

MINUTES



Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council Meeting

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe 1308 E Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404
Tuesday, February 27, 2018 6:00-8:00pm

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Call Meeting to Order at 6:08
3. Wiisinidaa! Let's eat!

Old Business

4. Vacant Local Indian Council Seat Information Sheet Due

- Avis Poupart asked if we ever considered having a Sargent-at-Arms?

5. November 2017 and January 2018 Meeting Minutes were passed at the Mid-Month Meeting February 7, 2018

- Shannon Nordby passed out minutes for November 2017, December 2017 and January 2018
- You can also find the minutes at <http://www.llojibwe.org/government/district3/twincities.html>

6. Call for Committee to Navigate Funeral Planning

- Christine Roy is interested in raising awareness. She works at the church and they often receive a first call from a loved one. However, a funeral home should be the first call. Unfortunately, there is an upswing in our people passing away; the need for funeral education is increasing. There is sometimes confusion as to how to proceed with the process. The church is booked from now until March 10th and it's difficult to schedule when it's so busy. Timelines for wakes are important to keep in mind.
- Question from Jean Howard: are you seeking volunteers from the meeting to help form a committee? Chris Roy said it's what the people who attend the meeting want.
- Does everyone know Leech Lake ensures \$5000 per burial?
- Peggy White shared a story about a family whose parents passed away and the children didn't know what to do. So this is needed!
- Catherine shared a story about being unable to obtain her loved one's ashes from a car that was impounded. Richard's solution was for her to come see him.
- D Rojas volunteers to help with the committee.

Roll Call:

Term ends June 2018

X	Richard White
X	Christine Roy

Term ends 2019

X	Shannon Nordby
X	Jean Howard
X	Lisa Bellanger
X	Avery Wind

Attendance: approximately 27 band members + 6 LIC + 0 RTC
Casino Package winners: Diane Grooms and D Rojas won packages for Northern Light and the Palace

- Items to consider: digging, community centers, funeral homes, churches food, ceremony, transportation, permits, embalming, transportation registration (\$3000 fine,) burial, wakes, plot, varying funeral homes procedures and relationship, wills, living wills, pay for spiritual help/people, obtaining a casket, cremation.
- If you use Chilson, you use their casket for free.
- Avis Poupart talked about how the family needs to be ultimately responsible. Leech Lake now only pays for one night of food. Northern Lights can cater food for funerals.
- Tammy Swanson Drobnik does living wills for enrolled Natives for free. Here is their webpage/contact info: <http://www.sdtlaw.com/> 651-739-9615
- Tammy Paquette requests that this committee create pamphlets, including steps that have to be done, especially with information about transferring a body.
- IHS has a small brochure that the committee could look for/use.
- Contact Christine Roy if you are interested in working on this committee.
- At TCO Tiara White usually helps people with the process.

ADDED Introduction of RBC Candidates who are at the meeting

- Rose Robinson District 1 Representative “We have to work together to move forward.” “We need access to training education and leadership development.”
- Arlund Wakefield is living up north and feels like Twin Cities Leech Lakers are from the outside looking in. Arlund wants to make things right – term limits, future generations and doing your best to make things right. We have to help our people get right, even at the tribal council level. Running for Secretary Treasurer

New Business

~~7. Linda Thompson Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition~~ not in attendance

8. Reports of

a) LIC

- Jean Howard said thanks to Howard White to feedback on our agenda organization.

b) TCO

- D Rojas asked about the wild rice giveaway; she didn't receive any rice with her rebate check. Richard White said they wanted to send down 600 pounds of rice to giveaway. D talked about the fact that Richard could have split up the rice so that people both days could have received rice. TCO will handle the distribution and marketing of rice. Richard Robinson is the DRM Division Director and responsible for making sure we have rice. Richard White has

filled out the proper paperwork to obtain rice for the TCO, but we haven't had rice since about October 2017. He has been encouraging people to call their district rep.

- Avis Poupart talked about the cash that was supposed to come to the band from TCO; it wasn't received. Rich Robinson will no longer be able to give any more rice. He said he don't have the inventory. We have enough to last until July. Someone in St. Paul purchased rice 50 pounds of rice for \$5 a pound and sold it for a higher price.
- Richard, Tiara and Janel are/were in charge of selling the rice and care of the cash and deposit the money to the safe.
- Avis Poupart opened the safe today and it was empty.
- Richard does not have the code for the safe. The whole office has the codes to the safe including the Elder Advocates.
- Who was in charge of the money? Richard said Janel was in charge of money.
- This has been going on for about a year Richard shared.
- This is an internal issue and there is a process to review and rewrite with accountability provisions. All money needs to be accounted for.
- Howard White asked if the tribal council is aware of the missing money.
- Richard White plans to start investigating this issue tomorrow morning
 - When was the last deposit?
- What are solutions we can come up as a community? Ralph Overholt
- Tammy Paquette reminded us that constituents bring their concerns to this council.
- What is changing? Nothing is changing. Why vote for tribal council?
- Do we have a process to document and send a letter and request response to/from RTC? Rose Robinson asked.

MOTION TO WRITE A FORMAL LETTER TO RTC AND DO AN INVESTIGATION TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FUNDS (ALSO WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR FUND TRANSFER) FOR THE WILD RICE AND WHY WE ARE NOT RECEIVING RICE AT TCO WE WILL BRING AN ANSWER TO THE CONSTITUENTS AT THE NEXT MEETING. Jean made motion, Shannon seconded. Passed.

c) Elder Advocate

- Avis Poupart tries to go to all the LIC meetings up north. Avis will try to get here every other month because it's very important to share with band members about how Leech Lake can help them.
- Department of Health moved into the assisted living building next IHS in Cass Lake. They will move out in about a year.
- Eva Wilson supervises elder Advocates at TCO; she is responsible for Gina and Barb. They are geared for home visits and transports.
- Van monthly reports are sent in to Eva Wilson and then to Avis and then to Brian Brunell the Health Director.
- Elder advocates can help with hearing aides, dentures, eye glasses for anyone 55 and older.
- There are checks and balances and several layers of permissions to go through to get signatures to get money to pay for requested items.
- There is work being done by Frank Reese to get a space in Bemidji for homeless veterans, including purchasing a van.

d) ICWA – no report

9. Tribal Council – not in attendance

- a) District 1 – not in attendance
- b) District 2 – not in attendance
- c) District 3 – not in attendance
- d) Treasurer – not in attendance
- e) Chairperson – not in attendance

10. Questions /Comments /Concerns/Open Floor

- Joyce Littlewolf passed away last Wednesday.

Next Meeting/LIC Endorsed Events:

- March 27, 2018, 6-8 pm *Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council Meeting*
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Building
1308 E. Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Adjourned approximately 8:20 pm
Respectfully Submitted,



Twin Cities Local Indian Council Secretary

Handouts:

- November 2017 Minutes
- December 2017 NO MEETING
- January 2018 Minutes