

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

September 1, 2017- 9:00am

Committee Member	Seat Filled	Present	Absent
Buck Sampson, Chairman	Alumni	x	
Betty Badgett	State Buildings and Grounds Division		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	
Bonnie Thompson-Hardin	Knowledge of School		x

NIC Staff Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director; Denise M. Becker, Administrative Assistant III; Sari Nichols, Program Officer I; Bobbi Rahder, Museum Director; and Chris Gibbons, Curator II

Others Present: Larry Hale, Retired State Buildings and Grounds Supervisor; Reynese Peterson, Stewart Indian School Alumni; Bernice Wungnema Gorham, Stewart Indian School Alumni; Debby Carlson, Grants Manager, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

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

There were no initial public comments.

IV. Approval of August 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Max made a motion to approve the August 4, 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Rachel. There was one abstention. The motion carried.

V. Approval of Stewart Advisory Committee Appointment of Representative Forms

Executive Director Rupert presented six Appointment of Representative Forms for approval on the Stewart Advisory Committee. The approval requests are for Skip Canfield, Senior Planner for the Nevada Division of State Lands, Max Symonds and Meg McDonald as having knowledge of the Stewart Indian School, Rachel Delovio, Anthropology Collections Manager, Nevada State Museum, Buck Sampson as an alumnus of the School, and Kristen Brown, Architectural Historian for the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Ms. Symonds made a motion to approve the aforementioned Appointment of Representative Forms, seconded by Ms. McDonald. The motion carried.

VI. Election of Vice-Chairman of Stewart Advisory Committee

The election of a Vice-Chairman was tabled until the next meeting.

VII. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan – Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director

The Executive Director reported that H&K Architects and the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) met recently to discuss the Master Plan concepts. They are trying to come up with a framework on how the campus will be interpreted. The Executive Director reported that the NIC received a draft market study and the team is also working on a strategic plan. The Master Plan should be completed on approximately November 15, 2017. H&K Architects have been invited to present the Master Plan information to the Committee at the next Stewart meeting on October 13, 2017.

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

2016 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation Grant (CCCHP) Award

The Executive Director reported that the CCCHP Grant will be used for funding the seismic retrofit and structural support for the building. Construction for the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Welcome Center will begin in May 2018. The Grant says that funding must be used by April 2018, so the NIC is requesting an extension for the grant. There is a new grant cycle coming that is due in November 2017. Ms. Symonds asked about the seismic retrofit work that was done in 2001 and Executive Director Rupert responded that only stabilization of the chimney was done, not seismic retrofit work for Building #1.

IX. Update on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project – Martin Phillips, Grounds Supervisor and Betty Badgett, Program Officer, State Public Works Division, Buildings and Grounds Section

Buildings and Grounds was unable to participate, so the Executive Director reported that Buildings and Grounds are cleaning up some of the cottages on the west side of the campus by cleaning windows, painting where necessary and adding plants and flowers. Ms. Gibbons commented that grass is being planted and a new irrigation system is being placed at the building across from the forthcoming Welcome Center.

X. Update on National Historic Landmark Nomination Preparation – Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission

Executive Director Rupert stated that the NIC received a report from Gregory Smoak, Director of the America West Center at the University of Utah. In the report, it was noted that an orientation and site visit was done April 12-14, 2017 at the Stewart Indian School. They also visited with SHPO and conducted research at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) and at the Nevada State Historical Society. University of Utah Graduate Student, Amanda Scheuerman also worked on secondary research to build a context for the nomination. As the principal researcher, Ms. Scheuerman returned to the Stewart Indian School in June where she conducted more research including analyzing works by Terri McBride, Bonnie Thompson, and Gene Hattori.

The Executive Director commented how exciting it is that the NHL will be done by the end of June 2018.

Ms. Rahder shared that she will be presenting alongside staff from the Carlisle Indian School at the American Indian Tourism Conference on September 12, 2017 in Green Bay, WI.

