

MCT FDL Delegate meeting minutes 04/23/2019

Sawyer Comm Center

5:00PM-7:30PM

Facilitator: Wayne Dupuis

Delegates Present: John R, Tara, Wayne, John D, Jason, Cheryl, Lyz

Community Members present: Lori B, John, Joel B, +2 community members.

Who is taking minutes tonight? John R offers to audio record the meeting to help create minutes and complete within a few days again. All OK.

Tara brought the pizzas from Sammie's for the community. Miigwech

Tara brings us up to date on \$60,000 MCT Budget already exhausted on meeting rooms and Meals. There is no budget for travel or hotels. Suggested revision to current approved 16,000 FDL budget request to include these for our delegates expenses. Of which two meetings @\$100 food and 2 \$25 gas cards each meeting. Gas was also reimbursed at an unknown amount to unknown as well. Tara is working with accounting and will work on it.

John offers that there was a survey years ago and membership was the main sticking point. Per cap thought to lessen the slices of pie.

Wayne asks for update on MCT meeting in Walker. Jason, John D, John R, Cheryl, Lyz were present and offer their perspectives. How we will vote was discussed. The process and the facts that we can only vote on our procedure, our document must be voted on after approval. Time limits for speakers 3 min. (possible extension if important) Procedure to still meet if a band is absent and still vote until they are present to add their vote are agreed on.

Wayne continues about our ineffective communication plan among the delegate group, Google docs is one source ready once we are up to speed. (Inservice on our Google docs?) John R notices there was no flyer created nor was there a constitution flyer of any sorts on the bulletin board. Suggests we step up our efforts to make sure we are doing what we need to do in this process.

Tara offers she has had discussion to obtain a room for a central headquarters of sorts for FDL MCT constitution activities, perhaps in one of the offices in the library at Cloquet Comm center, John D suggests Language house (off the beaten track), John R suggests somewhere in the Bear (no security, suggested space not available).

Tara will set up a Facebook group for only FDL delegates to share info among the group. Is working on a monthly report on budget.

Lyz mentions Zaagibagaang presentation the previous day it was mentioned that MCT will add to the budget our needs. Tara will ask Gary Frazier directly. Wayne asks latitude on our budget

for expenses. Specific narratives on requests? Tara says we are loosely defined and have some limited latitude.

Issues on upcoming attendance are discussed with jobs and school and outside demands on our time. Future attendance may be sporadic. We need to get more delegates.

Wayne has specific budget. Will ask for an adjustment for a secretary to the RBC.

Tara brings up what we call ourselves, why call it Minnesota, why limit ourselves and define ourselves like that? Joel: if we change from what we are called in the constitution or treaties we will lose rights Tara: MCT is not in our treaties and Wayne: we define the constitution ourselves. Tara: How do we determine who is enrolled here? Who is federally recognized? Wayne: That ties us to the federal govt. intended to eliminate us. Joel: White Earth opened to allow descendants. Lyz: They are enrolled as Descendants with less than ¼ enrolled status in MCT.

Jason: study how South Dakota Sisseton and Upper Sioux cross blood and to see how they do. Wayne: Turtle Mountain accepts any native blood. Joel agrees natives are related and need to be preserved. Education for the people is key.

John shares origin of why we are called Chippewa. Linguistics of Ojibwe, Otchipwe, O'chipewe, Ojibway, etc. Miigwech

Tara: from her community questions, Enrollment, Boundaries, Bigger picture, what do we want out of this? If we stick with MCT we should give individual powers to each band.

Wayne: Our treaties have been taken over and what we envisioned back then that we could always hunt and harvest our lands. Corporations took more than we offered. We are losing them when we are meant to grow.

White Earth is largely FDL due to removal policies of the times.

MCT corporation benefits: health care funding.

Tara, we need to do more than change some words. The document won't work for us if we tweak it. Agreed.

Lyz: We need to step it backward as we are not at the point to implement all the changes we need. We need a realistic starting point. We can't change the word Chippewa etc...

John R, shares we are trying to make changes to affect 100 years when science says we may not have 10. As Anishinaabe, our ancestors didn't need electricity, engines, cars, airplanes, all the artificial we are completely surrounded by, and we now see it is killing us all. We need to heed the words from a first contact story: *Night Flying Women* where the Grandmother and Elders warned that chimookomon was coming and would bring, good and bad. Stay who we are and accept only the good was the consensus among the Elders. IMO... We failed by accepting Booze and killing our animal brothers for \$... Since then it is predominantly, bad now. We need to go back and trace our steps. ELIMINATE the bad. Assert OUR plenary sovereign power... Peacefully assert what we need. For things to have a chance to continue in any sort of a good way.

Lori: We need to involve our children in the culture early and often. John D: Will continue being a good example to the children. Jason: School shouldn't be boring for kids at 10 years old. Tara: Ojibwe school is doing well.

Enrollment question Is there any tribes who request you live on the res to be enrolled?

Yes. Some require 7 years and 100 community signatures, Many different forms of exclusion...

Check out Brothers facebook group Dakota Kinship. Karl Lees, Devin Knight. Both Leech Lakers.

John: How many experienced alienation for being Indian from town? City Indian? Enrollment complicates that for many. Many don't know lineage because they were shamed into not admitting status to their kids. Discussion follows on various enrollment issues.

Wayne: we need to look out for who is to come.

Blood quantum was not used on any other group, Jewish, Asian, Blacks, just us.

Racism discussion follows. Pots of boiling frogs...

Next meeting. Cloquet May 7, 2019 5-7:30

Lyz, What is our ideal dream vision? Write some things down. Tara: Technology is here to stay. Shinobs in Space even. Wayne: A. I.? ... Smoke pours out of John R's ears at this point.. 😊

John R asks for floor 3 minutes and reads from an excerpt of the Anishinaabe seventh fire prophecy, section SEVEN. Choose the right road. It's here now and this says what we have to do. We have to stress this to the people It is US it is NOW. We need to wake our Elders. We need to go back. Yields floor.

Lyz: There is a growing sharing of information and the people know who they are already.

Wayne we need world recognition. U.N.D.R.I.P. for starters.

1887 Allotment Act, Dawes, other genocidal acts discussed. Lyz: Competency requirements to be in white world. Tax forfeiture thievery, 1<sup>st</sup> they test the waters then spring the traps. No borders until treaties. Still occurring.

Recording device is moved from table to be plugged in.. sound is quiet and not all comments are heard clearly after this.. apologies.)

Who is in office. What are they doing? Don't just vote for family. Friends. Vote prosperous ideas for the people. Win the Elders.

Water and land rights must be addressed. Dead and down issues. Gathering rights addressed. Rights of trespass. Logging and OIL. Tribal ID issues. Hunting issues. MMIW,

John R suggests we adjourn, Jason seconds. all laugh and sound is good again for a few minutes. LOL. ALL RISE discussed. Wayne asks we all talk to 3 people re: constitution. Only audible

laughter is heard for the next 5 minutes as John D has the floor. 😊 Miigwech for a good meeting everybody!

Respectfully submitted, 05/03/2019

John Roterman