

Nevada's Indian Territory Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 15, 2015  
Washoe Tribal Headquarters, 919 Hwy 395 South, Gardnerville, NV

Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Chairperson, Nevada's Indian Territory and Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Secretary/Treasurer, Nevada's Indian Territory and Program Officer I, Nevada Indian Commission; Larry Burton, Photographer; Scott Carey, Events and Community Relations Manager, Nevada Division of Tourism; Greg Weyland, Business Operations Manager, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California; John Dayberry, Owner, Native Elements; Melissa Melero, Great Basin Native Artists; Ben Aleck, Great Basin Native Artists; Lori Pasqua, Pre College Advisor, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California; Rob Beltramo, Planner, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California; Vernelda Frazier, Tax Administrator, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Deidre Jones-Flood, Vice Chairperson, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - A. Sherry Rupert called the meeting to order at 10:05am and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
  
- II. Approval of March 18, 2015, Meeting Minutes
  - A. Melissa Melero said the third sentence under Item VIII., letter B. was incorrect. The sentence deleted from the minutes. Greg Weyland motioned to approve the March 18, 2015 meeting minutes with the correction, seconded by Scott Carey. Motion carried.
  
- III. Approval of Revised February 18, 2015 Meeting Minutes
  - A. Sherry stated since the approval of the minutes at the last meeting, a change has been submitted for Item V., letter B. Sherry said the sentence should read "Scott reported the next round of NCOT Marketing grants are due April 24, 2015 and they have \$1 million to award in this cycle." Scott Carey motioned to approve the revised February 18, 2015 meeting minutes with the correction, seconded by Greg Weyland. Motion carried.
  
- IV. Comments by Chairperson
  - A. Participation at the 2015 National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) Convention - Sherry reported that she attended the NIGA Convention April 20-22, 2015 in San Diego, CA. Sherry said she participated on behalf of the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) in a panel on economic development. Also, during the Convention, AIANTA signed an MOU with NIGA for sustainable tribal tourism development.
  - B. Active China America Luncheon – Sherry reported that on April 8, 2015 she and Ben Rupert, along with Sierra Reel from the Moapa Band of Paiutes participated at the Active China America Luncheon in Las Vegas, Nevada. Sherry said they were invited by Claudia Vecchio from the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs to provide a cultural presentation at the luncheon for over 200 tour operators. Sherry said she shared information about American Indian culture and Ben and Sierra danced.
  - C. Sherry reported the Nevada Indian Commission has received a grant from the NV 150 Foundation in the amount of \$20,000 to fund a Stewart Indian School alumni oral history project. Sherry said the project should begin after the completion of the current legislative session.
  - D. Sherry also reported the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual American Indian Tourism Conference (AITC) will be held September 13-17, 2015 at the Skye Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado. Sherry said the Conference planning committee will be traveling to Carson City in May

to discuss Conference details. Sherry also said she would like to see a future AITC Conference in the Reno/Tahoe area. Lastly, the annual AIANTA Board Retreat will be held the second week in December in Reno, Nevada.

- V. Treasurer Report
  - A. Chris Ann Gibbons reported the Territory checking account has a current balance of \$8,325.50 and the FY15 Territory Administrative Grant has a current balance of \$1,980.54. Chris stated that since the last meeting, the Territory has mainly paid expenses related to the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference. Also, the Territory is sponsoring 10 registration scholarships for the upcoming Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference.
  
- VI. Nevada Commission on Tourism Update - Christian Passink, Rural Programs Manager, Nevada Commission on Tourism and Scott Carey, Events and Community Relations Manager
  - A. Presentation of Draft Tribal Itineraries –Scott presented two “possible” itineraries that will be included on the Travel Nevada website and in Nevada Division of Tourism publications. The itineraries included a 10-day statewide tour and a 3-night, 4-day tour of Southern Nevada. Scott said that international offices are always looking for new locations and attractions to visit. Scott handed out drafts of both itineraries and went through them with the Territory. Sherry said the itineraries should go out to the Indian Territory e-mail list for comment.
  - B. Scott reported applications for the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the FY16 Nevada Division of Tourism Marketing Grants are due April 24, 2015.
  - C. Scott shared the new Nevada Division of Tourism profile sheet. The profile sheet is one page and the front shows colorful photos of Nevada and the back has a map of Nevada which includes all of the Territories. Scott also said the profile sheet now includes Nevada’s Indian Territory and is shared internationally at meetings and tradeshows. Sherry added the Territory should do its own profile sheet with photos and the locations of Nevada tribes. Chris asked Scott to bring copies of the profile sheet to the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference. Lori Pasqua added since these tours are self-guided that the Washoe Tribe Cultural Committee could work on interpretive signage.
  - D. Scott shared that he and Teri Laursen will be hosting a statewide familiarization tour for 7 French tour operators in May. The tour will begin and end in Las Vegas, Nevada.
  - E. Lastly, Scott said the 2015 Rural Roundup begins today at the Carson Valley Inn and will run through Friday, April 17th. Highlights include the voluntourism awards dinner and breakfast with the new Lt. Governor, Mark Hutchison.
  
