment of Representative Forms

Executive Director Rupert reported that no Appointment of Representative Forms had been submitted.

VI. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan

Executive Director Rupert reported that there have been several discussions with H&K Architects, Museum Management Consultants, and Gallagher and Associates. They are in the final stages of the Interpretive Plan as well as finishing up the Strategic Plan. The complete Master Plan should be received by March 2018 and will be used by the NIC to gain more investment in the Stewart Indian School. The plan will also be used for legislative purposes, meeting with congressional delegation, and even when meeting with potential donors. Max Hershenow of H&K Architects will be invited to the next Stewart Advisory Committee meeting to present the Master Plan to the group.

VII. Update on the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA)

Mr. Lathouris shared that there was a monthly SISPA meeting yesterday and is interested in attending the next Stewart Advisory Committee meeting in February. Mr. Lathouris reported that SISPA has been going through a transition with new board members. Kelly Krolicki is now the Secretary / Treasurer, Dee Freewart has been appointed as Vice-Chair, Kathleen Quasula is a Member at Large, and Executive Director Rupert is the Ex-Officio member. SISPA is in the process of verifying all of the required documentation with the Internal Revenue Service and the Secretary of State's office to make sure SISPA is in compliance. Regarding the Stewart Indian School documentary, they are trying to figure out when and how it should be premiered. Mr. Lathouris suggested possibly showing a trailer during the Stewart Father's Day Powwow as a "teaser." Members are also in the process of creating a website for SISPA, working on developing a membership form as well as pursuing grants and other fundraising opportunities. Mr. Lathouris commented on SISPA's 2016 fundraising event, *Under the Stewart Stars*, and is hopeful to plan another event like that in the future. Ms. McBride publicly thanked Mr. Lathouris for staying on board with SISPA and Ms. Rupert commented that the new members are also excited to be on SISPA.

VIII. Discussion on Feasibility of Stewart Indian School License Plate

Program Officer Nichols did some research on how a Stewart Indian School license plate could be obtained and described the process for requesting specialty plates from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Specialty plates must generate financial support for services to the community relating to public health, education, or general welfare. The Nevada Legislature established two tiers of specialty license plates and the organization must choose one of the two tiers and post the appropriate surety bond with the application. The first tier has a \$5,000 bond with a cap of 30 plates that would be issued while maintaining 1,000 active registrations. The second tier has a \$20,000 bond with a cap of 5 plates while maintain 3,000 active registrations.

Ms. Nichols shared that the DMV has a waiting list five years out, so the NIC could pursue it, but it will be a few years. Committee Member Skip Canfield stated that he has experience running the Mt. Charleston, Nevada license plate and can offer his input to the NIC. He said that it is a very time consuming process, especially when deciding which projects to follow through with once the funds start coming in. It is the consensus of this group to move forward with researching the application process for the Stewart Indian School specialty license plate.

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

2016 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation (CCCHP) Grant Award – Ms. Rupert stated that the NIC has been notified that its request for an extension will be held at the CCCHP’s December 21, 2017 meeting. The NIC will attend in person and Max Hershenow of H&K Architects will also be in attendance so that he may answer questions on why it would be most beneficial for the NIC to do the project all at once as opposed to being done in pieces. Ms. Brown stated that it would be a public meeting and that anyone can attend. Ms. Rupert asked Committee members to attend the meeting in support of the NIC.

X. Update on Stewart Indian School Paranormal Policy Recommendation to State Buildings and Grounds

Executive Director Rupert reported that the NIC recently sent a letter to Tom Federici, Deputy Administrator of State Buildings and Grounds (B&G) and Gus Nunez, Administrator of State Public Works Division (SPWD), regarding the paranormal activities policy at the Stewart facility, and read it to the group. This letter was signed on November 20, 2017 by Richard Arnold, Chairman of the NIC board at their most recent meeting. Vice-Chair Badgett stated that she will forward the letter on to Patrick Cates, Administrator for the Department of Administration as well. Once the policy has been approved by the SPWD, it will go on the Commission’s website as well as B&G’s website. Ms. Badgett mentioned that even though Capitol Police does two rounds of patrols at the Stewart Indian School campus, they often don’t see everything that goes on. She suggested having a Welcome sign at the entrance of the campus, as well as circulating a flyer to all of the agencies and organizations on campus describing which activities will or will not be allowed at the facility. Ms. McBride commented that ghost hunting would not be tolerated at other state agencies – why would the Stewart Indian School campus be any different?

