

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Reno Sparks Indian Colony, 34 Reservation Road, Reno, NV

Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Chairperson, Nevada's Indian Territory and Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Michon R. Eben, Vice-Chairperson, Cultural Resource Program/Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; Sari Nichols, Secretary, Program Officer I, Nevada Indian Commission; Greg Weyland, Director, Washoe Tribal Gaming Commission, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California; Larry Burton, Photographer; Scott Carey, Planer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony; Billie J. Guerrero, Museum Director, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Bruce Retting, Charter Advertising; Michael Ondelay, Art Director, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; Ben Rupert, Warriors, Path, Native American Tours; Christine Myers, Native Elements; John Dayberry, Owner, Native Elements; Arlen Melendez, Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - A. Sherry L. Rupert called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
- II. Approval of January 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes
 - A. With no changes made, Greg Weyland motioned to approve the January 16, 2019 meeting minutes, seconded by Michon Eben. Motion carried.
- III. Comments by Chairperson – Sherry L. Rupert, Chairperson, Nevada's Indian Territory
 - A. Sherry reported on the February 12, 2019, Nevada Tribes Legislative Day. Sherry reported that the Indian Territory was on full display during Nevada Tribes Legislative Day, with a booth near the downstairs' entrance and a booth in room 3100. Between the two information booths the Territory was able to hand out all of the Indian Territory merchandise. Sari passed out flyers that talked about the new Indian Territory sponsored Nevada's Powwow website.
 - B. Tourism Day at the Legislature – February 13, 2019
Sherry and Sari went over to the Assembly for Tourism Day. A representative from the U.S. Travel Association gave a short presentation as did Kat Gali, Event Coordinator for the town of Tonopah. Nevada's Lieutenant Governor Kate Marshall, and Brenda Nebesky, Interim Deputy Director of Nevada's Department of Tourism both gave a few words and thank everyone for their hard work.
- IV. Secretary/Treasurer Report – Sari Nichols, Secretary/Treasurer, Nevada's Indian Territory
 - A. Sari reported the Territory checking account has a current balance of

\$11,239.35.

- B. Since the last meeting, Territory expenses have included a payment to Charter Advertising in the amount of \$4,800 for the Indian Territory website maintenance.
- V. Nevada Division of Tourism Update – Shari Bombard, Rural Programs Manager
- Shari Bombard was unavailable for a report.
- VI. Update on Planning for the 2019 Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference – Sherry L. Rupert, Chairperson, Nevada’s Indian Territory
- A. Sherry reported that the conference location has been changed from the Elko Red Lion to the Elko Convention and Visitor’s Authority Turquoise Room. The Hilton Garden Inn will be the host hotel and possibly the caterer. Sherry believes this year’s conference will be less expensive than last year’s due to location and attendance.
 - B. Sherry handed out the list of conference topics and program draft. Sherry went over the conference agenda and her idea to have vendors and cultural demonstrators as these were well received at last year’s conference. Sherry also noted that Leah Brady suggested incorporating the local youth into the conference; as possible entertainers or exhibitors during the opening reception at the California Trail Center. Sherry then asked for comments. Sherry talked about a recent visit to the Pyramid Lake Visitor’s Center for the Basket Weaver’s event. She commented on the songs and dances that were shared with the general public. Sherry pointed out that it is the little things that visitors want; tribes do not have to share all of their culture or have grand visitor agendas. Scott Carey suggested the topic of “How to capture Tourism” instead of “How to Give a Tour” as a better tie-in to the conference theme. The group agreed.
 - C. Sherry reported on the Mobile Workshop agenda to be held at the Shoshone-Paiute Duck Valley Reservation. Larry said he would be on hand to help attendees with photography questions. Sherry suggested that Larry use some of the attendees’ photos in his workshop as example of how to use touch up filters and apps.
 - D. Sherry went over the possible conference theme list and asked the group to discuss which one they liked. The group liked “Creating Unique Experiences in Indian Country”. This led to a long discussion on the word “visitor” verses the word “tourist”. It was agreed that viewing people as visitors, not tourists allowed for the possibility of warm and friendly hospitality. Sari pointed out that perhaps if people felt more like visitors rather than tourists, they would be more respectful to their surroundings. It was suggested that the conference move away from the word “tourist” and use “visitor” instead. Bruce suggested using the words “visitor” and “invite” in order to convey a feeling

of mutual respect and friendship. The group agreed that they would like to see the conference move away from the words “tourism”, and “tourist”. Michon suggested we ask the conference speakers to do the same.

