

# MINUTES

## Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council Meeting

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe 1308 E Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 6-8pm



### Agenda

#### 1. Opening Prayer

- Miigwech Lisa Bellanger

#### Term ends 2018

X	Richard White
X	Christine Roy

#### Term ends 2019

ab	Norma Jean Smith
X	Shannon Nordby
X	Jean Howard

#### 2. Roll Call

#### 3. Call Meeting to Order at 6:35 pm

#### 4. Announcement regarding Local Indian Council Members

- Jean Howard was seated to the Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council. Welcome Jean!
- Lisa Bellanger is interested in the Elder Representative Position and shared a little about her background
- Dawn Morgan is disqualified from being on the Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council due to residency requirements. Miigwech for your service Dawn!
- Chuck Jackson is no longer on the Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council due to absenteeism
- Shannon Nordby is the new Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council Secretary

\*\*\* Drawing for \$30 Target Gift Card and the winner is Antonio Morrow Lopez\*\*\*

#### 5. Wiisinidaa! Let's eat!

### Old business @7:02pm

#### 6. Past Minutes

- Changes/additions to minutes
- Acceptance of minutes

- We did not receive minutes until too late to make copies today. Shannon will make them available at next month's meeting

### New Business

#### 7. ~~Tanya Stenquist Mille Lacs; Programs that assist young mothers~~ **NOT PRESENT**

#### 8. ~~Edward McBrayer, Director of Permanency Planning with MN State DHS; Why are some kids removed? How are they placed within the system? Information about the disparities for Native Youth~~ **NOT PRESENT**

#### AGENDA ADD-ON: Elaine Sullivan took the floor

- Has worked for Hennepin County for 30 years in homeless care, foster system, supervisor in home based services and is now a program manager
- ICWA was brought into being in her time at Hennepin County. The community really worked to make sure that this happened in Hennepin County. She explained the child protection system and how it works.
- *Her recommendation: BE A FOSTER PARENT! Apply even if you think you won't qualify, you can appeal. The kids out there really need us; they need us to show them the way.*

- Q: What is the government doing about the historical trauma? Elaine answers that the government won't be helping kids to heal from trauma; we need to help kids heal.
- Q: What is the main cause of kids being put into placement? Elaine says drugs. (Not just for Leech Lake)
- Q: Are the policies for the county obsolete or up-to-date? Elaine answered that there are updated policies and we need more Native staff.
- Q: Are workers trained on trauma? Yes, workers are going to trainings.
- Q: Will Hennepin County have funding cuts that will affect the foster care program? Elaine said she doesn't know if there will be cuts.
- Q: Are there programs to help parents? Yes, MIWRC DIW are two examples.
- Q: Does Hennepin County have lobbyists? Yes.
- Again, look in to being a foster parent, please. And love each other, don't say bad things about each other, try to understand what people are going through, be kind to each other.

## 9. Reports of

### a) Chairperson and TCO Report

- We're working on going forward with our new members – Shannon, Norma and Jean

### b) Vice Chair

- Norma is absent, no report

### c) Treasurer

- We are requesting the RTC for a requisition to get a gift card to buy paper products
- We need to start scheduling more fundraisers so that we can continue with gift card door prize drawings

### d) Secretary

- Shannon passed out flyers for the LIC Youth Representative. The Youth Representative seat is now vacant. Shannon also posted the information on the ListServ and on the Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LLTCLIC/>

### e) Elder Representative – seat vacant

### f) Youth Representative – seat vacant

### g) TCO Report

- Richard White is going into his second month as interim supervisor. He's now working on the business part of the TCO, including replenishments for gas cards, bus tokens etc. For his third month, he will report to HR and the Leech Lake RTC.

### h) ICWA Report

- Please come to the office to learn more about becoming a foster parent
- ICWA has a heavy caseload and needs more workers
- Ralph Overholt was introduced as the new Leech Lake ICWA lawyer
- Q: Is it a requirement to physically see each child every month? Yes.

## 10. Tribal Council

### a) District 1 Penny DeVault – Not in attendance

b) District 2 Steve White – No updates, but Michelle Losh was present

c) District 3 LeRoy Staples Fairbanks III – Not in attendance

d) Treasurer Archie LaRose

- There is a meeting of Tribal Council tomorrow morning at Leech Lake Tribal College Board.
- Next Quarterly Meeting is April 7 at 10am in Ball Club.
- Relocation of the old bingo palace: RTC approved ballot for an upcoming referendum vote today, will include a Minneapolis informational meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> 5-8pm (same night as Twin Cities LIC) and they are trying to reserve the Minneapolis American Indian Center. The informational meeting will include a meal and door prizes. Every band member will get information in the mail. This is a 45-50 million dollar project and could create at least 50 jobs. Q: What will happen to the old building? Possible dormitory or homeless shelter after filling in the basement. There are mold problems in the building because it was built on swampland. Q: Do you want the TC LIC to put the information out in *The Circle*? Archie replied, yes, that he would share our contact information with the Referendum Committee and would be putting on his “campaign shoes” to let all his contacts know too.
- If you want to run for tribal office, you must move back to the rez by April 3, 2017.
- Q: Will the tribe help with sinking headstone? Leech Lake does help Leech Lakers with funerals. Family members must fix the sinking headstones.
- Shingobee will be opening Memorial weekend or July 1 and is a bar/restaurant/marina and will create about 25-30 jobs.
- Comment: Donald Trump is trying to get rid of sovereignty. Archie responded by saying we’re just waiting to hear if things start to happen on this important issue.

e) Chairperson Faron Jackson Sr. – not in attendance

\*\*\* Drawing for \$30 Cub Gift Card and the winner is Jean Torres\*\*\*

121. Questions /Comments /Concerns/Open Floor

### **Next Meetings/LIC Endorsed Events:**

- April 7, 2017 Quarterly Meeting begins at 10am in Ball Club
- April 25, 2017 Leech Lake Referendum Meeting 5-8 pm at MAIC
- April 25, 2017 ~~Local Indian Council 6-8pm MCT 1308 East Franklin Ave, Minneapolis MN 55404~~

### **Handouts:**

None

Respectfully Submitted,



Twin Cities Local Indian Council Secretary