

Saturday, May 4, 2019

Council Minutes

Firekeepers opened Council @ 10:30 am.

All sides accepted minutes and agenda.

#1 – Water Issue -Makasa L. – Going to speak on a few issues (Nestle, Cleaning the Creeks). Nestle is taking our water in Grand River Watershed. They are one of the largest polluters in the world. They need oil to make the 10 million bottles per day they use. She also connected with Indigenous people in New Zealand where the quest for oil is destroying their area. We are asking Council to sanction a "Cease and Desist" letter to Nestle. Bev Jacobs will draft it, also would like a letter of support from Council for their protests against Nestle. They're proposing a March on June 8 at Community Hall. On May 26, they want to have a Climate Change Summit. We would like to fulfill the request from Sid Hill and are asking Council to take part and support. They're having a community meeting at Community Hall tomorrow at 5:30 pm for the community to hear from the visitors from New Zealand. Council agreed with sending invitations for a May 26 Climate Change gathering 9 am at Gathering Place across the river (old bingo hall). Council assigned Tekarihoken, Dehatgahdohs and Hohahes to meet with the group working on the water issue.

#2 – Chester Gibson – recapped past requests to get the Wampum belts out for the school kids. I have 2 requests; June 6 (8am-3pm school kids, 3pm-6pm for community) – Get the wampums out for the school kids, also, would like Council to sanction Hohahes to help with the speaking and perhaps getting other speakers

All sides agreed for the wampum to go out for the school kids and community. Hohahes to burn tobacco and for Chester to have security of at least 2 guys for the day. Also for each side to pick 2 Chiefs or delegates to go and sit with the belts that day. We can set whose able to go by June 1st Council.

All sides also agreed that the belts should be inspected, if repairs are needed. Hohahes reminded Council that when the wampums were returned, the Council debated whether or not to repair the wampums. They weren't able to come to one mind so nothing further was done.

***** LUNCH BREAK *****

#3 – H.E.R.C. Report – Howard Thompson first reminded Council that H.E.R.C. will be attending Climate Change in Germany in June. Also that he and Kenneth Deer have submitted the breakdown of expenses to travel in June, he would like Council support. He also reported on their work the past week at the UN. They read a position statement to the UN about our ongoing issues and highlighted Canada's policies that are being passed, and in the process of being implemented, across the country (in Indian Country). Johahai:se added on that Grand Council and Grand River worked on a statement/position which is to be read in a press conference organized here.

Tentatively looking at Tuesday afternoon, if Council agrees. They clarified May 14 at 1 pm for the press conference.

All sides agreed for Howard T and Kenneth D to travel to Germany for Climate Conference. Also for there to be a press conference here May 14 at 1 pm. Howard also mentioned that they will be attending a Geneva meeting mid-July and would like Council support. He's asking now for 3 people.

#4 – Mark Hill – Here to talk about the future. Gave an overview of his background, acknowledging he struggles with identity issues. He mentioned he is not here as Six Nations Band Council, nor Six Nations Economic Development Corporation. Mark read a statement which was made by AFN Youth Committee. He also mentioned the struggles of our people (suicides, drugs, violence, alcohol). He is here asking if there is a way to put aside our differences and come together. He says more than 50% of our population are under the age of 29. That age group are wanting to see an end to how divided our community has become.

All sides thanked him and encouraged him and all the youth to continue to learn our ways.

#5 – Ec. Dev. Corp. – Matt Jamieson and Tabitha Curley
(Hohahes had to leave – Johahai:se took over the minutes)

Agenda – June 1, 2019

- #1 – Water Project-Makasa
- #2 – Letter from Ec. Dev. and Hydro One
- #3 – Band Office - Update
- #4 – Restructure Work
- #5 – HERC
- #6 – Matt Myke – HNR Proposal
- #7 – Wampum Day – June 6th at Gathering Place
- #8 – Paul Williams