

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Housing Commission
Regular Meeting
5 January 2009
3:30 p.m.
Conference Room 312, LTBB Government Complex

Closed Session: No

Call to Order: 3:55 pm

Roll call: Chairman Ray Kiogima – present, Vice Chairperson –Ken Harrington, -present;
Secretary Mike Lyons – present, Commissioner Arlene Naganashe – absent,
Commissioner Pat Wemigwase-absent

Staff present: John Givens

Guests present:

Opening Prayer: Ray Kiogima

Motion made by Mike Lyons and supported by Ken Harrington to approve the agenda as amended for the January 5th, 2009 meeting.

Vote: 3 – Yes, 0 – No, 2 – Absent, 0 – Abstained 0 - Vacant

Motion Carried

Motion made by Ken Harrington and supported by Mike Lyons to approve the minutes as corrected for the December 8th, 2008 Meeting.

Vote: 3– Yes, 0 – No, 2 – Absent, 0 – Abstained 0 - vacant

Motion Carried

There is an advertisement in the Odawa Trails scheduled for the January Issue that includes a floor plan and other information regarding the sale of the Mill St Property in Pellston to a tribal member. Currently, no applicants have yet applied for this home. Additional postings will be placed in tribal government buildings within the near future

Back up community well at the Wah Was Noos Da Ke development is installed and running.

Arlene Naganashe enters 4:07 pm

The next project will be the pump house; this will be started as soon as weather permits. The well log and chemical analysis for the project is in order. The contractor has been chosen and we believe we can complete the whole project for less than the \$180,000 budgeted.

Tribal Village Sign: We have submitted a request for approval on our budget to construct the sign at Waahs Was Noos Da Ke Tribal Village. We are requesting the \$6000 in funds come from our reserve account that is supplied by the elder's rental development; the USDA controls this reserve account and has the right to deny our request if they see it as too expensive.

Discussions were made regarding what properties may be available to build another house after the Mill St property has been sold; and what geographical area would be suited to have the Pellston School vocational class furnish the labor.

The allocations used to fund housing programs from IHS are expected to be furnished this spring; these funds provide for such things as wells and septic.

There was discussion concerning the actual costs of running the community center in relation to the minimal fees that are charged for people to use it; and how much more it would cost to rent some place like the KCF Hall for a similar event. Commissioner Lyons noted that one of the purposes served by having our own community center is also to make it affordable for tribal members to use. At the current time there is not enough data to accurately determine the actual break even cost of renting the community center; it is expected that this will be able to be determined after the community center has been in operation for a year. There are certain costs that are being paid by the housing department such as street lights and emergency phone service that are arguably the responsibility of other program budgets, i.e. facilities, etc. Also, when the community center is used by programs they are not charged for this use. There are a number of associated costs such as lighting, heat, etc. with operation of the community center.

Motion made by Ken Harrington and supported by Mike Lyons to accept Housing Director John Givens Verbal Report.

Vote: 4- Yes, 0 - No, 1 - Absent, 0 - Abstained 0 - vacant

Motion Carried

Ken Harrington inspected the Mill St Property today prior to the meeting and reported that they should have the roof completed in a couple days. Additional materials will be supplied to continue the completion of this house.

There were discussions concerning the budget for 2009. We were allocated 12,000 dollars which is the same as last year; which was a 50% cut from the year before. Last year the commission was unable to attend training sessions. It should also be noted that the vacancies have been filled which will additionally strain the commission's budget. The commission is mindful of the need to conserve resources and take appropriate cost saving measures.

The Commission discussed potential goals for 2009 to develop, including searching for funding for building Housing development on Murrary Road; and also, developing plans to build another house similar to the one on Mill St. Various options were brainstormed upon various funding options that will be researched further.

The Commission has decided that our regularly scheduled meetings will continue to be held on the first Monday of each month for the year 2009; provided, that the meeting for the month of September will be held on the 14th rather than the 7th in observance of Labor Day.

Bea Law arrived at the meeting.

Public Comment open 5:15 pm.

Housing commissioners have continued to assist, inspect and personally observe the work being done at the Mill Street property without compensation.

Public Comment closed at 5:25 pm.

A meeting shall be scheduled for February 2nd, 2009.

Motion made by Ken Harrington and supported by Mike Lyons to adjourn at 5:35 pm.

Vote: 4 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent, 0 – Abstained 0 - vacant

Motion Carried

Date: 2/02/09

Mike Lyons, Secretary/Treasurer