



DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

Culture Preservation Committee

FCS Conference Room

5110 Tuxedo Blvd. Bartlesville, OK 74006

April, 1st, 2025 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order

1. Prayer
2. Roll Call
3. Welcome Guests/Comments

-FCS

4. Approve the Agenda

II. Approval of March 2025 Minutes

III. Treasurer's Report

March 2025 Financials

IV. Old Business

1. Wampum Bracelet Class
2. Reinterment Trip April 23rd-28th

V. New Business

1. Ratify Poll Votes 3/12/2025
2. Ratify Poll vote 3/21/2025
3. Voting on New Committee Member
4. Upcoming classes
5. Visiting Nancy Sumpter
6. Onion Dig

VI. Motions and notices

VII. Set the time, date and location of the next meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

Alicia Rezendes, Secretary

Culture Preservation Committee

Delaware Tribe of Indians

Bartlesville OK 74006

458-225-4934

Minutes of the Culture Preservation Committee Meeting

March 2nd, 2025

Present: Tristen Tucker, Martina Thomas, Alicia Rezendes, Levi Randall, Gretchen Williams. Jim Rementer attended via zoom. Jason Jones attended as a guest, Jeremy Johnson attended via Zoom as a guest.

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Levi Randall.

A prayer was given by Tristen . Roll call was taken.

We reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

#1.) Levi made a motion to approve the agenda.

It was seconded by Martina.

#2.) Levi made a motion to approve February minutes.

It was seconded by Tristen.

There was no Treasury report available.

Next we moved on to old business. Martina shared that she had spoken with IT about getting a laptop for the committee. They had informed her that the laptops they looked at, cost more than what our previous motion was made for and that we would be able to utilize a tribal laptop at no cost. We collectively agreed that would be a good idea, considering we would also be able to utilize the calendar to help us better schedule classes/events and booking the FCS building.

Next we discussed the Pahsahikan class and due to timing and bad weather, we were unable to follow through with holding the class. We held a dance practice in its place, to make up for February's culture class.

Tristen then spoke on doing more dance practices, to ensure we are singing and dancing the songs correctly. There was a discussion on what is "right" and an understanding that families may have learned these songs and dances differently and because of this, there is no definitive way to say what is "right or wrong". We discussed the divide that this topic has created and continues to create and spoke on various ways that we could remedy this.

Jim spoke on the cassette tapes that had the women's dance songs on them as well as the written information in the cassettes that describe these dances.

Levi shared that the critiquing that has come from others during dances is insulting.

Martina spoke on remaining neutral and continuing to practice songs and dances, so that we can move forward. We all agreed that we should be holding more dance practices.

Gretchen said that it is important for leaders to remove personal feelings and be able to take that criticism as it comes, while focusing on teaching and utilizing positive attitudes.

Tristen shared that he feels the woman dance should be taught by women and that we should reach out to our matriarchs to teach our women these dances.

Levi shared that he feels it's important to do the songs and dances the way that the person leading them does them and to not critique them, regardless of how it is different.

Tristen said that we should reach out to different families to hear out the different ways/understandings of these subjects.

We circled back to ultimately deciding that we would not be doing the Pahsahikan class or the Brain Tanning class until next hunting season.

Next we discussed the Wampum Bracelet class.

We questioned whether or not we are able to order supplies on personal accounts such as Etsy and crazy crow, vs. going through tribal procurement, even though they do not work under the TB.

Gretchen then shared that she is currently working on writing our policies and procedures for the Trust Board/Committees. She also shared that there was a web based spreadsheet that she could share, so that we can be more organized and stay equally informed on dates/upcoming classes and to do lists.

Martina then spoke on the importance of us all sharing duties equally as committee members and rotating different duties so that specific jobs aren't always falling on the same people.

Next we discussed the Wampum Belt Community Gathering.

Martina asked for specifics in how we are going to involve the community. Gretchen shared that it's important to start out with the "why" when introducing this to the community and what our ideas are behind it. Levi shared how there are a lot of people who may not know the significance and importance of wampum and said that he could give a wampum presentation to educate people who may not know.

We then began discussing details about the belt, such as who would be caretaking it, who would be able to wear it, if it would be a traveling belt etc. There were opposing ideas and we ultimately decided to table the discussion, as we had no immediate answers to those questions.

Next we moved onto New Business.

#3.) Alicia made a motion to Ratify Poll Votes made on 2/17/2025,

for \$200, for the February dance class meal and for \$150 for the blanket purchased from Lenape Reserve. It was seconded by Gretchen.

Next Jeremy Johnson joined us via Zoom, to give an update on upcoming events and classes through the Education Dept.

He shared that on March 14th and 15th, there will be a ribbon work class being taught with 15 slots available.

He shared that there will be a Frauds Presentation to educate our community on the fabricated tribes back East and the effect that it is having on our Federally recognized tribes.

In addition to that, there will also be upcoming story telling, moccasin classes, a ribbon shirt class and language lessons/materials for tribal members to utilize.

Next he shared that there would be two upcoming re-interments in Pennsylvania, on April 25th and April 27th. He shared that he could use two people to help out and to let him know if anyone would be available to do so.

Moving on, Martina asked for clarification on credit card processes and whether or not we had to print out minutes every time we use the credit card, what to do with receipts and who is in charge of writing out the payables.

