

Traditional Tribal Burial, Inc.
Regular Meeting – August 3, 2013
LTBB Bear River Health Park

Board Members Present: Wes Andrews, Chairperson; Kevin Willis, Vice Chairperson; Alice Yellowbank, Treasurer; Mary Gasco, Secretary, Nichole Biber

Absent: None

Speakers/Guests: Gwen Gasco

Call to order – 9:14 am

OLD BUSINESS

Motion made by Kevin Willis and supported by Chairman Andrews to approve the meeting minutes from the June 29, 2013 regular meeting with corrections.

YES – 5 NO – 0 Absent - 0 Abstained – 0

Motion carried.

Chairman Report

- Address change for the Traditional Tribal Burial, Inc. (“Board”) PNC Bank account was changed to PO Box 483, Conway, MI 49722
 - o Alice Yellowbank and Mary Gasco will hold the keys to the Board PO Box.
- Board Accounts
 - o Northern Copy
 - Discussion – all board members need to be on the account so that copies of minutes, agendas, and handouts can be made for the Board.
 - o Walmart – Treasurer Yellowbank is working on getting a non-profit account with Walmart for basic provisions.
- IRS Annual report required to file as a corporation
 - o Change the date that the Board was implemented and not date that the statute was passed.
- Consultant for administrative assistance
 - o Consultant of the Board rather than an employee
 - Pay comparable to stipend amount of Board members
 - Outside work has been done – hourly pay?
 - o Treasurer Report at each meeting
 - Begin compiling information for a report
 - Cost of each meeting including mileage and stipend for each board member, and per diem and lodging for each board member who travels
- Discrepancy with the term limits of board members
 - o Statute state one term limit and the Charter state another.
 - Need clarification from Council.
 - Chairman will present concerns and requests to the Council at their next meeting.
- Indian Land Tenure grants
 - o Currently gathering information for the Board to look into possibility of applying for the grant

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Board Discussions

- Burial Fund – would the funds be available for Tribal members to use if they were wishing to be buried in the traditional burial grounds.
- Release of body
 - o A funeral director would have to sign to have a body released to them because the body would have to travel across non-trust land.
 - o .
- Signing of Death Certificate
 - o Would the Tribal Medical Director/Doctor be able to sign a Death Certificate? Perhaps invite Dr. Terry Samuels to discuss topic further.
- Process of developing a Green Cemetery
 - o Carl Crawford, director of Greenwood Cemetery was in the process of making the Greenwood Cemetery a green cemetery but decided not to go forward with the process.
 - o Has experience with the process and criteria
 - o .
- Invite a Funeral Director
 - o Charles Parks, owner of Parks Funeral Home, to gather some information and invite to a meeting to give the Board some insight to the burial process.
 - o Questions to pose – how would a green burial affect the current burial process.
- Green Burial Council webinar
 - o Connection requirements/compatibilities – Nichole and Gwen
 - o Tentatively scheduled for next meeting
 - o Payment is required in advance of the webinar (\$200.00)

Motion made by Nichole Biber and supported by Treasurer Yellowbank to appoint Kevin Willis to Vice Chairman of the Board.

YES – 4 NO – 0 Absent – 0 Abstained – 1 (K. Willis)

Motion carried.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Willis and supported by Treasurer Yellowbank to approve travel and stipend for Board members to attend the next Land and Reservation meeting on August 16, 2013.

YES – 5 NO – 0 Absent – 0 Abstained – 0

Motion carried.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Willis and supported by Board member Biber to pay Gwendolyn Gasco a consultant fee of \$150/meeting for administrative assistance provided to the Board to come from Traditional Tribal Burial, Inc. funds effective June 29, 2013.

YES – 4 NO – 0 Absent – 0 Abstained – 1 (M. Gasco)

Motion carried.

Brochure update

- Panels
 - o Possibility of doing an online survey (i.e. survey monkey) for questions regarding community perceptions of traditional burials, community input.
 - o Other ideas for open panels
- Printing in color
 - o Suggestion to have medicine pictures to be used somewhere on flyer
- Have ready for Health Fair on August 9th.
 - o Perhaps have available for the Homecoming pow wow

Greensky Hill cemetery policies

- Copies given to the Board for review
- Discussion at next meeting

Odawa Trails articles – Board member Biber

- Send out past articles to Gwen to be included in brochure panels
- Currently working on second article to be included in October newsletter

Motion made by Vice Chairman Willis and supported by Board member Biber to adjourn the meeting at 12:45pm.

YES – 5 NO – 0 Absent – 0 Abstained – 0

Motion carried.

Next Tribal Burial, Inc. Board meeting – September 21, 2013, 9:00am at Mina Mskiki Gumik Conference Room.

These minutes have been approved by the Traditional Tribal Burial Ground Board on during the Regular Board Meeting held on October 26, 2013.

Date:

Mary Gasco, Board Secretary