XI. Update on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project

Vice-Chairwoman Badgett reported that Marty Phillips and Ron Bodnar are not in attendance at this meeting due to last minute preparations for tonight’s tree lighting service at the Capitol. All of the estimates for the Building #11 project which includes a ramp and concrete path for the Auditorium are in the process of being approved by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Ms. Badgett stated that the B&G electrician will be by to check on a possible power source at the Auditorium. Ms. Badgett stated that she will have a planning project meeting with B&G supervisors Michael Johnson, Ron Bodnar, and Tom Federici to discuss projects such as the entryway, different processes, use permits, and every other project that has been on the backburner will be brought up at this meeting. She asked the Committee members for their input on what they want to see at the campus and to contact her.

X. Update and Discussion on Stewart Indian School Cultural Center

Museum Director Rahder reported that she and Chris Ann Gibbons, Curator have been working on a Plan of Operations and policies and procedures for the Cultural Center, as well as staffing and funding needs. She commented that Samantha Williams, graduate student at University of California at Santa Cruz, is working on her dissertation about the Stewart Indian School. Ms. Williams has been collecting information on the School for about four years now and has shared much of her research with Ms. Rahder and Ms. Gibbons. Ms. Rahder stated that she wants the Cultural Center to have a resource center to share with the public. Ms. McDonald asked when Superintendent Snyder was here

and it was discussed that he was here in the teens through 1920s. Although Gallagher & Associates will be completing the interpretive framework of the Master Plan, it has not yet been decided who will complete the exhibit design. Two Native artists have been identified to assist with writing the content of the exhibit, Ms. Melissa Melero-Moose and Mr. Ben Aleck. They both have experience with the Stewart Indian School through family members that once attended. Ms. Rahder shared that local geologists will be meeting her and Ms. Gibbons to take photos of the stonework on the buildings and Ms. Rahder will share their findings with the group when a report has been completed.

XI. Report on 2017 Nevada Day Parade Entry and Post-Parade Event with the Nevada State Museum

Executive Director Rupert publicly thanked Committee member Max Symonds for her assistance with the design of the float, as well as securing a carpenter to help build the float. Stewart alumni or their relatives sat on the float next to posters of themselves, in addition to large banners of the Cultural Center on each side of the trailer. Walking the parade route, NIC staff passed out postcards showcasing the Stewart Indian School documentary as well as the opening of the Cultural Center. Ms. Nichols mentioned that she felt the cards were very well-received by the public. Myron Freedman, Director of the Nevada State Museum, collaborated with the NIC by treating the alumni, elders, and NIC staff to lunch during the museum's free admission day. In addition, Gracie Dick taught a beading lesson to visitors and the NIC provided a Stewart Indian School booth, giving information to museum attendees.

XII. Report on 2017 American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction

Executive Director Rupert shared that the annual American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction was held at the Governor's Mansion on Saturday, November 18, 2017. Ms. Rupert stated that the proceeds were lower this year and she contributes that to an unsold table and a sponsor that contributed at a lower sponsorship level this year. The entertainment was provided by the Yu'pik Dance Group from Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka, AK. The students shared their culture by performing traditional dances and songs. The American Indian Community Leader of the Year award was presented to Fawn Douglas, member of the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe and activist for Native American causes. The American Indian Youth Services/Role Model of the Year was presented to Loni Romo, member of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and counselor for its young students. The American Indian Youth Ambassador of the Year was presented to Quecholli Fortunate Eagle, member of the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, and Reed High School's youngest Paiute Language instructor. The Contributor/Supporter of the Year award was presented to Senator Julia Ratti for her work on the passage of Senate Bill 244, a bill that makes it mandatory for the Nevada Board of Museums and History and the Nevada Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation, to include a Native American representative on each of these boards/commissions. The passage of Senate Bill 244 allows Tribes to now have representation, consultation, protection and repatriation rights to their ancestors' remains and/or funerary objects.

XIII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Approval of the December 1, 2017 meeting minutes, all updates, and presentation of the Master Plan; update on the Stewart Indian School License Plates; SISPA update. Mr. Lathouris stated that he and Kathleen Quasula will try to attend the next meeting.

XIV. Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting

The next Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting will be on February 2, 2018 at 9:00am.

XV. Committee Member Comments and Announcements

Ms. McDonald commented that she found an article in the Nevada Appeal and read the Silver Dollar portion, which gave accolades to the awardees of the American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction.

XVI. Final Public Comment

Ms. McBride publicly thanked SHPO for contracting her to perform the work under the positive train control grant that SHPO had received. This funding made it possible for her to gather and interview small groups of Stewart Indian School alumni. Ms. Brown stated that she will pass along her thanks to everyone at SHPO.

XVII. Adjournment

Rachel made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:15am.