

Nevada's Indian Territory  
Thursday May 30, 2019 Meeting Minutes  
Nevada Indian Commission, 5500 Snyder Ave, Carson City, NV

Present: Michon Eben, Interim-Chairsperson, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, Cultural Resources Program; Sari Nichols, Secretary, Program Officer I, Nevada Indian Commission; Greg Weyland, Director, Washoe Tribal Gaming Commission, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California; Larry Burton, Photographer; Bruce Rettig, Charter Advertising; Shari Bombard, Rural Programs Manager, Travel Nevada; John Dayberry, Native Elements; Kelly Clark, USDA Rural Development, Native American Outreach Coordinator; Ben Rupert, Reno Fire Department

I. Welcome and Introductions

- A. Michon called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of May 03, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- A. With changes made to item X, A from “The NCAI event is hosted by the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada”, to “The NCAI event is hosted by the Reno Sparks Indian Colony”, Greg Weyland motioned to approve the May 03, 2019 meeting minutes, seconded by Larry Burton. Motion carried.**

III. Secretary/Treasurer Report – Sari Nichols, Secretary/Treasurer, Nevada's Indian Territory

- A. The Indian Territory checking account is at \$12,436.93. We just closed out two Travel Nevada grants; 2019 Tribal Tourism Training, and Indian Territory Promotional Items.
- B. Sari reported that the former Chairperson, Sherry L Rupert was unable to add Sari Nichols as a banking co-signer onto the Territory checking account. Bank of America asked for documents that the current Nevada Indian Territory Committee does not have. Sherry and Sari attempted to open a new checking account at Wells Fargo but was unable to do so due to lack of documentation backup for the Committee. The original letter that contains the EIN number assigned to the Territory by the IRS was not turned over to the current Territory. The banking issue was not resolved. Sari has looked into getting a new EIN number but this requires using a Social Security number. Neither Sari, nor Michon are eager to share their personal information in order to open a new checking account. Both would like to wait until the new Chairperson is elected. In the meantime, Sari has asked Brenda Nebesky, the acting Executive Director, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs to look into how the other Territories handle their official banking documents.
- C. Sari reported that Sherry L Rupert has her open a Paypal account right before the Tribal Tourism Conference in order to allow for online registration payment. In the past the payments passed through the Stewart Indian School Father's Day Powwow Paypal account. The new account was set up as an attempt to have the Territory handle its own on-line payment needs. The Paypal account collected \$600 in registration fees, but with the Bank of America issue, the money cannot be moved from Paypal to the checking account. Sari is doing all she can to resolve these issues.

#### IV. Nevada Division of Tourism Update- Shari Bombard, Rural Programs Manager

- A. Teri Laursen has resigned as Director of Sales and Industry Partners. Christian Passink, former International Market Manager for the UK, Germany, and France, is our new SIP Director.
- B. TravelNevada hosted a sales mission to Toronto & Montreal, Canada during the dates of May 13-17, 2019. This mission included networking with tour operators, travel agents, airlines, influencers, bloggers, travel writers and other key contacts. PR is in the process of vetting journalists and arranging press trips from those leads. More to come!
- C. TravelNevada participated in ITB China in Shanghai for the first time. During the 3 day appointment based show, TN met with 50 tour operators booking business to the US. TN shared the booth with Brand USA and other delegates from the US.
- D. 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle 2020 Rural Marketing Grants closed Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. They will be awarded in June. 205 applications were received requesting a total of \$1.74 million.
- E. The Governor's Global Tourism Summit will be held at the Plaza Hotel in Downtown Las Vegas Tuesday, November 12 through Thursday, November 14. Tuesday will have pre-conference activities, as well as meet and greet cocktails in the evening. Wednesday and Thursday will both be full conference days.
- F. We're busy hosting media in the Reno-Tahoe Territory and Las Vegas/Nevada Silver Trails Territories. Any territory members interested in working with us to host media can contact Chris Moran or Tracie Barnhouse (Chris works with domestic media and Tracie with international media).
- G. We'll be meeting internally to discuss updates to the TravelNevada.biz site. Any input on how we can make it better for you can be sent to Tracie Barnhouse – [tbarnhouse@travelnevada.com](mailto:tbarnhouse@travelnevada.com)

