

**EDUCATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE
HEADSTART CONFERENCE ROOM**

November 14, 2007

1:05 P.M.

STANDING COMMITTEE: Education & Culture Committee

COMMITTEE PRESIDED BY: Julia Coates, Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Julia Coates	Don Garvin	Buel Anglen
Bill John Baker	Jack D. Baker	Harley Buzzard
Bradley Cobb	Joe Crittenden	Jodie Fishinghawk
Meredith Frailey	Janelle Fullbright	Tina Glory-Jordan
Curtis Snell	Chris Soap	David Thornton
Cara Cowan Watts	Chuck Hoskin, Jr.*	

*Entered meeting after roll call.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Gloria Sly	Dr. Neil Morton	Shelly Butler-Allen
Jennifer Pigeon	Stephanie Isaacs	Brenda Fitzgerald
Ginger Brown	Gina Stanley	Jeannine Hale

VISITORS:

None.

QUORUM ESTABLISHED: Yes

LEGISLATION/RESOLUTION: Yes

MINUTES: See Attached

**EDUCATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE
HEADSTART CONFERENCE ROOM**

November 14, 2007

1:05 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION / ROLL CALL:

Chair Coates called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Councilor Soap gave the invocation. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilor Anglen moved for the approval of the October 16th regular session. Councilor Cobb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc. Ed: Stephanie Isaacs, Director for Administration Operations for Career Services reported in the absence of Diane Kelley. She provided a handout of their report. The current G.E.D. class schedule is in the packets. Brenda Fitzgerald, Manager of Vocational Rehabilitation, went over the Voc. Rehab Program and handed out CD's about their program.

Councilor Soap inquired about the job fair for Gatorade. Ms. Isaacs stated the job fair went over well. She stated the department hired more intake clerks to help out with the follow ups.

Executive Director's Report: Dr. Neil Morton stated he would be glad to answer any questions from the last meeting. He stated the Cherokee Nation Youth Choir will be leaving Monday for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Mr. Morton sated our AESIS representatives just returned from Phoenix.

Head Start: Verna Thompson stated she would be happy to answer any questions the committee has from the written report.

The Council gave appreciation to Ms. Thompson and her staff for the Thanksgiving Day Luncheon.

Johnson O'Malley: Dr. Shelley Butler-Allen stated she would be happy to answer any questions the committee has from the written report.

Sequoyah High School: Gina Stanley stated they had their official signing with Senior Angel Goodrich to the University of Kansas. Ms. Stanley stated that it will air tonight on Channel 8. She announced the construction expansion on the classrooms and library is going well. Ms. Stanley stated that Nathan Stanley is the finalist of the National Gatorade Player of the Year. She stated the Sequoyah Football's 2nd round is coming up and would like everyone to come out and give their support. Ms. Stanley reported the quotes for the computers are in.

Cemetery Restoration Assistance Report: Don Greenfeather was not present to give report.

Cultural Resource Center: Dr. Gloria Sly stated she would be happy to answer any questions the committee has from the written report.

Dr. Morton stated they have a copy of the 2nd grade curriculum. If you would like a hard copy, let Dr. Morton know and he would be glad to get you one. Also, the new CD for the Cherokee Nation Youth Choir will be out by December's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A Resolution Supporting an Amendment to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to Require Environmental Protection Agency Compliance. Chair Coates announced she has just learned of a wording issue with this piece of legislation. She stated she would like to go ahead and present it with hopes of moving forward knowing there will be language substituted. She provided a brief back ground for this resolution stating she had learned of the issue during a conference she attended in California. She stated the Elem Band of Pomo Indians is from Clear Lake California. Their village has been in the same place for 11,000 years. Approximately 50 years ago they were moved off of the site for sulphur and mercury mining. Upon the completion of the mining the people were able to move back onto the site. Just a couple of years ago they were moved off of the site again due to a discovery of sever mercury contamination in the area as a result of the mining. It became a superfund cleanup site. She stated there is an exemption from the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requirements that archeological sites of this nature must be treated appropriately. What has happened is a tremendous amount of archeological, cultural, and skeletal remains have been destroyed. They are presently looking at a claim in the amount of \$70ml due to the loss. They are asking for resolutions of support from other tribal nations requesting this exemption from the National Historic Preservation Act requirements loophole could be closed. Ms. Jeanine Hale voiced concerns for every situation not being this black and white. She stated this issue is however black and white. This asks for a comprehensive survey of cultural and historic site artifacts prior to any type of clean up. There are situations where this would not be feasible. She stated there may be a more broad concern from our prospective where we have been striving with the EPA and other federal agencies to get them to commit to tribal consultation before they take action. She suggested the verbiage could state a comprehensive survey be required unless an emergency situation arises that would affect public help. Councilor Jack Baker made a motion to forward this resolution to the Rules Committee on November 29th to allow time to make the verbiage changes. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Bill John Baker moved for adjournment. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried at 1:32 p.m.

APPROVAL/DISTRIBUTION:

Minutes submitted by: Shelli Brittain, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Motion to approve minutes made by: Jack Baker

Minutes attested and concurred by: Julia Coates

Date: 12/18/07