



SENECA-CAYUGA NATION

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE MEETING

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| DATE | Monday, November 20, 2023 | TIME PLACE | 6pm CDT Tribal HQ + Zoom | FACILITATOR | Carrie Kneeland |
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| MEMBERS | | | |
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| Roberta Smith | Present – Zoom | Scott B Goode | Present - Zoom |
| Carrie Kneeland | Present – Zoom | Angela Anglen Kelley | Present – Zoom |
| Natalie Dixon | Present | Earlyne Gentry | Present |
| Kristi Birdsong Blansett | Present | Jo Lynn Gentry | Present – Zoom |
| Yvonne Perryman- Matthews | Present - Zoom | Others Present | No others |

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| 5:58pm | <p>Called to Order - Quorum established at the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's regular Constitution Committee meeting.</p> | Carrie |
| | <p>Approval of Previous Minutes – November 06, 2023 minutes spoken to, 1 major revision regarding the payee of a Claims check and clarification on which Committee the payee was on (Constitution,) several minor grammar clarifications made off the record with unanimous consent and knowledge of the Committee, with further co-operation from Jo Lynn, Committee member – minutes APPROVED</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CERTIFICATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">On <u>11/20/2023</u> the minutes of <u>11/06/2023</u> were approved by unanimous committee consent. Copy emailed to BC Secretary on <u>11/25/2023</u>.</p> | Natalie |

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| | <p style="text-align: center;">Attest: <u>Natalie Dixon</u> Natalie Dixon, Secretary</p> | |
| | <p>Housekeeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Roll Call ii. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes – NOV 06 2023 iii. Confirmation of next meeting – DEC 04 2023 | Natalie |
| | <p>Planned Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housekeeping • Secretary Review • Update from Scott on Business Committee on Attendance Policy • Town Hall Feedback including email from Charlie McFadden • Enrollment Committee – from Nov 15th to Dec 6th @ 4pm • Jo Lynn and Natalie update on working together • Open Forum • Next Constitution meeting 12/04/2023@ 6pm | |
| Minutes Begin | | |
| 6:06pm | <p>Secretary's Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update on hospitality money • No other updates not already on agenda | |
| | <p>Update from Scott on Constitution Committee Attendance Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has talked to Chief, he will be getting with Dennis, this will probably need a Business Committee Resolution • Business Committee didn't foresee this Committee being such a big endeavor, especially with having been expanded, didn't see this many meetings in original planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pending Business Committee action(s) will continue to have Scott as the point of contact | |
| | <p>Feedback from Town Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did receive an email from Charlie McFadden after the Town Hall regarding bringing up community engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Email read out incl PDF 14 point list ○ Discussion over possible meeting invitation, Committee has no questions regarding the email or list at this time, Committee will respond via email | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some points are outside the scope this work, would have to go through administration ● Discussion on Facebook polls for General Council engagement on big topics including Qualification of Officers/felonies, use of RRO, voting age, Secretary and/or Treasurer position qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Things to make people think, and opportunities for General Council input on all possibilities ○ Earlyne open to posting, she has the reach on Facebook, will be under the umbrella of Committee work on Tribal Member Facebook group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group to compile polling questions ▪ Brand new page wouldn't have the level of engagement needed ▪ Hot button topics will get engagement from tribal members, provoke people to think, on Facebook it will be closer to home ▪ Can tag Constitution Committee members ○ Committee in agreement to engage tribal members in polling via Facebook | |
| | <p>Discussion regarding Enrollment Committee discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Originally Enrollment Committee scheduled 11/08 to meet with Constitution Committee at 4pm, then whole meeting was moved to 11/15 ● Constitution Committee made contact just prior to Enrollment Committee start, but Enrollment Committee concluded meeting prior to 4pm meeting time with Constitution Committee ● Kim Guyett has emailed and invited Constitution Committee to 12/06 @ 4pm (Secretary Post-Script: actually 3:30pm) | |
| | <p>Update on Standing Committees write-up from Natalie & Jo Lynn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jo Lynn to review this week | |
| | <p>Open Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Earlyne has forwarded Gaming Ordinance and Gaming Commissioner's explanation of gaming employment policies with regards to felonies, Natalie will forward to Committee ● Review of previously discussed topics – Removal of Officers (Constitution Article X) Bill of Rights (Constitution Article XII) Preamble (Constitution) ● Discussion regarding Officers of the Nation, including how many, and will there be an at-large or General Council representative? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ From “Councilmen” language to “Councilpeople” | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion regarding at-large representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can make 1 of the 3 Councilpeople an at-large representative (rep) ▪ Further discussion on pros and cons ▪ If created, would need to outline such an at-large representative in the Duties of Officers (By-Laws Article I) and/or Officers (Constitution Article V) ▪ In theory would be a representative for those who are not geographically close, Committee member suggests that a potential at-large representative is under the 150mi Qualification of Officers (By-Laws Article II) ▪ Other Native Nations who do off-reservation representation include Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and Cherokee Nation ▪ Two issues at play for at-large representation – should it be in Councilperson form, and if so, will they have the time to be able to represent and engage with the currently unknown number of at-large General Council members? ▪ Need for statistics from Enrollment Department/Committee to understand at-large populace, this could lead to giving all Councilpeople a geographic designation for at-large General Council interaction, might be a good public poll vote topic too ▪ States with larger General Council populations include California, Oregon, Washington, Florida, as well as the 4-state area ▪ Table at-large representation matter until after Enrollment Committee meeting and polling can take place ● Discussion regarding the pay of Officers, the role of Constitution versus By-Laws and historical ease of amendment to By-Laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion regarding pay being dynamic due to economy/inflation issues ○ Placement in By-Laws could be an issue in the future, especially if BIA approval relationship is extinguished, could run into quorum issues, makes | |

