



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Council House
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Julia Coates, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain
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Monday, February 14, 2011

3:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Coates called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Soap gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 14 - Bill John Baker; Buel Anglen; Cara Cowan Watts; Chris Soap; Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr.; Don Garvin; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Janelle Fullbright; Julia Coates; Meredith Frailey; S. Joe Crittenden and Tina Glory Jordan

Absent 1 - Bradley Cobb

Late Arrival 2 - Chuck Hoskin, Jr. and Jodie Fishinghawk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve the January 17, 2011 regular session minutes with the correction of the spelling of AISES. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

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

Ms. Stephanie Isaacs offered to answer questions from the written report provided. Councilor Buzzard inquired if anyone had been placed on the OJTNEG grant. Ms. Isaacs stated they have five current applications and are looking for additional applicants.

2. Executive Director's Report - Melanie Knight

Mr. Corey Bunch offered to answer questions from the reports provided. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired if the numbers pertaining to the balanced scorecard measures listed on Mr. Faddis' report could be included.

3. Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson offered to answer questions from her written report. Councilor Glory-Jordan inquired about the number of children enrolled. Ms. Thompson stated they are at their maximum of 680 for head start and 210 for early. They remain in limbo for ARRA funding for 48 kids. They haven't heard the audit results at this time.

4. Leadership - Todd Enlow

Mr. Enlow apologized for not getting his report submitted. He announced the Night with the Cherokee Ambassadors was held with approximately 300 people in attendance. He stated the Cherokee hire rate for the month of October was approximately 83%, November the mid eighties, December in the nineties and January was at approximately 85%. The current Cherokee employment is 82%. Councilor FISHINGHAWK requested the breakdown by group of the survey performed. She inquired if they had began exit interviews. Mr. Enlow stated they began the exit interviews approximately six months ago and hasn't analyzed the data to this point. Discussion was held regarding the length of time it takes to hire, the requirement to go through a financial review and why the post cards were not being sent to the unsuccessful job interviewers. A suggestion was made for the exit interview to be performed by a group other than Human Resources.

Councilor FISHINGHAWK inquired of Mr. Bunch if they are again looking for ways to cut money out of the higher education budget again this year for scholarships. Mr. Bunch stated they are looking to increase expectations in order to help students graduate. Councilor FISHINGHAWK requested feedback.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [TMP-163](#) Status Update on STEM Strategy Plans and College Prep Curriculum (Discussion Only)
Mr. Corey Bunch announced he brought Gary Crawford the Dean of Academics at Sequoyah Schools, Gregg Simmons the Manager of the College Resource Center and Daniel Faddis the Manager of the Public School Outreach to answer any further questions. Some discussion was held pertaining to the public school outreach process.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [11-016](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS
Chair Coates stated this is a three-year project to expand the existing online classes and Cherokee online classes.

Councilor Bill John Baker moved to approve and forward to the Council meeting tonight. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Coates announced the next meeting is March 14th at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Bunch announced Sequoyah Schools will have their annual 8th grade day and open house this Wednesday. A parent night will be held for prospective students on the 22nd.

On behalf of Shelley Butler-Allen Mr. Bunch announced the JOM Conference and Banquet on February 28th through March 1st at the Hard Rock Casino in Catoosa.

Ms. Isaacs announced on March 24th they will have an open house and ribbon cutting for the Learning Center across the street.

Mr. Enlow announced the Leadership Summit will be held on March 22nd at the West Siloam Springs Casino.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Bill John Baker moved to adjourn. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. The motion carried at 3:38 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

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|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Corey Bunch</i> | <i>Gregg Simmons</i> | <i>Jennifer Pigeon</i> |
| <i>Daniel Faddis</i> | <i>Paula Ragsdale</i> | <i>Todd Enlow</i> |
| <i>Stephanie Isaacs</i> | <i>Gary Crawford</i> | <i>Verna Thompson</i> |

VISITORS PRESENT: