



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Meeting Minutes

Education and Culture Committee

Monday, May 11, 2009

3:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Coates called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Bill John Baker gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 15 - Bill John Baker; S. Joe Crittenden; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Buel Anglen; Jack D. Baker; Tina Glory Jordan; Jodie Fishinghawk; Janelle Fullbright; Harley Buzzard; Curtis Snell; Chris Soap; Bradley Cobb; Chuck Hoskin, Jr. and Julia Coates

Absent 1 - Cara Cowan Watts

Late Arrival 1 - Meredith Frailey

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Jack D. Baker made a motion to approve the April 13th regular session minutes. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc. Ed - Diane Kelley

No one present to report.

2. Executive Director's Report - Dr. Neil Morton

Dr. Morton offered to answer questions from his reports. Councilor Glory-Jordan inquired as to the status of the implementation of no deadlines for the scholarship applications. Dr. Morton stated they funded the late applications for this semester. He stated they have a deadline now set for the 12th of June. He requested the approval of the Council to fund late applications as money is available in the order that they are received. Councilor Glory-Jordan made a motion to accept Dr. Morton's recommendation. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Councilor Hoskin Jr. offered a friendly amendment for the number of funded late applicants be reported to this committee monthly. Councilor Glory-Jordan accepted. Motion carried.

3. Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson offered to answer questions from her report. Councilor Hoskin Jr. inquired if there is any interest in the Ketchum area with the Big Cabin head start closing at the end of the month. Ms. Thompson stated they already have a facility there for pre-K. Ms. Thompson announced the next policy council meeting is scheduled for June 17th.

4. JOM - Dr. Shelley Butler-Allen

Ms. Imogene Alexander offered to answer questions from the written report.

5. Sequoyah High School - Gina Stanley

No one present to report.

6. Director's Report - Dr. Gloria Sly

No one present to report.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL TREASURES NOMINATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Ms. Knight announced the Chief requested after the awards were given last year to do a review of the National Treasures Program and make recommendations about structure and organization. Mr. Andoe provided a handout of the recommendations presented to the Chief. He stated they wish to tweak the program. Councilor Jack D. Baker stated the Cherokee Heritage Center hasn't had anything to do with the selection for the last 3 or 4 years. He further commented in the past that the recommendations excluded anyone living outside the jurisdiction. He voiced concern for this continuing in the future. He stated it is addressed in the recommendation and agreed if the language was stricken. He stated the Heritage Center plays an important role and should continue to. He stated the main question is who has ownership of the program and who has responsibility. Currently the Resolution says the Cherokee Nation has ownership and is currently budgeted through education services. He further went over the recommendations provided in the handout. Councilor Jack D. Baker inquired if this could be implemented quickly to be in place for the holiday. Mr. Andoe stated it would take some time to change the bylaws but for at least this year it could be stated that the recipient must be approved. Councilor Fishinghawk made a motion for the Speaker and the Chair of Executive and Finance committee give out the awards. Mr. Andoe stated the key requirement is to perpetuate Cherokee culture. He suggested opening up the award to contemporary arts and music. Councilor Glory-Jordan commented this award has always been for elders to recognize them for their lifetime ability of carrying on cultural ways. She voiced concern that if this program is opened up it will be lost. Councilor Cobb inquired as to whom can and can not receive the award. Mr. Andoe stated it is primarily a visual arts award for hands on crafts rather than acting or signing.

Councilor Cobb suggested the program also include Cherokee speakers. Councilor Fullbright stated currently it seems the program is for crafters. She suggested it also include medicine men. Councilor Bill John Baker suggested a few Councilors and others interested and develop a new resolution rather than a memo and table this to next month. Councilors Jack D. Baker, Glory-Jordan and Coates all volunteered to assist.

Councilor Jack D. Baker made a motion to table to next month. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to amend the agenda to add a new business item 4 to donate equipment to NSU School of optometry. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. CULTURAL TOURISM UPDATE PRESENTATION

Mr. Stewart provided a procedural update with Cultural Tourism. The Seminary Hall is complete. They are in the middle of the Supreme Court renovation, Ross cemetery, and the Ross school. The tours have been ongoing with mostly children. They are marketing the tours to the people staying at the casino. Ms. Molly Jarvis announced you can go to www.cherokeetourismok.com to book a tour at this time. She stated they are preparing to launch an advertising campaign which will include print and television ads. Ms. Jarvis announced Talisha Nichols has transitioned to a position within CNE at Will Rogers Downs in a sales role. She introduced Steve Rush who handles all of the marketing to guests and Travis Owens who manages the infrastructure side of the program. She provided a draft brochure and presented the soon to be released television commercial. She announced an unveiling to the press and the public is planned for June. Councilor Buzzard inquired as to the market of focus. Ms. Jarvis stated the surrounding five state area with a long term plan to market internationally. She provided the new magazine.

3. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF SURPLUS INTERCOM SYSTEM EQUIPMENT FROM SEQUOYAH SCHOOLS TO MULDROW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sponsors: Councilor Janelle Fullbright

Councilor Fullbright made a motion for approval. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE DONATION OF SURPLUS OPTOMETRY EQUIPMENT FROM CHEROKEE NATION TO NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

Sponsors: Councilor Bill John Baker

Councilor Bill John Baker stated most of the equipment is over 10 years old and has been deemed parts only by the Cherokee Nation.

Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to donate the equipment to NSU Optometry. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. Councilor Cobb requested it move to tomorrow's Health committee meeting. The request was accepted. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Coates announced the University of North Carolina is bringing a dozen students here for the Summer Abroad and she has been requested to conduct a history course over two weekends. She offered invitation to Council members who would like to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Cobb seconded the motion. Motion carried at 3:50 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Doug Evans</i>	<i>Dr. Neil Morton</i>	<i>Rita Bunch</i>
<i>Bill Andoe</i>	<i>Jennifer Pigeon</i>	<i>Verna Thompson</i>
<i>Nita Wilson</i>	<i>Gregg Simmons</i>	<i>Imogene Alexander</i>
<i>Melanie Knight</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>David Stewart</i>	<i>Molly Jarvis</i>	<i>Roy Hamilton</i>
<i>Steve Rush</i>	<i>Travis Owens</i>	

APPROVAL / DISTRIBUTION

Minutes submitted by: Shelli Brittain, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Motion to approve minutes made by: *Bill John Baker*

Minutes attested and concurred by: *Julia Coates*

Date: 6-15-09