

These Minutes of the September 18, 2004 TCIA meeting were approved at the December 4, 2004 meeting, with the exception of Motion #13.

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS PUBLIC MEETING

Saturday, September 18, 2004
TDEC Offices, Second Floor
2700 Middlebrook Pike
Knoxville, Tennessee

Present were: Chair Teri Ellenwood, Vice Chair Jimmy Reedy, Secretary/Treasurer Ruth Knight Allen, Van Lynch, Mike Mangrum, and John Anderson.

Chair Ellenwood called the business meeting of the Tennessee Commission of Indian Affairs to order. Chair Ellenwood reminded the audience that public comments would be after the business part of the Commission meeting.

Opening prayer by Lawrence Sampson

Minutes of past meetings were approved after corrections. July Minutes were approved as corrected.

Motion #1

Commissioner Lynch moved that all minutes be amended to use full names and titles when writing the minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Reedy. Motion Carried

Commissioner Anderson gave a verbal report. The people of his area have worked hard to promote the Moccasin Bend project and have been successful in obtaining the recognition for the first time since 1838. The Meet and Greet was sparsely attended, but attendance has been improving. He is very proud of the way his community has responded.

Commissioner Allen provided a written report. She is assisting the planning of the Diocese of Memphis Scouting Camporee using a Native American theme. The Camporee will be at the Girl Scout Kamp Kiwani, near Middleton, TN. on November 6. Three hundred fifteen are presently registered to attend. Commissioner Allen attended a Title 6 conference at the University of Memphis on July 21, and the National Katerie Tekekwitha Conference in El Paso, TX, July 28 – August 1. On August 4, the lunch group of Network of Memphis, of which she is a member, asked Commissioner Allen to discuss reports that Indian Gaming was being solicited for Tennessee. Commissioners Allen and Lynch participated in the Chucalissa Festival on August 6. She attended the Meet and Greet in Jackson, TN on September 12.

Commissioner Reedy gave a verbal report. July 13, he said he and Commissioner Mangrum attended a multicultural event, and was impressed by the presentations. July 24, he attended a Trail of Tears Social. August 2, he participated in a powwow. August 8, Commissioner Reedy attended a Cultural Day Event.

Commissioner Lynch provided a written report. She asked that it be noted that at the public activities and functions she engages, she is usually acknowledged as a Commissioner, but sometimes with her constituents she is known best as Van Lynch, friend and listener. August 7, she attended The Cherokee Genealogy Workshop in Jackson, TN and spoke briefly on the purpose of TCIA. August 13-14, attended and had opening prayer at First Natchez Trace Powwow. August 23, attended Recognition Criteria Committee, Nashville. August 28, attended Native American display, Star Center, Training Center for the Disabled, Jackson, TN. September 12, attended The Meet and Greet, Jackson, TN.

Commissioner Mangrum gave a verbal report. Commissioner mangrum discussed his work with Pat Cummins and Nick Fielder regarding graves and various sites where remains have been uncovered.

Commissioner Ellenwood provided a written report. July 11-27, she visited family and friends in Oklahoma. She discussed Indian politics with members of the Cherokee Nation including the TCIA. July 29 she had surgery. During August, Commissioner Ellenwood worked with Dale Redhawk Mason to monitor several sites with possible burial sites. She suggests that the Commission request copies of Mr. Nick Fielder's work on these sites. August 23, Commissioner Ellenwood received notice of a Roane County site that Federal Nations have been notified about. August 31, received and reviewed the Attorney General's opinion and relationship between TNNAC and ACTIA and the Commission.

September 2, Discussed business cards and stationary printing with Kenn Davin and Ed Harris. Received \$25.00 for coffee and donuts for the Commission meeting.

Attorney Ed Harris stated that he had received a copy of John Hedgecoth resignation from the Commission. He sent a letter to Tom Kunesh, Chair of TNNAC requesting two names in nomination to be forwarded to the Governor to fill the vacancy. Mr. Harris discussed the use of the TDEC website (TDEC.org/TCIA.). He requested accurate email addresses for all the Commissioners. Mr. Harris commented on the request he made for input on the use of human remains in studies.

Motion #2

Commissioner Mangrum moved that the TN Commission of Indian Affairs strongly opposed the display of human remains in any way or form. Seconded by Commissioner Lynch. Motion Carried.