- E. Sherry shared the Save the Date postcard with the group and thanked Bruce for his art work. Scott Carey asked “When was the last time the conference was held in Elko”? Sherry looked it up and reported that it was in 2012. She commented that the conference had only been held once in Reno. Michon suggested holding the 2020 conference in Reno. The group agreed.

VII. Discussion on Reno-Tahoe Airport Exhibit and Possible Approval of Proposal

- A. Sherry reported that the Territory received a revised cost proposal from Native Elements dated January 29th, 2019. Costs associated with pre-bid work was removed from the proposal. Michon asked that Sherry explain to non-Territory members the history of the Reno-Tahoe Airport exhibit and current issue. Sherry went over the airport exhibit history and current project to move and expand the current exhibit. She then read the revised cost proposal to the group and noted that the costly items were removed to fit the budget. John explained that the new proposal allowed for the inclusion of the removed elements as funds become available. Sherry asked for comments on the proposal. Sari asked if any mounts would be included in the exhibit as a way to draw attention to the area. John said there is no room in the sitting area but possible room on the outside of the area depending on the sizes. Ben reminded John that a list of mount sizes was e-mailed to him. There was some discussion on the different possible mounts that could be included in the exhibit. Sherry asked for a motion on the proposal. Michon motioned to accept the cost proposal and have Indian Territory staff work with Native Elements on creating the contract to move forward on the Reno Tahoe Airport Indian Territory display, seconded by Greg Weyland. Motion carried.

VIII. Update on Planning for Nevada Powwow Website and Call for Information – Sari Nichols, Secretary/Treasurer, Nevada’s Indian Territory

- A. Sari reported on the \$12,000 Travel Nevada grant funding that the Territory received to develop a website devoted to Nevada’s Powwows, events, festivals, and Tribal and Tribal member owned businesses. Sari handed out the flyer that she sent out to the tribes asking for a call for information to be included in the website. Sari noted that she was not receiving much information. Michon suggested contacting Reno Sparks Indian Colony’s public relation specialist for a list of their businesses.

IX. Territory/Tribal Updates

- A. Greg reported on the Washoe Tribe’s marketing plan for their casino. It is the

slow season for casinos so the tribe is looking to market to the local community.

- B. Billy Jean reported that the Pyramid Lake Tribe will have their first Native Song night of 2019 in collaboration with a community dinner on February 22, 2019. On February 27, 2019 the Pyramid Lake Cultural Center will host a presentation on the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum, and do a showing of the Stewart Indian School documentary. March 23 the Tribe is hosting a viewing of the documentary, "Water Protectors" by Plan Action Productions. There will be a basket weaver's gathering in late April.
- C. Michon reported on the upcoming February 21, 2019 premiere of "Rumble, the Indians Who Rocked the World". The will have popcorn and hotdogs. March 28, 2019 the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum staff will give a presentation on the upcoming Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum. Michon shared a map and designs of the Spaghetti Bowl freeway expansion that is affecting Reno Sparks Indian Colony property. Reno Sparks Indian Colony worked with Washoe County on an approved route near the Colony with approved freeway artwork.
- D. Larry reported that the Carson City fair will be held on July 26 through July 28, 2019. The Fair Board would like to have tribal presence at the fair. Larry is working with the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center's design team on landscape photos.
- E. John reported that the town of Myers is putting in a roundabout and suggested that the Territory contact the planners about landscape art for the project.

X. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- A. The Tribal Tourism Conference
- B. An update on the new Powwow website
- C. Updating the Indian Territory website

XI. Meeting Date and Location of Next Indian Territory Meeting

The next Indian Territory meeting will be March 20, 2019. See 2019 Meeting Listing

XII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:49am.