XI. Update and Discussion on Stewart Indian School Cultural Center – Bobbi Rahder, Museum Director, Nevada Indian Commission

Museum Director Rahder stated that she and Curator Gibbons work out of the Plan of Operations binder that she has developed. Everything in the binder has information that has been accredited by The American Alliance of Museums. Ms. Rahder is working on budget projections for future needs and wants to consult with the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) about possible grant funding opportunities. The Museum Director stated that the Curator is working on updating the Deed of Gift form and that it must be approved from the Attorney General’s office prior to being used.

Ms. Rahder commented that they have been visiting other repositories to see what they have regarding the Stewart Indian School. She stated that they will be visiting with Ms. Delovio at the Nevada State Museum to view the Bureau of Indian Affairs collection next week.

Ms. Rahder commented that the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona has a boarding school exhibit, but that there is no mention of the Stewart Indian School. Ms. Rahder stated that Ms. Gibbons had written a document that will hopefully persuade the Heard to include the Stewart Indian School in their new boarding school exhibit.

Chairman Sampson commented that many of the rural tribes do not have newsletters, computers or cell service. Ms. Rahder commented that if there were other ways of communicating that would be preferable, to please let her know.

XII. Update on the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance and Discussion on the Stewart Indian School Documentary

Executive Director Rupert stated that SISPA activities have been dormant because of the Chairwoman’s legislative responsibilities. Director Rupert was recently informed that members of the current SISPA Board would be stepping down due to other responsibilities and the lack of time that could be donated to the group. Executive Director Rupert is recruiting for additional Board Members that have experience fundraising and contacts with foundations within the community. Ms. McDonald asked how much money was raised with SISPA’s initial event, “Under the Stewart Stars” in 2016, and Ms. Rupert stated that about \$4,000.00 was raised. In addition, SISPA was also able to secure \$25,000 in funding from the Nevada 150 Foundation for the production of the Stewart Indian School Documentary. Executive Director Rupert stated that the Documentary has had several revisions, but is hopeful that it will be completed soon. She invited those in attendance to stay and view the documentary at the end of today’s meeting.

XIII. Planning for 2017 Nevada Day Parade Entry for the Stewart Indian School – Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission

The Executive Director reported that the theme of the parade is Arts and Entertainment and that much of what the NIC is using for the parade entry will be taken from the documentary. Ms. Symonds shared her ideas with the Committee on what the float could look like. Ms. Symonds also suggested having two people carry the Stewart Indian School banner, and have the Stewart Father’s Day Powwow Princess in attendance, as well as NIC staff and board members. In addition, staff can distribute information cards to the public informing them of the opening of the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center next year and the documentary.

Executive Director Rupert informed the Committee that the NIC will be having a yard sale to offset the costs of the parade entry and said that the NIC’s “Build a Float Day” will be held on October 27, 2017, in case members of the Committee are interested in volunteering.

XIV. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Suggestions for future agenda items include the September 1, 2017 meeting minutes and an update from H&K Architects about the Stewart Indian School Master Plan. Any other requests for agenda items should be forwarded to the Executive Director.

XV. Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting

The next Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting has been scheduled for October 13, 2017 at 9:00am.

XVI. Committee Member Comments and Announcements

Ms. Nichols reported that the Gym will be deep cleaned by the Department of Corrections inmate crews after September 13, 2017. Building and Grounds staff will then polish the floors and make it look professional and clean. The NIC wants to make the gym a place of pride and something that people think of using first as opposed to being a last resort. Chairman Sampson asked if this deep cleaning is a one-time thing and Ms. Nichols responded that the NIC will make sure it is done quarterly.

Director Rupert reported that the *American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction* will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at the Governor's Mansion. She added that members could make reservations to attend the banquet or donate items to the Silent Auction.

XVII. Final Public Comment

Ms. Debby Carlson, Grants Manager for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, stated that she will be retiring after 12 years with the tribe. She went on to congratulate Director Rupert for all of her achievements throughout her years as Executive Director of the Nevada Indian Commission and wished her continued success.

XVIII. Adjournment

Ms. Delovio motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Symonds. The meeting adjourned at 10:53am.