Saturday, December 7, 2019

**Council Minutes**

Firekeepers opened Council @ 10:35 am.

All sides accepted minutes and agenda for today.

#1 – Gary Johnson told briefly where things stand in regards to the Band Council getting injunction lifted. Paul will know more next Council.

#2 – Bonnie Whitlow – Will be talking on 2 subjects (Peacemakers Journey and dealing with fraudulent “Elders” attending Universities as Haudenosaunee “Experts”). She showed a map of their proposed Peacemakers Journey next year. They’re also looking at canoeing from Tyendinaga to Watertown, while another group would go on foot. She is asking for a letter of support so they can access funds. (Projecting a $112,000 budget).

All sides agreed to the proposed route on the draft map with a few changes. Hohahes and Bonnie to re-draft a letter, stating that the Council supports the Peacemakers Journey.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* LUNCH BREAK \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The second issue – Cultural appropriation issue. She was asked to come up with a policy for Council to consider. This is a result of non-native Terry Widrick promoting himself as a Haudenosaunee Elder. He has no background to confirm any sign of being Onkwehonweh. Aside from the draft, she suggests having a gathering of Haudenosaunee Scholars. Asking if the Council would support such an initiative.

All sides agreed for Bonnie to work with HDI to draft up a plan and draft support letter.

#3 – Letters – 1) Hohahes read an email from Hamilton Spectator wanting to get Confederacy Council’s position on New Elected Chief Mark Hill’s comments that he wants to work things out with Confederacy. Do we want to say anything and if so, what?

All sides agreed to the following;

Hohahes to respond in the following way on behalf of Council; Please be advised that the Confederacy Council have written and provided clear directive to Six Nations Band Council and are awaiting their response. We feel that is all we have to say today.

2) Letter received from Brantford General Hospital requesting Confederacy reps for opening new space for Onkwehonwe patients and their families (ceremonies). Wednesday December 11 at 12:00 pm, A Wing, Level 8. 3 Chiefs agreed to attend (Roger, Allen and Arnold). Also for any other Chiefs and Clanmothers that wish to attend.

3) Letter received from Library Archives Canada. They’re asking for permission to use some of their collected materials on Six Nations. 1-Seth Newhouse Great Law 2-Council Minutes of Six Nations 3-Jake Thomas Great Law Recital. They want to include parts in an ebook that tells about government of Six Nations. Council agreed to give them consent on 2 conditions. First condition is a final review and input on finished product (e-book). Second condition is copies of the 3 above mentioned items and to ask how they obtained our Minutes.

4) Letter from Six Nations Police explaining their function and process for any complaints received. They also would like to have appointed liaison. Council appointed Colin Martin and Gary Johnson to work with Police. Also for them to work with Hohahes and possibly Ron Thomas on doing Cultural Training to the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services.

#4 – H.D.I. Report – Aaron gave and oral report on HDI activities. Strategy session and dealing with Municipalities and Land Acquisitions. Also a 2 day workshop/strategy session in January. The researchers are nearly finished preparing the report on New Credit “Mississaugas”. The aim is to have information packages at 2-day workshop in January.

All sides accepted the report and will await word from HDI on dates for meetings.

#5 – Grand Council Report – Chief Dehatgahdohs gave a report from November 23rd Council. Sam General, who tried to speak for Cayugas at Cayuga Lake was told he’s been de-horned and has no voice any more. He then went outside. Council continued on the agenda.

1. I.D. Cards-will be meeting in mid-December at Tonawanda
2. Nishnawbe Reps waiting to re-kindle Friendship Agreement
3. Cayuga Lake
4. HERC – HERC is meeting Dec 21 and 22 at Tonawnada, inviting Chiefs, Clanmothers and helpers who wish to attend, lots of issues to discuss. Colin also told that Kenneth Deer and Howard Thompson are presently at Climate Summit at Madrid, Spain. HERC will report via email and discuss any follow-up next Council.

Firekeepers closed Council at 4:30 pm.

**Agenda – January 4, 2020**

#1 – Bonnie Whitlow

#2 – Mike Davis

#3 - H.E.R.C. - Report?

#4 – H.D.I. – Report?

#5 – Paul Williams - Follow-up?