

Nevada Indian Commission
 May 5, 2017
 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: Ron Bodnar, Current Stewart Buildings and Grounds Supervisor; Larry Hale, Retired Buildings and Grounds Supervisor;

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

- II. Invocation
 - A. The invocation was given by Sherry Rupert.

- III. Initial Public Comment
 - A. There were no initial public comments made.

- IV. Approval of February 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes
 - A. Skip made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for February 3, 2017 with Rachel seconding the motion. The motion carried.

- V. Approval of a Stewart Advisory Committee Appointment of Representative Form
 - A. Sherry reported that one form was submitted by Betty Badgett, Program Officer I for the State of Nevada Public Works Division, Buildings and Grounds (B&G) Division.
 - B. Meg made a motion to approve Betty Badgett's Appointment of Representative Form, Rachel seconded. Motion carried.

- VI. Update on Recruitment for Stewart Indian School Cultural Center Museum Director
- A. Sherry reported that the Commission received nine applications and based upon experience was narrowed down to six candidates. Sherry, Peter Barton, Administrator for the State of Nevada Division of Museums and History as well as Nevada Indian Commission Chair, Richard Arnold were the interview panel for the Museum Director candidates. Sherry commented that she was impressed with Ms. Rahder's experience working at Haskell Indian Nations University and that she had started the Haskell Cultural Center and Museum from the ground up. On April 24, 2017, Ms. Rahder was invited for a second interview and site visit of Stewart. Sherry commented that Ms. Rahder has a great personality as well as a good understanding of the Boarding School Era, specifically Haskell. Ms. Rahder will be starting on May 22, 2017 and the NIC staff is excited to begin working with her. Sherry stated that Ms. Rahder has connections with many people and will know where to go for resources. Meg asked if a press release will go out and Sherry said that the NIC will have one written when Bobbi arrives.
- VII. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan
- A. Sherry reported that Museum Management Consultants (MMC) had one on one interviews with key stakeholders in Carson City the week of February 27, 2017. MMC came back on March 23, 2017 to hold a visioning session at the Governor's Mansion. The consultants said that everybody they talked to had nothing but positivity for moving forward with the vision that the NIC has for the campus. Sherry reported that Peter Gallagher of Gallagher & Associates is working on the Visitor Experience piece. He has asked for a list of items in the collection. MMC's portion of the Master Plan will be completed by August 2017.
- B. Terri asked Sherry where she envisions the work she is doing with the student experience fitting in with the Master Plan process. Terri said that she is almost done with the project, probably completed in July. Sherry will send Terri's information to Peter Gallagher and ask that it be included in the Visitors Experience. Sherry said Terri's work will be very useful in the years to come.
- VIII. Update on Grants for the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy
- A. 2016 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation (CCCHP) Grant Award - There wasn't much to report because there is a Capital Improvement Project (CIP) for the construction on the Cultural and Welcome Centers. At the legislature, there were no questions in the last hearing for the CIP requests. The funds that the NIC receives from the CCCHP only pays for a small portion of the construction (\$147,000) on the Cultural Center building.
- B. NV 150 Grant – Stewart Indian School Oral History Project – Terri reported that she has completed 13 interviews and has been working on formatting them. She said her transcriber has been fast and she has done very little editing. She is trying to get them printed by the end of the month. One set will go to the NIC, the University of Nevada, Reno Special Collections, and a set will go to the interviewees. Skip asked how many people she contacted and how many agreed. Terri reported that they have all agreed and that people have even contacted her. Sherry commented that JoAnne Peden is

completing video interviews too. Chris read the list of people that Terri has interviewed so far:

Joanne Nevers, Ruth Abbie, Robey Willis, Rolf Brown, Bea Allen, Billy Turner, Delbert Holley, Evelyn Cook, Ron Wopsock, Rudy Clark, Rupert Steele, and Roger Sam. Skip asked what connection to Stewart that Robey Willis had and Terri said that he was a coach at Stewart. Terri shared that she has learned so much with this project.