After discussion on the Attorney General's opinion on the relationship between the Commission and TNNAC and ACTIA.

Motion #3

Commissioner Mangrum moved that the opinion of the Attorney General be accepted regarding reports from ACTIA and TNNAC at Commission meetings. Seconded by Jimmy Reedy. Motion Carried.

After discussion on repatriation issues involving public comments. John Anderson asked for a listing of sites in question.

Motion #4

Commissioner Anderson moved that the TCIA request the State Division of Archeology and Archeology Advisory Council to provide a list of Native American burial sites, villages, funerary sites and anything connected with Native American historical interests. Seconded by Commissioner Reedy. Motion Carried

Selection of Committees:

Education Committee

Chair—Commissioner Lynch
Commissioner Ellenwood
Commissioner Allen

Health Care Committee:

Chair—Commissioner Mangrum
Commissioner Anderson
Commissioner Allen

Repatriation Committee:

Chair—Commissioner Mangrum
Commissioner Ellenwood
Commissioner Reedy

Motion #5

Commissioner Mangrum moved that the TCIA develop a letter introducing the Commission, its duties, and goals. The letter should specifically include the names of the three members of the Repatriation Committee and their contact phone numbers. Seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Lynch reported for the Rules Committee. Several motions resulted in the discussion on the issues.

Motion #6

Commissioner Mangrum moved that the TCIA request an Attorney General's opinion on the use of e-mails be tabled until Ed Harris, General Counsel, and Sohnia Hong, Attorney General, informally discuss the issue. Seconded by Commissioner Reedy. Motion carried.

Motion #7

Commissioner Lynch moved that committees of the TCIA and ACTIA consider writing a Policy Statement regarding the issues they are working on. Seconded by Commissioner Allen. Motion Carried.

Motion #8

Commissioner Lynch moved that the issue of communication among commissioners be referred to the Rules Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Reedy. Motion Carried

Motion #9

Commissioner Reedy moved that the idea of Field Representatives be referred to the Rules Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Lynch. Motion Carried.

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Discussion on status of those currently holding TN Indian recognition cards. Attorney Ed. Harris terminology and options.

Motion #10

Commissioner Mangrum moved that the previous list of 89 state recognized individuals continue to be recognized by a "Grandfather Clause" under the former 1990 criteria for TN Indians pursuant to Chapter 0785-01. Seconded by Commissioner Allen. Motion Carried.

Report of money donated to the TCIA as of 9/18/04

\$100.00 Check for business cards for the Commissioners from Kenn Davin.

\$194.00 Cash public donations

- 25.00 Cash Ed Tenison for donuts (receipt for \$24.87 change of \$.13 not returned by purchaser)

- 15.00 Check toward postage from David Teat

\$294.00 Current balance

Commissioner Lynch reported on an offer by Ray Emmanuel to place a TCIA ad in NAIA-Nashville powwow program. Discussion followed.

Motion #11

Commissioner Lynch moved that the TCIA accept the Native American Indian Association's generous offer to place an ad in their 2004 Powwow booklet listing the name of the TCIA with the names and addresses of the seven Commissioners. Seconded by Commissioner Allen. Motion Carried.

Public Comments

Lawrence Sampson presented copies of a document with charges against TNNAC, ACTIA and specifically Tom Kunesh. Much heated discussion followed.

Motion#11

Commissioner Reedy moved that an independent investigation be done on the Grand Division of all three divisions that have struggled with rumors of election fraud made up of the TCIA, John Anderson, Teri Ellenwood, Mike Mangrum and Ruth Knight Allen. Seconded by Commissioner Mangrum. Motion Carried.

Motion #12

Commissioner Mangrum moved that Tom Kunesh be asked to step down temporarily and voluntarily as chairperson of TNNAC until allegations are proven false or true by the Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Reedy. Motion carried.

****Motion #13

Commissioner Mangrum moved that Tom Kunesh be asked to cease and desist from using any and all personal information during the interim of investigation by the Commission. Seconded by Jimmy Reedy. Motion Carried. ****At the December meeting, this motion was agreed by consensus of the Commissioners to be a moot point and was to be deleted from approved minutes.

Closing Prayer

Adjourned

Ruth Knight Allen, Secretary/Treasurer