Gretchen said that she would look in to all of these questions and that she would be in charge of writing out the payables.

We then discussed several payables that had still not been filled out and Martina said that she could go through the minutes and find out who still needs to get paid and for what.

Levi then moved on to what upcoming classes we would be holding, as we collectively decided that we would not be having the Pahsahikan Class or the Brain Tanning class until next hunting season.

He shared that wild onion season is coming up and we decided that we would go onion picking on March 22nd in Copan, at 8:30 am.

#4.) Levi made a motion to pay Alicia Rezendes \$50 to make a flyer for the Wild Onion activity on March 22nd. (paid by line item #55001)

It was seconded by Martina. Alicia Abstained, Tristen voted No.

Tristen then shared that on that same Saturday, tribal member, River Michael-Bread, will be hosting a stomp dance in OKC and that it would be good for us to be able to support him as a committee/community, following the onion harvesting activity.

Gretchen shared that she will find out if we can use a tribal van to carpool to the stomp dance and if we would be able to use the credit card over that weekend for gas and that we would make a poll vote, as soon as we had answers.

We then decided that we would hold a dance practice the following week, and have a wild onions and eggs, hominy, pork and bread meal on Thursday March 27th, from 6-8:30.

#5.) Levi made a motion to spend up to \$200 in groceries for the March 27th dance practice meal. (paid by line item # 62351)

It was seconded by Gretchen.

Martina then asked for us to be 30 minutes early to our classes/events, as to be better prepared. Martina then suggested that we use the outdoor cook shack for our wild onions and eggs meal and that she would volunteer to cook, and the need to request Forsythe hall for dinner/dance practice. Gretchen said that she would check on availability.

Jason asked about how we would cook the onions and then shared that he usually boils the bigger onions in salt water to soften them, before cooking.

Gretchen said that we should create a calendar of events to add our classes and activities to, so that it may also be shared on the tribal website.

Tristen then suggested a June activity of fishing.

Levi shared that a new tarp is needed for the sweat lodge.

Jim let us know that Linda Poolaw passed away.

We then began discussing the woman's dance songs and Jim shared that he could put them on flash drives in addition to adding the text descriptions of the dances. Levi said to let us know how much that would cost him, as we would like to pay him for his work and contributions.

We then began discussing the old sweat lodge location and Tristen shared how the sheds and everything in that area would eventually be removed and Levi asked what would be happening with the fence wood and if it had potential to be donated. Tristen asked about holding sweats more frequently.

Tristen and Martina then shared that they would speak to council about a possible new location of a sweat lodge on tribal property again.

Levi then asked about writing a letter to council, to follow up the committee's decision of banning Bonnie Jo Griffith from all cultural activities/classes.

Gretchen said that she is currently working on writing up new codes of conduct/by laws and specific duties of officers on committees.

Jim gave a language report and shared that he has continued adding words to the Lenape Talking Dictionary website and corrected typos and translations, as well as working on lists for Delaware names/categories.

Tristen spoke on his garden club and was wanting to tie culture and language in, asking to work with Jim to find the lenape words for various foods. Jim shared that there is a list of foods on the Lenape dictionary website.

Tristen then shared that he would like to work on communication with one another as a committee and as people.

Next we discussed the reinterment and who would be available to participate. Tristen volunteered himself to go. Gretchen said that she would also be available to go.

#6.) Levi made a motion to spend up to \$5,000, for hotel, flight and per diem, for two people to travel to Pennsylvania for the re-interments, from April 23rd-April 28th, 2025. (To be paid by monies from the Cultural Preservation Committee's carry over funds.)

It was seconded by Tristen.

#7) Levi made a motion to adjourn at 8:24 pm.

It was seconded by Alicia

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 1st @ 5:30 in the FCS building.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

March 2nd 2025

Motion Number 1

Motion made by: Levi

Seconded by: Martina

Motion: To approve the agenda.

Motion passed: Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0
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Motion Number 2

Motion made by: Levi

Seconded by: Tristen

Motion: To approve February meeting minutes.

Motion passed: Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0
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Motion Number 3

Motion made by: Alicia

Seconded by: Gretchen

Motion: To Ratify Poll Votes made on 2/17/2025, for \$200, for the February dance class meal and for \$150, for the honor blanket purchased from Lenape Reserve.

Motion passed: Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0

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Motion Number 4

Motion made by: Levi

Seconded by: Martina

Motion: To pay Alicia Rezendes \$50 to make a flyer for the Wild Onion activity on March 22nd.
(paid by line item #55001)

Motion passed: Yes 4 No 1 Abstain 1

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Motion Number 5

Motion made by: Levi

Seconded by: Martina

Motion: To spend up to \$200 in groceries for March 27th dance practice meal. (paid by line item
62351)

Motion passed: Yes 4 No 0 Abstain 0

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Motion Number 6

Motion made by: Levi

Seconded by: Martina

Motion: To spend up to \$5,000, for hotel, flight and per diem, for two people to travel to Pennsylvania for the re-interments, from April 23rd-April 28th, 2025. (To be paid by monies from the Cultural Preservation Committee carry over funds)

Motion passed: Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0

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Motion Number 7

Motion made by: Levi

Seconded by: Alicia

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed: Yes 6 No 0 Abstain 0

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