

Indian Territory Meeting Minutes  
Washoe Tribal Headquarters  
Gardnerville, NV  
February 18, 2009

Present: Della John, Vice-Chairperson, Indian Territory and Tribal Administrator, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Sherry L. Rupert, Chair, Indian Territory and Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Secretary/Treasurer, Indian Territory and Administrative Assistant, Nevada Indian Commission; Christian Passink, Rural Programs Manager, Nevada Commission on Tourism (teleconference); Rob Beltramo, Tribal Planner, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California; Bruce Rettig, President, Charter Advertising; Debbie O'Neil, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe (teleconference); Darrel Cruz, THPO Officer, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California; William Dancing Feather, Native American Program Assistant, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (teleconference).

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Sherry Rupert called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
  
- II. Approval of January 21, 2009 Meeting Minutes
  - a. Rob Beltramo wanted a change made under Item VII., letter f. "Al Granados is the business operations manager for the Washoe Tribe."
  - b. With the change made, Bruce Rettig motioned to approve the meeting minutes of January 21, 2009, seconded by Rob Beltramo. Motion carried.
  
- III. Comments by Chairwoman
  - a. Sherry told the Committee the Nevada Commission on Tourism (NCOT) is facing a serious reduction in funding and a possible consolidation. NCOT and the Nevada Commission on Economic Development may be consolidated into one agency.
  - b. Sherry asked the Committee if we would like to write a letter to show our support. We could write a letter to our State Legislators to voice our support to maintain the current funding level and operational structure of the Nevada Commission on Tourism.
  - c. The Committee agreed a letter should be written because this Committee would not survive without the support of NCOT. Sherry said she will draft a letter.
  - d. Sherry also wanted to let the Committee know a \$1,000 scholarship is available to a Nevada high school senior planning to pursue a hospitality, travel or tourism related degree at an accredited collage or university. She sent out information on the scholarship to the Nevada Indian Commission's Indian Education List Serve and the winner of the scholarship will be announced at the Rural Roundup in April.
  - e. Lastly, Sherry mentioned the American Indian Alaskan Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) will be sponsoring a booth at a

tradeshow in Berlin, Germany. If you are a member of AIANTA there will be no cost to include your materials in their booth, although participants will need to pay for their own travel expenses.

IV. Treasurer Report

- a. Chris Gibbons reported the current balance in the Indian Territory (IT) checkbook is \$1,575.36.
- b. The Administrative Grant has a current balance of \$948.74.
- c. The Nevada Indian Commission has been reimbursed in the amount of \$342.84 from the Stewart Indian School Trail grant.
- d. At the last IT meeting, the cost for lunch was \$25.95.

V. Nevada Commission on Tourism Update - Christian Passink, Rural Programs Manager, Nevada Commission on Tourism

- a. Christian thanked the Committee for supporting NCOT. In 2008, Indian Territory was awarded \$90,000 in NCOT grant money. Out of their 1.75 million dollar budget, NCOT is facing \$600,000 in cuts. They definitely need the support of all the Territories.
- b. On March 2, 2009 five candidates were interviewed for the NCOT Director position.
- c. Christian reminded everyone the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Roundup will be held April 1-3, in Fallon Nevada. For more information on the Roundup please visit [RuralRoundup.com](http://RuralRoundup.com).
- d. The deadline for the FY10 first cycle of the NCOT Marketing grant is April 10, 2009.
- e. This May, NCOT will be conducting a sales blitz in 6 targeted cities: San Diego, Phoenix, Denver, Seattle, Dallas and Chicago. They would like to develop a talking point document of the special events taking place in the second half of the year.

VI. Discussion on Nevada Tourism Summit to Save Nevada Tourism

- a. Sherry said the Nevada Tourism Summit will be held Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at the Plaza Hotel and Conference Center. The Summit would like to have a representative from each of the Territories sit on a panel.
- b. Sherry will unfortunately not be able to attend as a Nevada Indian Commission Board Meeting is scheduled on the same day. She asked Della if she would like to represent Indian Territory at the Summit. Della agreed and Sherry told Della she will put together bullet points for her to share during the panel discussion.
- c. Christian mentioned on March 19, 2009 the Nevada Legislature will be discussing a possible merge of NCOT and the Commission on Economic Development.

- VII. Planning for Rural Roundup
- a. Sherry told the Committee she will be presenting at this year's Rural Roundup. Also, the Eagle Wings Pageant Group will be performing at the Roundup.
  - b. Sherry asked Christian if it would be appropriate for her to present a power point during her presentation. Christian replied it would be fine if she would like to present a power point. Sherry also asked Christian if Indian Territory could have a booth at the Roundup. Christian replied each of the Territories will be able to have a booth at no charge.
  - c. Indian Territory will be offering tribal representatives scholarships to attend the Roundup and NCOT has offered to match the scholarships. The Committee decided to offer scholarships to the Fallon, Duckwater, Washoe, Ely, Elko and Moapa tribes. Chris will contact each of the Tribes mentioned to see if they would like to send a representative.
- VIII. Update on the Indian Territory Website – Chris Gibbons, Secretary/Treasurer, Indian Territory
- a. Chris told the Committee she has sent revisions to Bruce Rettig for the Indian Territory website. Also, e-mails from the site are not being forwarded to her State e-mail address.
  - b. Bruce said he will make the revisions and will check on the issue with the e-mail address.
  - c. It was mentioned the Save the Date for the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference should be on the site as well as registration materials.
- IX. Discussion on Indian Territory Promotional Items to be Ordered
- a. Sherry showed the Committee examples of what kind of promotional items could be ordered.
  - b. Ideas for promotional items include pens, flash drives, luggage tags and lanyards.
  - c. The Committee decided to put the Indian Territory logo on all items and the Indian Territory website address needs to be on all promotional items in order to comply with the grant.
  - d. Bruce said he will begin work on a quote for the items and he will ask the company he goes through if they would put together an example of a blanket with the Indian Territory logo. We may be able to leverage the purchase of items as Pony Express Territory would also like to place an order.
  - e. Sherry asked Christian if there are any of the bags depicting Pyramid Lake leftover from last year's Rural Roundup. Christian said he will check to see if there are any bags left.
- X. Update on Planning for the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference
- a. Sherry said the Save the Date for the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference has been e-mailed out.

- b. Sherry handed out a copy of the draft agenda for the Conference. She went over the draft with the Committee.
- c. She is looking into adding a possible optional evening excursion on the M.S. Dixie.
- d. We are expecting approximately 40 to 50 participants and there will be a \$100 registration fee.
- e. The Committee discussed creating a sponsorship package and depending on how much money a sponsor gives they could receive something in return. Ideas include giving them a table at the Conference, adding their website link on the IT website and putting their name in the program.

XI. Next Steps - Where do we go from here?

- a. Continue planning the 2009 Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference.
- b. Contact and register Tribal representatives for the Rural Roundup.

XII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a. Ideas for the next cycle of the NCOT Marketing Grant.
- b. Update on revisions to the Indian Territory website.
- c. Discussion and update on planning for the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference.

XIII. Scheduling and Location of Next Indian Territory Meeting

- a. The next meeting will be held Friday, March 13, 2009 from 10:00am-12:00pm at the Washoe Tribal Headquarters in Gardnerville.

XIV. Adjournment

- a. Christian Passink motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Della John. Motion carried.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.