

Delaware Tribe of Indians
Elders Committee Meeting
Minutes of
October 22, 2024

Call to Order: Beverly Hicks, Chair, at 12:59 pm.

The meeting was held in the Forsythe Hall 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 – absent (ill spouse)

Annette Ketchum, Elder Liaison - present

Billie Jean Sheshey, Elder-at-Large – present at 1:15 (via zoom)

Prayer: Connie Falleaf

Minutes of August 24, 2024 were unanimously approved with corrections/updates.

1. Correction: Misspelled (typo) Kay Anderson's last name on September 24, 2024 Minutes.
2. Correction: The replies for the Poll Vote on October 4 were left off.
Mollie Martin – yes, Annette Ketchum – yes, Kay Anderson – yes
Billie Jean Sheshey – yes.

Kay Anderson made the motion to approve.

Annette Ketchum 2nd the motion.

Reports:

1. Treasurer's Report by Mollie Martin for August 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 \$5915.90.

Jana Roth made the motion to approve.

Kay Anderson 2nd motion.

2. Tristen Tucker, Environmental Director, requested to address the Elder Committee.

Tristen offered to take DTI elders to the Euchee Butterfly Farm in Bixby, OK and assist elders living in on-campus elder housing in planting native pollinator plants.

The Euchee Butterfly Farm raises butterflies for the Natives Raising Natives Project, which provides tribes the supplies and technical support to become butterfly farmers. The Natives Raising Natives Project has three goals: 1. Create sustainable economic development for Native people in rural Oklahoma 2. Provide a hands-on science learning opportunity for Native youth to boost STEM skills 3. Raise awareness of the need to conserve ecosystems that support native butterflies and other threatened pollinators. **Tristen** will try to find out the dates for workshops at the farm and the elders will plan a trip soon, possibly in the Spring 2025.

3. Elder Liaison's Report by Annette Ketchum for the DTI Tribal Council Workshop held on October 18, 2024 was unanimously approved.

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

Billie Jean Sheshey made the motion to approve.

Jana Roth 2nd the motion.

4. Sherri Sam-Chouteau from DTI Prevention Services, offered to drive a tribal vehicle for any elder trip, if needed.

We will need to make arrangements with Sherri in advance.

Old Business:

1. Discussion regarding Elders Committees Family Fun Day held on 10/5/2024.

Everyone agreed the event was a success.

Suggestions for the Spring 2025 Family Fun Day included: 1. Advertise the event through flyers handed out at the Food Pantry (**Xavier Littlesun** offered to help). 2. **Annette Ketchum** will assist in planning the event as part of the tribe's Spring event. **Annette** will also consult with **Emily Haney, Enrollment Director**, to assist in planning the event.

We will begin planning for the event in January 2025.

2. Discussion regarding Ranch Trip and Ponca City Trip.

Complaints have been made regarding how elders sign up for the trips and that the same people regularly go.

We advertise the trips with a sign-up sheet in the lunchroom and **Trudy Kerby**, Title VI Director, announces the trip during elders' lunch.

Trips are also discussed during the Elder Committee meetings, which are open to all DTI elders and are advertised in the DIN. Elders who cannot attend meetings can join the zoom call during the meeting.

We discussed the need for the trips to be announced on the tribe's website and Facebook page to reach a broader audience of elders interested in trips. Tribal Administration would have to approve any announcements on the tribe's website and Facebook page. The request will need to go through the **Trust Board** so they could request the announcement to tribal administration.

We also discussed the high numbers of elders who sign-up then cancel right before the trip so that we don't have time to invite others who have expressed an interest.

3. Motion for the Elder Committee to have a table display on General Council Day (November 9) to encourage elders and youth to get involved was unanimously approved.

We will have flyers to announce Spring events and include the Elder Committee meeting times and contact information.

Jana Roth volunteered to make flyers.

We will also demonstrate the dice game, allowing one try to win a prize for any DTI member, regardless of age.

Committee members will man the booth and provide a display of games and traditional Lenape items to encourage interaction with the elder committee members.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to approve.

Mollie Martin 2nd motion.

4. Update on the Elders Conference Trip to Clinton, OK October 31- November 1 on Friday, November 1, 2024.

Mollie Martin will drive the van which will depart the Tribal campus at 1:00 PM on October 31.

Attendees will stay one night at the Days In motel in Clinton. The conference will start at 8:00 AM on November 1 with breakfast and lunch provided.

Lodging and dinner on October 31 and November 1 will be paid by the Elder Committee (see Minutes September 24, 2024.)

5. Update on the “Lenape Elder Circle” banner(s).

Connie Falleaf will submit artwork for the banner or banners. The banners will be double-sided, if possible and the colors will be a white background with lettering. The banners will be used during parades as well as other events.

We will proceed when **Connie** submits the artwork.

6. Update on Elder Committee outreach with Christmas Cards.

Mollie Martin is spearheading this effort, noting we currently have 30 DTI elders on the list. Several other names were added to the list during the meeting, focusing on elders confined to their homes or in a facility.

7. Update on the **Lenape Basket-making** classes on Friday, December 6 and Saturday, December 7.

Jeremy Johnson, Cultural Education will have a sign-up on Facebook for the event .

New Business:

1. Update on **Skiatook Trip** to visit Supernaws Indian Store.

The date has been changed to Friday, December 6.

Departure time will be 1:00 PM from the Tribal Campus.

Delaware tribal members, 55+ may attend. Two tribal vans will be required.

Jana Roth volunteered to make the sign-up sheet.

Sign-up will begin on November 4 and will close on November 26.

2. **DTI Elders Cookbook** Update.

Jana Roth and **Connie Falleaf** volunteered to spearhead the project with **Anita Mathis, Librarian and Archivist.**

Jana spoke with **Jim Rementer** at Delaware Days and he gave his permission to use **Nora Dean's** recipes.

Jana and **Connie** will set up a time to work with **Anita** and set the dates for new recipe submissions from elders.

Steve Donnell, Beverly Hicks, and Kay Anderson have recipes they want included in the cookbook.

3. **Motion to repay Beverly Hicks \$153.44 for food and utensils, etc., for the Fall Family Fun Day was approved.**

Beverly noted that the leftovers from the event are in her freezer so they can be used by the committee at another event.

Note – Leftovers from the Elder Committee Award dinner were frozen and also served at this event.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to approve.

Mollie Martin 2nd motion.

Beverly Hicks abstained.

4. Discussion on having Elder Committee t-shirts made.

We could have them made for the committee and make them available for purchase.

We will continue discussion/planning after Connie Falleaf submits **Lenape Elder Circle** logo.

5. Motion to cancel the November Elder Committee meeting was unanimously approved.

Because November is already busy (with the tribal election, General Council, & Tribal Council), and because several of our committee members will be out of town for the Thanksgiving holiday, and all of our business for upcoming events is completed, we will cancel the November meeting.

Jana Roth made the Motion to approve.

Mollie Martin 2nd.

6. Beverly Hicks and Mollie Martin will meet to make the Elder Committee Budget for 2025.

The next meeting will be held on December 17, 2024 at 1:00 PM at the FCS.

Motion to adjourn at 2:54 PM was unanimously approved.

Annette Ketchum made the motion to adjourn.

Kay Anderson 2nd the motion.

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