- VII. Presentation on Integrated Tribal Tourism Planning and Training – John Dayberry, Owner, Native Elements and Hope Valley Outdoors
  - A. John Dayberry handed out information on integrated tribal tourism planning and training.
  - B. John stated he is currently working on a pilot project which is located in special use permit area in Hope Valley and shard that Federal agencies can issue special use guide permits for traditional lands.
  - C. John said the planning and training includes a tribal youth guide program. This model could be used by AIANTA, tribes and other states. Sherry added this is a great tool to train youth and aid them in learning more about their culture and traditions.
  - D. John stated that implementing innovative ideas in Nevada is key, which includes charging stations for electric vehicles and utilizing solar energy and smart phone applications.

- VIII. Update on Planning 2015 Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference, April 28-April 30, 2015
- A. Speaker Updates – Sherry shared that Camille Ferguson, who is the Executive Director of AIANTA, will be unable to give the keynote address at the Conference. Sherry said that as President of AIANTA, she will give the keynote address. Sherry also shared that Joel Dunn from the Carson City Visitors Bureau will also be unable to attend so Kyle Horvath from the Visitors Bureau will be taking his place. Other speakers at the Conference will include Ben Aleck and Melissa Melero from the Great Basin Native Artists, Dr. Don Hawkins from The George Washington University, Edward H. Hall from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Mark Thompson from IDRS Inc., Emerson Vallo from Acoma Pueblo and Rachel Cromer from AIANTA. Sherry said there will also be a welcome reception on Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Mob Bar which is located inside the Downtown Grand Hotel and Casino.
  - B. Revisions to Mobile Workshop - Sherry said a visit to the Springs Preserve has been added to the mobile workshop itinerary and Pahrump and Ash Meadows will not be included. Also, the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe will sponsor the lunch during the mobile workshop as well as refreshments at the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe Golf Resort.
  - C. Update on Sponsorships - Sherry stated that Conference sponsors include AIANTA, Nevada’s Indian Territory, Nevada Indian Commission, Nevada Division of Tourism, Moapa Band of Paiutes, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, Maddox Isaacson Cisneros Law Firm and Newmont and Barrick have both been approached.
  - D. Lastly, Sherry said that approximately 60 people are registered for the Conference, representing over 20 different tribes.
- IX. Indian Territory Projects
- A. Indian Territory Photo Library (Southern Nevada) - Chris reminded the Territory this project will focus on Southern Nevada. Chris said the photographer contract is ready for signature and that the project will begin during the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference. Also, photos from the first half of the project will be shared at the Conference. Larry Burton added he is currently working on mapping out sites to photograph while he is in Southern Nevada for the Conference and that he can spend a few extra days in Southern Nevada if needed.
  - B. Stewart Website Upgrade – Chris reported that Bruce Rettig from Charter Advertising was unable to attend the meeting, but that he is currently working on completing the new website design.
  - C. Revisions of Territory Flickr Page – Chris said she will begin work on uploading photos to Indian Territory Flickr Page after the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference.
- X. Territory/Tribal Updates
- A. Greg Weyland from the Washoe Tribe reported they should be breaking ground on the new travel plaza in the next few weeks. Also, Meek’s Bay Resort will be opening May 15<sup>th</sup> and the tribe is interested in having an artisan exhibit at the Resort. They are looking into working with the Great Basin Native Artists on an exhibit.
  - B. Melissa Melero from the Great Basin Artists reported they have multiple exhibits either up and running or in the works. Locations include the Churchill County Museum, Maidu Cultural Center, Pyramid Lake Museum, University of Nevada Reno, Sierra Arts and the Northeastern Nevada Museum. Melissa also shared the group once again will be having an exhibit at the Stewart Father’s Day Powwow and that it would be great to have a Stewart Indian School alumni art show at next year’s Powwow.
- XI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- A. Indian Territory Projects

- B. Report on the outcome of the 2015 Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference
  - C. Draft tribal itineraries
  - D. Update on Nevada Tribal Communities Tourism Assessment
- XII. Meeting Date and Location of Next Indian Territory – Wednesday, May 20, 2015
- A. Sherry Rupert said the next Indian Territory Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 20, 2015 from 10:00am-12:00pm at the Nevada Indian Commission office.
- XIII. Adjournment
- A. Scott Carey motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Greg Weyland. Motion carried.
  - B. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38am.