IX. Update on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project

- A. Ron stated that new concrete projects will begin soon including the sidewalk between Buildings #3 and Building #4. Ron said B&G will need to repair concrete by the B&G office. B&G is also working on a parking lot behind Building #3 (the NIC office). Larry commented that he feels a lot of areas weren't taken care of properly. Terri asked Larry when he started working out at the Stewart Indian School and he said the year was 1971. He commented that the Stewart Indian School is his second home. Ron reported that during the week of May 22, 2017 the potholes on Wa Pai Shone by Clear Creek will be repaired.
- B. Larry asked if any work will be done on the Auditorium and Sherry said there is some interest in saving it, but the NIC's focus is opening the Cultural and Welcome Centers at this point. Terri said that the Carson City Cultural Commission wants to see the Auditorium be used for performances. Carson City needs another venue for music performances and plays.
- C. Max asked if it was decided whether the entrance will be a pillar or an arch. Sherry and Chris commented that the Commission needs to follow up with Betty Badgett about that project. The funding for that project will come out of Fiscal Year 18/19, not this current Fiscal Year. Chris suggested that Larry be on the working committee to talk about recreating the entrance.

X. Update on National Historic Landmark Nomination Preparation

- A. Sherry reported that the contract for the project passed through the Board of Examiners and was awarded to the American West Center at the University of Utah. Gregory Smoak and his graduate research assistant, Amanda Scheuerman visited the NIC on April 12, 2017. They visited the Nevada Historical Society and met with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to gather information. Sherry said the project would be an 18 month process from when the contract was signed until final completion. The American West Center has set June 30, 2018 as their goal completion date. Chris commented that Amanda will be back to do more research and Sherry feels that Amanda will be great to work with.

XI. Update on the Stewart Indian School Documentary

- A. Chris explained that JoAnn couldn't be here today, so she is reporting on her behalf. JoAnne and her editor have been amazing about their dedication and staying in touch with the NIC. Chris said that JoAnne has done a few filmed interviews and has a few more she wants to add to the documentary. The documentary is running about an hour. The footage she has taken will be used. She has met with Bruce Rettig who will be doing

the art for the DVD cover and the actual DVD itself. Bruce will send us a sample today and will send the final version by May 12, 2017. JoAnne is hoping to premier the DVD at the Alumni Reception. The working title: Stewart: Home of the Braves.

- B. Terri said that she has had conversations with JoAnne and that JoAnne will give the entire history of the Stewart Indian School. She will start with how the boarding school started, how students came to Stewart and what it was like when students began school.
- XII. Update on the Status of Bureau of Indian Affairs Stewart Collection
- A. Sherry reported that she and Chris met with Anna Pardo of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on Tuesday of this week. She wanted to know about the funding of the Cultural Center then went on to talk about the collection. The NIC believes that when Sheila Abbie was here, she did not have the authority to give the collection to the BIA. The issue is the ability to use the items in the collection. The collection is also currently in a separate cataloging program, and there is no guarantee of funds to maintain the collection. The NIC would have to rely on the BIA for funding. The NIC let her know that we would like to have access to the collection.
After initial research, Chris is working on a timeline of the collection. She mentioned that the Edward Curtis prints, baskets, and cradleboards are not part of the Stewart Indian School story. When Sheila Abbie gave the collection to the BIA, there was a list of items that were packed up. This is turning into a really large project for the NIC and the NIC will have to decide whether they become a repository or to seek ownership of the collection.
- XIII. Budgetary and Legislative Update
- A. Sherry reported that the budget for the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy closed on April 21, 2017. The CIP's last committee hearing was April 14, 2017. When the NIC receives final approval, \$5.7 Million dollars will pay for construction of the Cultural Center, the Welcome Center and a new roof on the Old Gym.
 - B. Sherry reported that Senate Bill 83 will not move forward in the Legislature. The NIC felt it best not to move forward with the bill as all were not in agreement. The NIC is here to enhance the relationships with the Tribes; not cause friction.
- XIV. Discussion on Planning for 2017 Stewart Father's Day Powwow and Request for Committee Support
- A. Food vendors will be in the corridor between the NIC and the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) building, and only arts and crafts booths will be located around the perimeter of the powwow arena.
 - B. Chris mentioned that the Stewart Indian School Alumni Reception will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2017 at the Plaza Hotel in Carson City. She asked Committee members to nominate alumni in the following categories: Stewart Indian School Alumni – Female, Stewart Indian School Alumni – Male, and the William Oliver Posthumous Award. She reported that nominations are due on May 12, 2017 and that the Stewart Powwow Committee will not accept nominations that are less than 300 words.
 - C. Chris stated that there will be a Princess Pageant this year and it will be held during the Alumni Reception on June 15, 2017. The contestants will need to introduce themselves and share why they would like to be Princess. In addition to public speaking, there will

