

AGENDA/MINUTES
FDL CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM DELEGATE COMMITTEE
COMMUNITY INPUT MEETING

Date: 3-27-23

Time: 5 PM

Facilitator: Cheryl E.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne D., Carol J., Julia L.

GUESTS PRESENT: Teresa Z.,

No Education Committee report. No meeting for awhile.

Finance Committee met today at the 1854 Treaty Authority. Almost finalized the Bush Grant application narrative. A couple of edits need to be completed. 5 year plan at \$1,605,021. Added 5 hotspots, and service plans for White Earth, added a projector, screen and webcam. Reviewed budget and justifications. Suggestion for facilitator and adding this to our budget. Jolyn from White Earth expressed a need for a facilitator in the finance committee meeting today also. Sally F., spoke up that LL does not want a facilitator again today.

TEC Subcommittee is not yet scheduled. Wayne has asked Beth Drost, MCT Executive Director, for information about the referendum vote and has had no response. The question is how each band voted in this election. Perhaps zip codes could help us determine how the urban members voted. What percentage of the population voted? How many address corrections have been made since the mailing of the ballots? Individuals are responsible for making address corrections. How many people have passed on and have not been removed from the rolls? This matters to the 30% requirement. Theresa spoke about how some leaders spoke to needing a change from the 25% BQ for us to survive as tribes at the Sovereignty Day at the State Capital this year. Theresa also spoke about how we let off reservation people know about the possibility of changes happening. She commented that The Circle and the MPLS Tribune have published articles about BQ. A responsive government needs to know what their demographics are. They know that a 30% response takes 7000, not 11,000. If the MCT could show that 7000 is more accurate, we could show that the referendum vote actually did meet the requirement. In order to do this, we need them to tell us what adjustments have been made. Another question is what is the collective BQ of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe? FDL is at $\frac{3}{8}$, which is not sustainable. How accurate are the records? We know that they are not accurate. What about those people who are over 100 years old and have no living descendants? Who will provide the documents to remove them from the rolls? Can a court do this? Or maybe we celebrate those over 100 and see who arrives at the party? How many over 50 are no longer living and have not been removed from the rolls? An email to both Beth Drost and Cathy Chavers to ask these questions should be developed. Email questions and suggestions to Wayne. Then, if no response, ask the TEC Subcommittee to email it too. Are there procedures in place to keep records maintained and updated? It would be helpful to see the demographics of age groups in/for each reservation.

Child-bearing, youth, over 50, over 75, over 100. These things could be used for education, using comparisons to the population projections in 2012.

We sent a letter in response to the TEC decision to put Resolution 32-15 forward for Secretarial Election. Most delegations support moving the referendum questions forward but White Earth is supporting Resolution 32-15, not those questions. That may be a vocal minority, as we have heard from many members that they support removing BQ. The White Earth delegates did speak about lineal descent at their community meeting on Saturday.

Discussion about if Resolution 32-15 is put forward, it will delay removing BQ by 25-30 years. This will delay 1-3 generations from enrollment and may make it impossible for some. In the past, if your parents weren't enrolled, you couldn't get enrolled. They don't go back to the grandparents, they just go to the parents. That would be if the requirements stay as they are (A parent must be enrolled).

Wayne will put a letter together and email it to this group before emailing to MCT.

There has been no response from the RBC, TEC, or other delegations, to our Resolution response letter.

Discussion about the use of waivers in Secretarial Elections. But, regulations allow for changes. Could we waive a Secretarial Election in its entirety? They have never written how a waiver is "in the best interest of the Indians" when requesting a waiver. This needs to be expressed in a waiver. Phil Brodeen says all the previous elections were legitimate. Ask for a waiver to adopt the use of a Tribal Election instead of a Secretarial Election to amend our Constitution on the Referendum questions. Carol will look up the language and send it to Wayne.

Drafting Committee - Has put Structure of Governance into Draft 7. After tomorrow's meeting, it's expected that it will be sent out via email to all delegates to review for a few weeks before the next Convention Meeting.

Carol attended the White Earth Community Meeting last Saturday. It was chaotic and unstructured, with no educational pieces. Less than 20 people attended, including 3 on Zoom. Louis stated that they need to create a survey to find out what their people wanted. Also stated that they need to decide whether they want to redo this whole constitution or just revise what we have. These are very old questions and are way far behind. Carol spoke up and told them that we are closer than you think we are with this Alliance Constitutional document. We have done it in pieces, not necessarily purposely. We did the Treaty work, education, then the next piece, and so on. The next piece is nearly done, the governance structure, and that will separate all of the power to different branches. That is very much in line with what you're talking about today that is lacking in today's system. Carol thanked them again and left the meeting.

Proposed Plan for Education - Carol J. reviewed a written list of ideas.

Identified topics, and who could present these topics. Carol will email this to the delegate group. Theresa offered to help Carol with making YouTube recordings.

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 10, 2023