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| | <p>sense to leave under BIA for time being, possibly including By-Laws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Documents in essence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Constitution – provides form and structure ▪ By-Laws – how to operate and regulate ○ Secretarial Election laws for registered voters Title 25 Subpart D 81.39(a) // one third registered voters • Any provision on Business Committee salaries currently only present in Resolutions, may be relevant to add under the outlined and Constitutionally mandated powers of the General Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "The BC is prohibited from addressing the issue of their stipends and benefits. This issue is strictly reserved for the General Council of the Nation." • Discussion regarding a Tribal Legislation Article that includes a hierarchy of what is there – Ordinances, General Council Resolutions, Business Committee Resolutions, delineate the hierarchy to reinforce the intent behind General Council being the supreme governing body of the Nation • What General Council (GC) powers could/should there be? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business Committee (BC) stipends, the power to petition ○ Perhaps opening up businesses or selling property/land? ○ Possible polling question: "With the understanding that the BC needs some powers to continue the day-to-day business and financial responsibilities of the tribe, what powers should the GC have that the BC should not?" ○ Level and/or size of investment could distinguish the General Council versus Business Committee involvement • Clarification regarding powers – as the Board of a Business that is through the Corporate Charter of the tribe, they are not allowed to mess with land, the Business Committee job role means that land can be bought and sold (provided the land is fee simple and not trust land) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Land question should be polled ○ Council House was donated by tribal member years ago ○ Fee simple vs trust land – trust land can't be sold but the things that are on top of trust land (such as houses or other improvements) can be sold • Polling discussion continues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some groups on Facebook (FB) do include non-tribal members, since it is FB it should be clear | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 or 3 categories at a time for polling – possible Officers (Qualifications, Duties, New Representatives) ○ No need to poll <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quorum as outlined in Constitution appropriate for the now, Committee agrees ▪ Committee agrees there needs to be gender neutral language used in Constitution ▪ Membership of the Nation – keeping 2023 amendment ▪ Adopted community members discussed as possible Honorary Members (suggested by community member and brought to table by Committee member) as well as further discussion regarding adoption and tribal membership. Committee takes non-motioed vote on <u>if the topic of adoption should be addressed in a Facebook poll to community members</u> – 5 to 4 voted down – Roberta, Earlyne, Carrie, Jo Lynn, Kristi // Natalie, Angela, Scott, Yvonne ○ Polling questions will be finalized as a group | |
| 7:53pm | <p>Open Forum continues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should also be working on our own rules of procedure • Need to review Gaming Commission and SC Tribal Admin Personnel Policy regarding discussion of Officer Qualifications • Polling discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Technological issues as pages vs groups have different polls and levels of accessibility, pages are more limited, groups make sense for having access to multiple choice polls ○ Pages will have to have separate polls ○ Earlyne and Kristi to workshop poll questions, Committee can help finalize wording for posting | |
| | <p>Confirmation of next meeting on December 4, 2023 @ 6pm</p> | |
| 8:11pm | <p>Meeting Adjourned by Group Consensus</p> | |