

NORTH DAKOTA NATIVE TOURISM ALLIANCE

September 8, 2020 at 10am

Phone Conference

Dial-in: (605) 313 5436 Access 605881

Board of Directors Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to order/Roll call- establish a quorum

Meeting called to order at 10:16 am by President Les Thomas

Roll Call

Present: Les Thomas- President, Turtle Mountain Band
Selina LaFontaine- Secretary, Turtle Mountain Band
Darin Morsette -Vice-President, MHA Nation
Gary Snow, MHA Nation
Jen Martel – At Large, Standing Rock Tribe
Eric Grey Cloud, Standing Rock
Doug Sevigny, Treasurer- Spirit Lake Nation
Collette Brown, Spirit Lake Nation
Quorum Determine

NOT Present

Tamara St. John – Wahpeton Sisseton Oyate – Excused
Jason Morsette - MHA- Excused
Barb LittleOwl, Standing Rock Tribe- Excused

NDNTA Advisory Committee Members

Anna - GW
Stacey -StrengthenND
Ed Hall - BIA

Others Present

2. Opening Prayer: By Les

3. Approval of Agenda

Agenda Review – No Conflict of Interest

Les ask for under New Business B. add Grand Forks Herald for discussion and action.

Les calls for the motion, Selina makes the motion. Jen seconds the motion. **All in favor, NO Abstentions, Motion Carried.**

Les makes the statement that if anyone wants to change/or add to the agenda as we proceed, they can.

4. Approval of Minutes (Note: Les took notes from the special meeting 8.18.2020 once received I will send out.)

Les will get the notes he took to Selina ASAP.

5. Monthly Financial Report - Doug

NO Bank Statements were given to the BODs at this time as Doug is still having communications problems with the Bank and transferring to his name. Board requested that this be resolved by the next monthly meeting.

Doug states the amount of the Bank account from April of 2020 at 17,861.45 minus the \$500 to Big Fire Law of \$500 leaving Account Balance of roughly \$17, 351.81.

Les calls for the motion, Selina makes the motion. Jen seconds the motion. **All in favor, NO Abstentions, Motion Carried.**

6. New business

- a. Updated List of amenities per state request (per Les)

- i. Refer to Old business (d); ND Governor's Budget

1. Recommendation: Set up a call with NDNTA Executive Team and the ND Governor's Budget for procedures and eligibility requirements.

Les explains that Scott Davis of ND Indian Affairs will look over what NDNTA will bring forward to submit for the Governor Budget. A lengthy discussion was held as the majority of BODs and Advisory Committee have concerns with this as some of the Board members will have to get the support and permission from their Tribal council with requesting going after money on their behalf. Colette stated that she does a lot of advocating legislation, She noted that she saw the Governor's agenda and states she did not see on there "Budget" only "Donation" we need better clarity. Selina also states that there is no supporting materials as in "what are the guidelines for submission. Our advisors gave some explanation on how this would then come off as we are competing with our tribes. Ed suggests we get our strategies more in lime and bring our tries on board, we need to inform them of how we can support them. Both Ed and Darian stated we need the data for supporting materials. Stacey these guidelines need to state Procedures, Purpose and Eligibility. GW under the BIA will train the BODs on advocating, Grant writing, etc, in the next phase of work this coming year. The BODs have recommended to

Table for two months (awaiting funding approval) where the Executive Officers and Advisors will discuss a strategic plan for the next go around. All were in favor of this.

b. Grand Forks Herald- Les

Les is notifying the board that the Grand Forks Herald would like to write a story on NDNTA and Les will do the Interview. Les calls for the motion, Darian makes the motion. Doug Seconds. **All in favor, NO Abstentions, Motion Carried.**

7. Old business

a. Wrap-up of GW/BIA tourism development work and future planning (Anna)

Anna recapped the completed work with NDNTA and the Tribes Tourism Leadership Teams. (Anna sent to BODs a copy of the completed work and the next phase) Anna stated they are still waiting to hear back on the funding of the next phase of work, and once the appropriations are release and we think that will be by October then GW will be able to come back onboard with NDNTA and the Tribes with continuing to build our tourism product development. Anna states that in the meantime she will volunteer her time with any concerns or advising.

i. Update on ground work with the 3 tribes' tourism products (Selina, Jen and Doug)

Selina thanked GW, BIA and the TM TLT for their trainings, Educating and volunteer work on the local level. TM is proud of the hard work that went into developing a tour product.

Doug stated that he learn a lot from the very detailed breakdown of putting everything in place and though he did not get the community support following Covid 19, he did the assignments and Collette helped when she could as she was heavily involved with reopening of Spirit Lake Casino and the new social Distancing and Sanitation protocols.

Jen stated that they did good.

b. Update on 501 c3 Status and request for approval for payment (Stacey)

Stacey informed the board that a meeting with executive officers Darian, Doug and Selina along with our partners StrenthenND Megan and Cher, Anna, GW. A background on what led to NDNTA losing their 501 c3 Status was determined. The process it will take to reinstated NDNTA and the application along with reinstatement fees. The Treasurer will need the historical documentation including articles of incorporation, bylaws and bank statements. Selina, Stacey and Doug will work on submitting the long form and this is now available online. A request to purchase a Bank card in the amount of \$700 will need to be loaded in order to pay these fees online. Les calls for the motion,

Selina makes the motion. Jen seconds. **All in favor, NO Abstentions, Motion Carried.**

- c. Status on Check and Agreement for Legal-reviewed financial policies - Doug
Doug stated that the check was sent out. Stacey Stated that the Big Fire Contract has not reached Big Fire, Darian and Doug both need to sign and mail and email to them.
 - d. ND Governor's Budget (Les) Table refer to New Business A
 - e.
8. Tribal updates- Standing Rock, Eric - SR Tribal Planning gave an update on the possibility of bringing in a Tourism Coordinator, building out their website to include tourism attractions.
Darian MHA-yearly budget for the year to submit to the tribe.
Selina- working on ND/SD Change Network Cohort project (Bush Grant) project will be geared towards test running 2 tours with Tribal Officials, Tribal Elders and Community stakeholders with a short survey.
Les, he is now on the International Peace Gardens BODs where he is working on a Tribal Garden Beds for all tribes to place their history at the gardens.
Doug- just been working our yearly budget, the Assignment for our Product.

Les call for the Adjournment of the meeting, Doug makes the motion, Eric seconds. **All in favor, NO Abstentions, Motion Carried.** Meeting adjourned at 12:02pm

9. Next regular scheduled meeting October 6, 2020