#### V. Update on Nevada Powwow Website –Sari Nichols, Secretary/Treasurer, Nevada's Indian Territory

Sari shared the finished product for the group's review. Everyone agreed the photo quality really stands out against the blue background; however the text is hard to read. There was discussion on the difference between how the website looks on mobile devices verses desktop devices. The text was harder to read on a mobile device so Bruce will work to lower the blue shading on the mobile version. Bruce then asked Sari and Michon to go to the map on the desktop device. Here he demonstrated how the interactive side of the website worked. There was some group discussion on what businesses would be allowed on the website; would they be have to be strictly travel related or is any business welcome to be added? There was a brief discussion. It was agreed that any tribal or Native owned business could be listed but that they would have to apply for space. Bruce is to come up with an online fillable form for this purpose. The group discussed how the businesses should be vetted. Ben suggested that new businesses become agenda items so that the Territory has an opportunity to see who is on the website. Larry reminded the group that in some of the smaller areas, all Native owned businesses rely on tourism. Ben would like to see an honored Stewart Powwow elder featured each year on the website. In response Sari asked Larry to take pictures of the Head Man and Woman for the next Powwow website update.

#### VI. Update on Reno-Tahoe Airport Exhibit and Contract with Native Elements

Michon reported on a meeting between the Reno Tahoe Airport and Clear Channel that left the Territory out. Michon reminded Andrew, the Clear Channel spokesperson that

Sherry Rupert had notified them of the change of Chairman. Clear Channel is now keeping Michon, John, and Sari notified as to the airport's side of the project. There was a conference call on May 22, between Andrew, Michon, John, and Sari. Andrew let the group know that the GSR has not moved out yet. There was some discussion about the GSR possibly paying for Indian Territory approved flooring as they have to remove the current tiles. Andrew said he would ask. The airport manager is asking for an updated rendering that shows how the Territory plans to use the new space. Andrew offered to do the rendering at no cost to the Territory. Michon asked Bruce for the files from the original rendering to share with Clear Channel and gave Clear Channel some new ideas for the larger space. Michon is waiting for Clear Channel to give her copies of the rendering. There was discussion on the floor tiles. GSR is contracted to remove the current black and white tile and replace it with the same color and design as the rest of the area. Greg suggested that we ask that the current floor be kept as is. This will distinguish the Territory's space from the walkway. The group agreed. Michon said she would e-mail the new rendering to the group when she receives it. Ben suggested asking GSR for the large interactive screen. The group agreed to have Michon make the request. Ben suggested that as a group the Territory agree to asking for keeping the current floor, interactive screen, and find out the color of the walls in order to help Native Elements move forward on the project. The group agreed to this plan.

## VII. Territory/Tribal Updates

- A. Ben reported on the archery shoot at the California Trail Museum, and finished the Incline Village Visitor's Center project. Ben invited the group to have an Indian Territory Committee meeting at the Incline Village Center.
- B. Sari reminded the group that the Stewart Father's Day Powwow Committee is looking for volunteers. Sari announced that Michael's Cycle is donating use of a utility vehicle to the Stewart Father's Day Powwow. Larry recommended adding permission for photo shoots on the Powwow dancer registration form.
- C. Larry hosted an IRDS webinar, working with the State Fair Committee and getting ready for the Stewart Powwow.

## VIII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- A. An update on the Airport Exhibit design
- B. An update on the Nevada's Powwow website

## IX. Meeting Date and Location of Next Indian Territory Meeting

The next Indian Territory meeting will be June 18, 2019 at the Nevada Indian Commission.

## X. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:53am.