

Saturday, August 24, 2019

## **Council Minutes**

Firekeepers opened Council @ 10:15 am.

All sides accepted minutes and agenda.

#1 – HERC – Johahis:se gave a report from their trip to Geneva for EMRIP. They also met with a representative of the Mayor's office. HERC requested a commemorative event in 2023 (the 100 year anniversary of Deskahe – Levi General's visit to Geneva). They also met with independent observers from the U.N. They were observers during the 1990 Oka Crisis. They are thinking of having Deskahe present a wampum belt to the Mayor in 2023. Next year EMRIP meeting at Geneva is tentatively set for June 2020, so we must be prepared. There were 45 different Indigenous reps. Karissa Johns assisted greatly with the HERC committee work. They also attended various workshops during the week, including caucuses with other Indigenous Nations. Deskahe's presence was highly noted and he also was able to go to a library and view records of Deskahe from 1923 visit to fight for our independence. They spoke on various topics and will provide a written report at future Council. Deskahe distributed a written report to Grand River Council – 08/24/19. He went over 4 issues they have ongoing. 1) Invitation to present our position to the Aboriginal Peoples Standing Committee, (they're looking at after New Year now. 2) Working at helping Iroquois Nationals to travel to Ireland for the U-19 World Championship. The establishment of a relationship with Ireland would be advantageous. 3) Identification Cards – still no movement. 4) Kenneth Deer – Looking to attend a Human Rights. Meeting September 12-21 at Hague, Netherlands. He is a keynote speaker at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Indigenous Support Groups. He is requesting Council's support and assistance to go. He requests \$2000.00.

All sides accepted the report and urge the committee to carry on with their work and also that Council support Kenneth Deer to travel on September 12 and Council to provide the requested \$2000 for his travel.

#2 – Mike Davis – Cannabis Presentation. He spoke about the current drug and alcohol problem in Six Nations. He distributed an information booklet and went over the difference between hard drugs and CBD Oil, which helps with certain ailments, including some cancers, Autism, Anxiety. They have a proposal for Council to consider and would like the Council to sanction and support. Tekarihoken also reminded Council that we passed a supportive position of Akwesasne Mohawk Nation Council's statement that they opposed to the Marijuana/Cannabis business operating on their territory.

All sides accepted the report as information only, to be investigated further.

#3 – Justin Sandy and his partner Andrea Greyeyes - They have lived here peacefully for 9 years and recently she was served an eviction order to pack up and leave within 15 days. She is requesting permission to reside on Six Nations. All sides agreed to the request and that she has permission to stay under the protection of the Great Peace and that a letter be written.

\*\*\*\*\* LUNCH BREAK. \*\*\*\*\*

#4 – Band Council proposal – Council directed Hohahes to send them an email informing them that we see no benefit to having meetings and arranging a working group, while at the same time they have injunctions and are taking our people to court. Their actions are not demonstrating a willingness to work anything out between us.

#5 – Water Project – Karissa John and Dawn M. Hill distributed paperwork and gave a report on their ongoing work. Dawn also suggested that we burn tobacco for the Indigenous people in the Amazon rainforest. The rainforest has been burning for 3 weeks now and we don't hear any news about the Indigenous people. The ones who were here in 2004 are definitely affected and we don't even know if they are alive or dead. We are here today for two things – 1) A letter of support 2) Support their ethics policy. They want to create a "NEIHR Centre" and are applying for a 15-year grant to help understand and prepare for climate change. Hohahes also urged the Council to be aware of how different the river and creeks are maintained on the territory versus off. After traveling a couple times with Curt Styres, our observations were upsetting. On territory, people obviously don't think twice about dumping garbage in the creeks and river. While off the territory, there was very few areas cluttered with junk cars and fridges. We need to get our people to think and act like Onkwehonwe again.

All sides agreed to give a letter of support and to support their Research Ethics Council.

Also Council agreed to fund Howard Thompson and one other (D.Arquette was identified by Howard) from HETF or the Water Project to send someone with knowledge of environmental issues.

#6 – Council passed to burn tobacco for help to come for the Amazon Rainforest and our indigenous people of the rainforest, also that the fire that has been destroying the rainforests over the past 2 ½ weeks, not to cause all of us harm, as the smoke is surely damaging the air all over earth.

#7 – Paul Williams – Been asked to represent some of those who protested and closed the Band office. Would like to have Council support. He believes that we can attack what happened in 1998, when the Band got the government to declare Six Nations revert back to "Custom Government". The Haudenosaunee Council is the existing custom council here. He also wants to be paid, no more and no less than the HDI lawyers have been paid. He also wants the apology letter from last year. He will look into the court action and send me a report before next Council, if Council apologizes in writing. He also would like to have a small team from Council. All sides agreed for Paul W. to do a report for review September 7 Council. (Clanmothers sent a speaker to inform the Firekeepers they would like this matter set aside until next Council.)

Firekeepers closed Council at 5 pm.

### **Agenda – September 7, 2019**

#1 – Water Project

#2 – Barb General

#3 – Johnson Family - Landfill issue

#4 – Matt Myke-H.N.R. Proposal

#5 – Paul Williams - Follow-up?

#6 – H.E.R.C. - Report?