

**NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION  
STEWART ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

*February 2, 2018 - 9:00am*

Nevada Indian Commission Office, 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Seat Filled</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Buck Sampson, Chairman	Alumni	<b>x</b>	
Betty Badgett, Vice-Chairwoman	State Buildings and Grounds Division	<b>x</b>	
Kristen Brown	State Historic Preservation Office	<b>x</b>	
Skip Canfield	NV Division of State Lands	<b>x</b>	
Rachel Delovio	Nevada State Museum	<b>x</b>	
Meg McDonald	Knowledge of School	<b>x</b>	
Max Symonds	Knowledge of School	<b>x</b>	
Terri McBride	Knowledge of School	<b>x</b>	
Bonnie Thompson-Hardin	Knowledge of School		<b>x</b>

NIC Staff Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director; Sari Nichols, Program Officer I; Denise M. Becker, Administrative Assistant III; Bobbi Rahder, Museum Director, Stewart Indian School Cultural Center; Chris Ann Gibbons, Curator, Stewart Indian School Cultural Center

Others Present: Dee Freewart, Vice-President, Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) and Ron Bodnar, Buildings and Grounds

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Sampson called the meeting to order at 9:02am and asked all those present to introduce themselves.

**II. Invocation**

Chairman Sampson provided the invocation.

**III. Initial Public Comment**

No initial public comments were made.

**IV. Approval of December 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

**Ms. Symonds made a motion to approve the December 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Delovio. The motion carried.**

**V. Approval of Stewart Advisory Committee Appointment of Representative Forms**

Executive Director Rupert reported that no Appointment of Representative Forms had been received for approval at this meeting, but that some members will need to submit new forms for reappointment for the next meeting. Administrative Assistant Becker will forward the forms to the appropriate members prior to the next meeting.

## **VI. Update on Stewart Indian School Master Plan**

Executive Director Rupert reported that Max Hershenow was unable to attend this meeting but has confirmed that he will present the completed Master Plan at the April 6, 2018 Stewart Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Rupert stated that Ron Cothran, the new Deputy Administrator for Buildings and Grounds (B&G), will be in attendance at that meeting as well.

## **VII. Update on the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) – Kostan Lathouris**

Ms. Rupert reported that Kostan Lathouris, President of the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA) was unable to attend this meeting, but introduced Ms. Dee Freewart, as the new Vice-President of SISPA. Ms. Freewart stated that she moved to Carson City in 2004 and has been a supporter of the Stewart Indian School since then. At one time she worked with the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) on a fund development plan and is excited to assist the Commission in another capacity. Currently, SISPA is focusing on the development of a membership program in addition to planning the Stewart Indian School Documentary release and premiere. Ms. Rupert reported that the Nevada Museum of Art is on board for premiering the documentary, as well as working with the Cultural Center on training. Chairman Sampson asked when the documentary will be shown. The tentative date is December 17, 2018, as it is the anniversary date of School's opening in 1890. Mr. Sampson said that he has been in contact with elders that are in need of viewing the documentary as soon as possible, due to advanced age or poor health. Ms. Freewart requested that a list of elders who are in immediate need of seeing the documentary be compiled and forwarded to her. SISPA may decide to mail the documentary DVDs to those Alumni that cannot attend the premiere.

## **VIII. Update on Grants for the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy**

- A. 2016 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation (CCCHP) Grant Award – Ms. Rupert reported that the NIC received a grant extension at the CCCHP meeting on December 21, 2017. With this extension, the Commission has until the end of September 2018 to utilize the \$147,000 for the seismic retrofit of Building #1. She thanked those that had attended the meeting in support of the NIC, including Chairman Sampson and NIC Commissioner, Marla McDade Williams. Max Hershenow of H&K Architects was also in attendance so he could answer questions if needed. At the meeting, Ms. Rupert learned that the CCCHP has concerns about allowing State agencies to participate in their grant program. Ms. Rupert said there aren't many funds for infrastructure on historic buildings and that it would be a great disservice if State agencies were no longer allowed to participate.
- B. 2018 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation Grant Submittal – Ms. Nichols reported that the NIC asked for \$221,395.00 and if awarded, it would fund schematic design and construction documents for the Auditorium. In the request, it will be brought up to include restrooms, as the Auditorium has never had any. Ms. Gibbons commented that it would be nice for people to have access to restrooms, especially when the Cultural Center opens. Ms. Brown mentioned that the CCCHP grant applications are currently being reviewed by State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) staff members and will be chosen at the CCCHP meeting on April 12, 2018.

