



Northern Ponca Elders Committee

Minutes

Monday, September 12, 2022 @ 10 AM / Ponca Office - Lincoln

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

- I. CALL TO ORDER @ 10:10 am
- II. ROLL CALL – Mark Peniska, Loyalee Wright, Rita Pitzer, Debbie Robinette, Carrie Voss, Belva Phillips.
Life-size – Marchita Bair
Conference call – Rose Birdhead, Phil Wendzillo.
Guest – Twila Phillips, Ponca member, Darrell Wells, Omaha tribe, Robin Wright, Ponca member and Bill Wright, Ponca member.
Richard Wright, Jr., Culture Director.
- III. INVOCATION – Phil Wendzillo
- IV. Approval of September 12, 2022, agenda – Motion by Rita, seconded by Debbie. Roll call of votes; Mark – Yes, Loyalee – abstain, Rita – Yes, Debbie – Yes, Marchita – Yes, Phil – Yes, Rose – Yes, Belva – Yes. Motion carried; agenda approved.
- V. Approval of August 12, 2022, minutes – Motion by Rita, seconded by Belva. Roll call of votes; Mark – Yes, Loyalee – abstain, Rita – Yes, Debbie – Yes, Marchita – Yes, Phil – Yes, Rose – Yes, Belva – Yes. Motion carried; minutes approved.
- VI. Officer's Reports – Chair, Carrie Voss welcomed everyone and new Committee member Loyalee Wright. Chair also thanked Rose and Belva for donating a roast for Powwow dinner. Chair also reminded Committee members to be respectful, raise hands and go through the Chair for any questions. Vice-Chair, Mark Peniska read the Elder's Council guideline's Mission and Vision Statement. Mark is in contact with Jessica on Resource booklet.
Secretary – Belva Phillips brought lunch frybread, steam fry and fixings for Indian tacos. Belva brought items for drawings during lunch, a man's basket, women's basket, Ponca Powwow Annual coffee cup and a ribbon skirt. The Elder's Council has three shawls for new women members Rita Pitzer, Debbie Robinette and Loyalee Wright. Belva will bring Loyalee's shawl to next meeting and a ribbon skirt. Winners of the drawings were ribbon skirt, Darrell Wells, coffee cup, Rose Birdhead, man's basket, Phil Wendzillo and

woman's basket, Marchita Bair. Two men's vest are in the makings for Mark Peniska and Phil Wendzillo. Belva also mentioned that Committee members are responsible for their own expense sheets and lodging to Jan or Candace. Expense sheets will be sent with monthly packets.
Treasurer – Vacant.

- VII. **Guest - Ponca Health Services Trish Monzon, licensed mental health and substance abuse therapist gave a presentation on the behavioral health services for the five locations within the Ponca Health Services. Please contact the Ponca Health Services for more information. Dr. Hallgren, Ponca Health Services gave the latest presentation on long haul effects of COVID and updates on vaccines, boosters, and treatment. For more information, please contact the Ponca Health Services for additional information.**

Lunch – noon – resumed meeting @ 12:40 pm

Guest – Richard Wright, Jr., gave his update on on-going projects for the Culture department such as renovating the Ponca museum, survey for the cemetery for unmarked graves. Continued language classes and introducing oral history with Tribal historians to preserve the voices of Elders.

- VIII. **Old Business – update on FY23 budget by Chairwoman, Carrie Voss. Chair will meet with Tribal Council on budget for questions about the FY23 budget.**
- IX. **New Business – Election of new officers. Chair, Carrie Voss, Vice Chair, Mark Peniska, Secretary, Belva Phillips and Treasurer, Debbie Robinette. Move nomination by Belva, seconded by Marchita. Roll call of votes; Mark – Yes, Loyalee – yes, Rita – Yes, Debbie – Yes, Marchita – Yes, Phil – Yes, Rose – Yes, Belva – Yes. nominations carried. New schedule for remainder of FY22/23. Members discussed to meet first Tuesday of the month and second day event on Wednesday, travel day on Monday's. Belva will check into schedule.**
- I. **Other Business – Report 146th Ponca Celebration, August 25 -28, 2022, White Eagle, Oklahoma. Belva gave a report on the South arena usage and history making. South arena is used for all specials, breaking of mourning, feathering, and honoring. The hethuska society tail dancers and scalp dance was held during the celebration. Belva discussed that these teachings are explained by the MC during each of the events and is important for our youth. Horses,**

teepees, and head dresses were honored to Committee's and other dignitaries of the Ponca relatives in the South. Carrie mentioned that a few of the camps invited Belva and herself to eat with them, one camp invite was Casey Camp and the other Eagle Rhodd and one another relative but we did could not attend, there was not any time. dhegiha language Conference, Quapaw, Oklahoma, July 27 & 28, 2022 by participates Rita Pitzer, Debbie Robinette, Rose Birdhead, Carrie Voss, and Belva Phillips. No report was made.

- II. Additional Discussion – Debbie would like to see youth attend more events.
- III. Adjourn @ 2:15 pm by Chair, Carrie Voss.

Next meeting October 3, 2022 @ 10 am / Ponca Office – Norfolk.