

**EDUCATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE**  
**LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**October 16, 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:**

Nita Wilson	Verna Thompson	Gloria Sly
Jennifer Pigeon	Kim Carroll	Ginger Brown
Gina Stanley		

**VISITORS:**

Raymond Vann                      Charles Dry

**QUORUM ESTABLISHED:**              Yes

**LEGISLATION/RESOLUTION:**        No

**MINUTES:**                                See Attached

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**1:05 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION / ROLL CALL:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilor Anglen moved for the approval of the September 11<sup>th</sup> regular session. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc. Ed: Kim Carroll, Director of Grants and Compliance for Career Services reported in the absence of Diane Kelley who is attending a Job Corp meeting in DC. Kim Carroll stated a written report was submitted and she would be glad to answer any questions.

Councilor Buzzard inquired if more could be done on Indian employment not only on road projects, casino projects, but any projects Cherokee Nation has going. Is there a problem with staffing doing the enforcement? Kim Carroll stated it is her understanding the TERO Department has staff that specifically does the road project and a staff person assigned to each of the casinos. They currently have four inspectors on staff and are currently advertising for another. He requested a report of TERO meetings they have with contractors to bring back to this committee next month.

Executive Director's Report: Nita Wilson reported in the absence of Dr. Neil Morton. Ms. Wilson stated a written report was submitted and included in the report are two items that require approval of the committee. One is the Higher Education request for policy change of the existing policy of the GPA requirement and the other is requesting a change in the current funding for the Cherokee Language Degree Program, NSU-Bachelor or Arts: Cherokee.

Councilor Glory-Jordan moved to approve the requested policy change from the existing policy for GPA requirements to the requested changes to the GPA requirements. Councilor Hoskin, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve proposed funding for the Cherokee Language Degree Program. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilor Cowan Watts requested a report on what percent of money has been returned to the Tribe due to the drop out rate and also information on the grants that were funded this fall. She would also like to know if there is opportunity to do a follow up assessment on why they have left.

Councilor Garvin requested the Education Department to be in compliance with what has already been passed with the respective names of the scholarships; which are PELL and Cherokee Nation Scholarships.

Councilor Fullbright requested for clarification, do the PELL eligible students receive their PELL grant plus \$1000 from Cherokee Nation? Nita Wilson stated they receive \$1000 from Cherokee Nation.

Councilor Cobb asked them to consider on the staffing to have someone do follow up with phone calls.

Nita Wilson reported the Higher Education staff has been attending college fairs. There will be an AISES meeting at 5:00 p.m. today in the SHS gym.

Councilor Fullbright requested a report on how much State and nationally tuition and books have increased in the last nine years.

Councilor Cobb requested a report on NSU, OU, OSU the average cost for incoming freshmen for room and board, books and tuition.

Head Start: Verna Thompson stated she would be happy to answer any questions the committee has from the written report. She reported they are currently waiting for a call from the funding agency on their tri-annual review. She invited the Council for Thanksgiving Dinner which in the past has been a tradition to hold the November Committee meetings in the Head Start Conference room with Thanksgiving dinner to follow.

Councilor Garvin moved to have the November 14<sup>th</sup> Committee meetings in the Head Start Conference room with Thanksgiving Dinner to follow. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Johnson O'Malley: Dr. Shelley Butler-Allen was not available to report. She was attending the Language Bowl at Northeastern State University.

Sequoyah High School: Gina Stanley reported they received their official accreditation which is an accreditation with no deficiencies based on last year's audit. They currently have three positions open, which are for an English teacher, secretary and principal. They are in the process of revising curriculum throughout the school to make sure everyone is in line with an updated curriculum. They have construction projects that are ongoing and are still in the design phase of those which includes the library expansion. They hosted a BIA training on transportation and residential. She has requested a bid on 321 computers which will take care of replacing all the computers in the classrooms as well as putting computers in the dorms. Raley Conrad has been invited to visit Dartmouth College. Channel 8 has selected Sequoyah High School as the Cool School of the month.

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

Cultural Resource Center: Dr. Gloria Sly provided a detailed GPR report on the specific cemeteries they have done GPR work on along with her written report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to amend the agenda to include the Arts and Crafts Act for a brief discussion. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A Legislative Act Relating to Native American Arts and Crafts, Be It Enacted By the Cherokee Nation. Councilor Cowan Watts stated this Act includes a truth in advertising and anything for those like the gift shops and such that we would no longer sell items that are not by federally recognized tribal citizens if they are labeled as Indian. It will preclude items of non-Indians; they just have to have a truth in advertising so if they claim to be Indian they have to be a member or citizen of a recognized tribe. This Act would not allow for State recognized tribes.

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to forward this Act to the Rules Committee for further consideration. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

All committee meetings scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup> will be held at the Head Start Conference room with Thanksgiving Dinner being provided to the Council by the Head Start staff.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilor Garvin moved for adjournment. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL/DISTRIBUTION:**

Minutes submitted by: Gayle Miller, Recording Secretary

Motion to approve minutes made by: Buel Anglen

Minutes attested and concurred by: Julia Coates

Date: 11-14-07