**IX. Update on Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project – Betty Badgett, State Buildings and Grounds**

Vice-Chairwoman Badgett reported that the Building #11 project has been approved and includes new concrete walkways around the building and may extend to the front of the Auditorium. Ms. Badgett commented that B&G now has its own committee for Stewart and that a meeting was held recently to discuss the draft Acceptable Use Facility form, the use of the gym, the use of Building #9, and the landscape preservation plan. A meeting with Chris Chimits, Interim Administrator for the State Public Works Division (SPWD), Ron Cothran, Deputy Administrator of B&G and Ms. Rupert will be held on February 22, 2018 to discuss these issues. Ms. Rupert also wants to discuss the Cultural and Welcome Centers' leasing and maintenance agreements with B&G. Ms. Badgett went on to say that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) has funding to paint and provide carpet for the Building #13 project. Ms. Symonds asked if there have been any discussion on whether the Infirmary would be stabilized and Ms. Rupert said that the Stewart Master Plan does show a healing garden around the Infirmary building. Ms. Rahder commented that the Infirmary isn't in bad shape on the inside, just on the outside.

**X. Update and Discussion on Stewart Indian School Cultural Center – Bobbi Rahder, Museum Director**

Museum Director Rahder reported that the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center Operations and Procedures documents are in compliance with the American Alliance of Museums and will be presented to the NIC Board at their upcoming meeting. The date for the blessing of the Cultural Center will be May 3, 2018, before construction begins. She and Ms. Gibbons will send out flyers and save-the-dates informing the community of this event. Ms. Rahder stated that mold was recently discovered in the vault of the Cultural Center's basement in addition to many old documents. She said that before she and Ms. Gibbons can examine the documents, the mold must be removed by the SPWD. Ms. Rahder updated the Committee on various projects she and Ms. Gibbons have been working on, such as: setting up presentations/tours from school groups to be held in the Spring of 2018; giving a presentation to the Carson City Cultural Arts Commission about the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Welcome Center; searching for photos of Building #1 to be used for the Carson City Chamber of Commerce's 2019 holiday ornament; developing information to be used on the StewartIndianSchool.com website as well as Facebook; and working on multiple research requests submitted by the public.

**XI. Update on National Historic Landmark Nomination Preparation**

Executive Director Rupert stated that she has been in contact with Gregory Smoak and Amanda Fountain-Scheurman of the America West Center, University of Utah, and they forwarded a project update. In summary, the project has moved into the compiling and drafting phase of the Historic National Landmark Nomination process. In building the context for the nomination, Ms. Fountain-Scheurman worked on comparisons to nearby Indian boarding schools, such as the Phoenix Indian School, as well a study of the Haskell Institute and the Theodore Roosevelt Indian Schools, both of which are National Landmarks. Ms. Rupert said that Ms. Fountain-Scheurman plans to complete a draft of the National Historic Landmark nomination by May 15, 2018 and is interested in attending the next Stewart Advisory Committee meeting on April 6, 2018.

## **XII. Planning for the 2018 Stewart Father's Day Powwow**

Ms. Rupert shared that the Head Staff has been confirmed, except for the Host Drum. In past years, Sam Johnson has been the Arena Director, but Mr. Art Martinez will be the new Arena Director this year as Sam has retired. The Stewart Father's Day Powwow Committee recently had a planning meeting and shared that part of the event's proceeds go to the NIC Gift Fund, and the other part is retained as start-up for the next year's Powwow. Ms. Nichols is currently working on this year's flyer with Tara Burke from the Carson City Culture and Tourism Authority (CCCTA), who will provide color copies for the NIC's use. The Powwow Committee is discussing the possibility of having additional items for sale at the Powwow, such as embroidered hats, visors, water bottles, tank tops, and handkerchiefs. In addition, there will be EMTs on site during the event as well as having a designated area for the media so they can register and learn when it is appropriate to take pictures and/or video. The NIC invited the members of the group to assist in attending planning meetings and volunteering at the Powwow.

## **XIII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

Approval of the February 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes; update on the National Historic Landmark Nomination; update on the license plate process; update on the Stewart Indian School Landscape Preservation Project; update on grants; and Stewart Indian School Cultural Center updates.

## **XIV. Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting**

The next Stewart Advisory Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Friday, April 6, 2018.

## **XV. Committee Member Comments and Announcements**

Ms. Nichols gave information on the Stewart Indian School license plate process and stated the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) confirmed that all entities must post the same bond amount. Ms. Rupert recommended the NIC start the process even if it takes five years and Committee members agreed. Ms. McBride commented that she will keep the CCCTA informed of any needs that the Commission has. Ms. Rupert commented that the SPWD has recommended construction of the Old Gym's new roof begin in August with completion by October 2018. Students from the Alternative Spring Break Program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas will be volunteering at the NIC again this year. Possible projects include cleaning out some of the buildings and repainting the Stewart S on the side of the mountain at the end of March. Lastly, Ms. Rupert mentioned that Stewart Indian School Alum Burton Pete passed away a few days ago and will be buried at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, NV.

## **XVI. Final Public Comment**

There were no final public comments.

## **XVII. Adjournment**

**Ms. McBride made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Delovio seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:38am.**