

Delaware Tribe of Indians
Elders Committee Meeting
Minutes of
August 27, 2024

Call to Order: Beverly Hicks, Chair, at 1:03 pm.

The meeting was held in the FCS Building and on Zoom.

Roll Call:

Beverly Hicks, Chair - present

Kay Anderson, Vice Chair - present

Jana Roth, Secretary - present

Mollie Martin, Treasurer – present

Steve Donnell, Sargent-at- Arms - present

Annette Ketchum, Elder Liaison - present

Billie Jean Sheshey, Elder-at-Large – present (via zoom)

Prayer: Mollie Martin

Minutes of July 23, 2024, unanimously approved with corrections/updates.

1. Correction: Next meeting date August 27, 2024 in the FCS.

2. Correction: Time of adjournment 2:24 pm.

Steve Donnell made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd the motion.

Reports:

1. Treasurer's Report by Mollie Martin for June 2024 was unanimously approved subject to audit.

Copies of Treasure's Report were distributed to all elders present.

Mollie Martin reported our current balance to be \$7684.58.

Jana Roth made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd motion.

2. Elder Liaison's Report by Annette Ketchum for the DTI Tribal Council Workshop held on August 23, 2024 was unanimously approved.

Annette Ketchum, Elder Liaison, explained that she could not attend the meeting due to a death in her family. Annette distributed notes that Dana Murrell took. **Questions by the Elder Committee included:**

Jana Roth asked for the Budget amount submitted for the Lenape Seed Garden but it was not included in Dana's notes.

Susan Cade asked where the Lenape Seed Garden will be located however, the location was not included in Dana's notes.

It was also questioned as to where and what "Westchester" is. It was stated in Dana's notes that the Assistant Chief made a presentation of our history there but did not describe where or what "Westchester" is.

Kay Anderson made the motion to approve.

Billie Jean 2nd the motion.

3. Connie Fall Leaf described her trip to The Hudson Valley Farm Hub in Kingston, NY, August 14-17. Curtis Zunigha arranged the trip. Curtis Zuniga, Connie Fall Leaf, Rusty Creed-Brown and Curtis Zunigha's granddaughter, Kayla, went on the trip. The group also visited Joe Baker's home in NYC.

4. Tristen Tucker, representing the Cultural Preservation Committee, spoke to the Elder Committee regarding what activities would be approved for the elders to plan for Delaware Days.

Old Business:

1. Motion to purchase the Honor Blanket for the Elder of the Year presentation at Delaware Days in the amount of \$499.00 or less from Teton Trade Cloth was unanimously approved.

We will be nominating the Elder of the Year via the Officer Committee Group Chat.

Steve Donnell made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd the motion.

2. The time of the drawing for the Elder Committee Blanket Raffle will be decided by the Cultural Preservation Committee. Steve will bring the “Squirrel Cage” for the drawing.

3. The Elder Committee went into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 1:56 pm.

Action Taken:

- **Motion to allow only the Chair or Vice Chair to represent the Elder Committee when meeting with Tribal or other government officials was unanimously approved.**

Any officer other than the Chair or Vice Chair, represents only himself or herself as a Delaware Tribal member when meeting with Tribal or other government officials.

Jana Roth made the motion to approve.

Steve Donnell 2nd the motion.

- **Motion to decline from planning or leading games at the 2024 Delaware Days event was unanimously approved.**

The Elder Committee will plan an activity day in the future.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to approve.

Billie Jean Sheyshey 2nd the motion.

4. Motion to give a \$100 honorarium to Steve Donnell for preparing and teaching traditional youth games was approved.

On Wednesday, September 25, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, Steve Donnell will teach interested elders how to play traditional games to plan for our future activity event.

Beverly Hicks will attempt to reserve Forsythe Hall and the Cook Shack on Saturday, October 5 as a possible date for an activity event.

The Elder Committee will reach out to Jeremy Johnson and Emily Haney to collaborate for an activity day in the future.

Jana Roth made the motion to approve.

Billie Jean Sheshey 2nd the motion.

Steve Donnell was not present for the motion.

Motion carried.

5. Motion to give a \$100 honorarium to Billie Jean Sheshey for teaching an Ornament Class was approved.

On Monday, September 30 at 1:00 pm Billie Jean Sheshey will teach 12 DTI elders to paint and prepare ceramic holiday ornaments.