be a talent competition. The young ladies must be a member of a Nevada Tribe and need to be registered in a dance category at the Powwow. One of the expectations of the new Princess is that she represent the Stewart Indian School at other powwows and participate at NIC events like the Nevada Day float in October and the American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet in November. Chris stated that travel funds may be offered to the newly crowned princess to assist in her transportation to various events.

- D. Sherry asked Committee members to either donate an item for the raffle or silent auction or to volunteer their time at the event. Volunteers for clean up on Saturday and Sunday are the most critical. Denise will be sending an email with a link to the volunteer sign-up page soon.
- XV. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- A. Introduce Bobbi Rahder to Committee
 - B. Stewart Father's Day Powwow
 - C. Stewart Indian School Collections
 - D. Update on all Projects
 - E. Rough cut of Stewart documentary
 - F. Nevada Day Parade
- XVI. Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting
- A. The next Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2017 at 9:00am.

Committee Member Comments and Announcements

- A. Terri shared that the focus groups that she is doing through a SHPO grant are going well. She has met with former Stewart Indian School students from Moapa, Walker Lake, Peach Springs, Goshute, and the Ute Tribe in Fort Duschene. Terri said she is trying to schedule a meeting with members of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC).
- B. Sherry reported that students from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) will be participating in their Alternative Break Program, a service learning program from May14-19, 2017 at the Stewart Indian School. The students will clean up the cemetery, the Auditorium and the Dining Hall. In addition to their work at Stewart, they will also have the opportunity to tour the Pyramid Lake Museum and Visitors Center, the Nevada State Museum's *Under One Sky* exhibit as well as an exclusive VIP Basket exhibit. They will also visit the Great Basin Native Artists exhibit, meet Tobin Rupert at Rupert's Gem Shop and tour several parts of Lake Tahoe that have cultural significance. Sherry said that it is a great partnership and they get to learn about American Indian culture as well as the Stewart Indian School. Karyn asked Sherry if the students get paid for coming and Sherry said it is service learning and that the students must pay a fee in order to be part of the program.
- C. Meg asked about the willow deer and whether they are still stored in the Dining Hall. Ron said there were about 1,200 in total and that B&G staff was able to relocate them to another part of Carson City.
- D. Max asked for an update on the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA)

and Sherry said that Neena Laxalt, the chair of SISPA, is a paid lobbyist and has been very busy during this legislative session.

XVII. Final Public Comment

- A. Meg asked if all the Indian taco food booths have been reserved and Chris replied that she was almost full.
- B. Max asked if a theme had been decided for this year's Nevada Day Parade and Terri stated she thought that the theme was Arts and Culture.
- C. Max also asked Sherry whether the NIC has had any more conversations with Ian Hill regarding the Futbol League and whether they are moving forward with their plans. Sherry stated that before any plans can move forward, the Master Plan needs to be completed.

XVIII. Adjournment

- A. Max made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Meg seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:08am.