



Northern Ponca Elders Committee

Minutes

Monday, March 7, 2022 @9 AM/ Ponca Office - Lincoln

District 1 – Niobrara/Sioux City • District 2 – Omaha • District 3 – Lincoln • District 4 - Norfolk

- I. CALL TO ORDER @ 9:02 am
- II. ROLL CALL– Rose Birdhead, Rita Pitzer, Christine Legband, Marchita Bair, Mark Peniska, Belva Phillips, Carrie Voss, Phil Wendzillo.
Guests: Councilwoman Susie Baker, District 3, Councilwoman Jo And Schlotman, District 1, Tribal Council Treasurer Kyle Taylor, District 4, and Bill Wright.
- III. INVOCATION – Rose Birdhead
- IV. Approval of March 7, 2022, Agenda – Motion to approve March 7, 2022, agenda with additional requests by Christine to add lunch by Powwow Princess in April to Old Business and to add conferences to Additional Comments. Motion to approve additional request by Belva, seconded by Rose. Roll call votes: Rose – Yes, Rita – Yes, Marchita – Yes, Belva – Yes, Christine – Yes, Phil – Yes, Carrie – Yes. All approved. Motion carried.
- v. Approval of February 7, 2022, Minutes – Motion to approve, February 7, 2022, and to suspend reading the minutes by Belva, seconded by Marchita. Roll call votes: Rose – Yes, Phil – Yes, Christine – Yes, Marchita – Yes, Belva – Yes, Rita – Yes, Carrie – Yes. All approved. Motion carried.
- VI. Officer's Reports – Chair – Vacant. Vice-Chair – Mark Peniska – standing in for Chair will do the quarterly report in April and will put in a notice for Chair. Jessica Hitchcock is working on Elder's contacts booklet will be done by May. Secretary – Belva Phillips – None to report. Treasurer – Phil Wendzillo – finance reports for proposal for blankets feels that the budget should come out of the Cultural department.
- VII. Guest – Janelle Ali-Diner, CEO, Ponca Health Services discusses the official opening of the Lincoln Clinic for ready to serve Grand opening on March 21, 2022 from 11am – 1pm at 1600 Windhoek Dr. Updates of the event will be posted on the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska website and Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Facebook page. RSVP to Janelle Ali-Diner if interested. Any other questions or concerns you can contact

Janelle through Hope Barnes, Adm Assistant, Public Health Services, Ralston Office. Stand in Chair, Mark Peniska would like to invite Janelle to the Elder's Committee monthly meetings for any latest updates. The Elder's Committee individually thanked Janelle for attending the March meeting and would like to build a stronger relationship to help advocate for the Ponca member Elders health care and needs. Vice Chair, Mark Peniska Welcomes new Member Carrie Voss, District 2.

Break - 10:42 am - 10:50 am

- VIII. Old Business - Phil discussed the updated verbiage for budget narrative, monthly meetings, per diem and lodging used in conjunction for travel to special events or workdays or any travel related to or as defined for GSA Travel-related expenses/lodging. Amend and discussed to modify workday, mileage and special events and lodging to budget narrative. Motion to approve the change by Rose, seconded by Carrie. Roll call votes: Rose - Yes, Phil - Yes, Christine - Yes, Marchita - Yes, Belva - Yes, Rita - Yes, Carrie - Yes. All approved. Motion carried. Additional lodging for Grand opening event, one member and Special event stipends for the Elder's Committee approved. T-shirt design discussion by Rose and Committee members decided to use red shirts and turquoise with Elder's Committee logo, with Honoring our Elders above logo with past and present names on the back of the t-shirts and memorial names on the bottom. Motion to approve t-shirts design by Rose, seconded by Rita. Roll call votes: Rose - Yes, Phil - Yes, Christine - Yes, Marchita - Yes, Belva - Yes, Rita - Yes, Carrie - Yes. Motion carried. Verify to have lunch by Christine. Lunch will be served by Little Miss Ponca Princess, Reylynn Lemus, daughter of Jamie Lemus for the Elder's Committee on April 4th at noon. Menu is chili, frybread, a dessert and drinks. Motion to verify lunch for the Elder's Committee for April meeting by Roll call votes: Rose - Yes, Phil - Yes, Christine - Yes, Marchita - Yes, Belva - Yes, Rita - Yes, Carrie - Yes. Motion carried.
- IX. New Business - Spiritual Commitments by Rose. Rose discussed Sundance and the Freedom of Religion Act. Sundance is a twelve-day sacrifice, 4 days for purification, 4 days to dance and 4 days to rest. Because of the Freedom of Religion Act, it is the law that Native people can take time from work. But you plan if you have a job to take your leave of absence and vacation pay if you want to make a dedication to Sundance. Rose discussed articles for the monthly newsletter.

Each member in each district will put in an article for district news. Mark will put in an article about Grand opening Lincoln clinic event for March for District 2. This will give each member in each district a chance to participate in doing the newsletter. Rose discussed second day meeting event being important to half meeting and half event for second day for district Elders to come and have Lunch and discuss concerns and ideas.

x. Other Business - None.

xI. Additional Discussion - Conferences by Christine informed that there will be no NICOA Conference this year. Mark would like to invite transportation to April meeting. Lodging for April meeting in Norfolk, Rose, Rita, Mark, Belva and Carrie to Beth, CC: Chair on all lodging to approve.

xII. Adjourned at 12:15 pm by Vice Chair, Mark Peniska.

Next meeting May 2, 2022 @ 9 am
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