Jana Roth made the motion to approve.

Mollie Martin 2nd motion.

Billie Jean Sheshey abstained.

Steve Donnell was not present for the motion.

Motion carried.

6. Motion to pay up to \$200. for meals while traveling to the DTI Ranch Open House on October 12, 2024, with the monies to be issued or released to Beverly Hicks was approved.

Beverly Hicks will submit the request to use the gray tribal van for the trip. Six DTI members and their spouses (or significant others) will travel in the van. Other DTI members may choose to travel in their own vehicles.

Jana Roth volunteered to drive the van.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd the motion.

Steve Donnell and Mollie Martin were not present for the motion.

Motion carried.

7. Motion to pay up to \$499. (or \$15. per person) for meals to travel to Ponca City to visit Sharp's Indian Store and Standing Bear Park, Museum and Education Center on *Indigenous People's Day*, October 14, 2024, with the monies to be issued or released to Beverly Hicks was approved.

Beverly Hicks will call the store on Friday, October 11 to remind them that our group will be coming.

Beverly Hicks will submit the request to use the gray tribal van and the white tribal van.

Jana Roth and Mike Pace will drive the tribal vehicles.

Up to 20 DTI elders and their spouses (or significant others) may attend.

Up to \$15. per person will be allowed for meals.

Jana Roth will make a sign-up sheet to be placed in Forsythe Hall.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to approve.

Jana Roth 2nd the motion.

Steve Donnell and Mollie Martin were not present for the motion.

Motion carried.

8. Motion to pay a \$100. donation to Standing Bear Park, Museum and Education Center with check to be issued to Standing Bear Park, Museum and Education Center and released to Beverly Hicks was approved.

Standing Bear Park, Museum and Education Center requests a donation instead of an admission fee.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd the motion.

Steve Donnell and Mollie Martin were not present for the motion.

Motion carried.

New Business:

1. The qualifications for future recipients of the Elder Council Award were discussed but will be finalized at a future meeting.

Suggestions:

- The Elder Committee officers will make nominations.
- Recipients must be 54 years of age or younger.
- Awarded one time per year.
- Must be a DTI tribal member.
- Does not need to be a tribal member.
- Criteria for nominations should be established. For example, the nominee “must go above and beyond” in the advancement of our Lenape culture and history.
- The award should be presented in September.

2. Discussion regarding the planning for the Elder Council Award presentation in the FCS building on Friday, September 13 at 6:00 pm.

3. Motion to reimburse Jana Roth \$73.64 for the purchase of 4 frames, 2 mats, 4 sheets of cardstock paper and 2 stands of wampum for the Elder Council Award document was approved.

Kay Anderson made the motion to approve.

Billie Jean Sheshey 2nd the motion.

Jana Roth abstained.

Steve Donnell and Mollie Martin were not present for the motion.

Motion carried.

4. The Elder Committee will plan to have a booth at General Council on November 9, 2024. We will continue the discussion at our September meeting.

5. The Elder Committee will discuss offering a Christmas ornament painting class for kids in early December at our September meeting.

6. The Elder Committee will add Betty Barnes to our greeting card list.

7. The Elder Committee, in collaboration with Cultural Education will offer two traditional Lenape Basket-Making Classes with Canadian Delaware tribal member Theresa Johnson from Moravian Town, Canada.

- Sweet Grass Basket Class will be held on Friday, December 6 from 5:30 pm – 10:00 pm
- Black Ash Basket Class will be held on Saturday, December 7 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

The Elder Committee will provide food for both days:

On Friday – dinner, beverages, plates, utensils & cups.

On Saturday – breakfast, lunch, beverages, plates, utensils & cups.

Motion to pay for food will be made at the October meeting.

8. Motion to reimburse Beverly Hicks \$105.84 for jewelry-making materials for the Elder Committee Award gift was approved.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd the motion.

Beverly Hicks abstained.

Steve Donnell and Mollie Martin were not present for the motion.

Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on September 24, 2024 at 1:00 pm in the FCS.

Motion to adjourn at 3:36 pm was unanimously approved.

Jana Roth made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd the motion.

Minutes submitted by Jana Roth, Elder Committee Secretary on August 29, 2024.