

Commission of Indian Affairs
 Quarterly Commission Meeting
 Raleigh, North Carolina
 March 10, 2011
 Approved June 3, 2011

Chairman Brooks called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. with a quorum present.

Invocation: Commissioner Roy Maynor

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

Coharie	Isabell Freeman Elliott	Present
Coharie	Don Carter	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Roy Maynor	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Barbara Melvin	Present
Eastern Band of Cherokee	Patrick Lambert	Present
Guilford Native American Association	Ruth Revels	Present
Guilford Native American Association	Julia Phipps	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Ruth Ealing	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Jeffrey Anstead	Present
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Absent
Lumbee	Furnie Lambert	Present
Lumbee	Donald Jones	Present
Meherrin	Chassidy Hall	Absent
Metrolina Native American Association	Earlene Stacks	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	W. David Baucum	Present
Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation	Sharn Jeffries	Present
Sappony	Shelia Wilson	Present
Triangle Native American Society	Brett Locklear	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Lila Spaulding	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Shirley Freeman	Present
President Pro Tem Appointee	Paul Brooks	Present
Speaker of the House Appointee	Faline Locklear Dial	Present

STATE OFFICIALS

Department of Health and Human Services, Lanier Cansler, Secretary	
Designee: Maria Spaulding	Present
Department of Labor, Cherie Berry, Commissioner	
Designee: Tina Morris Anderson	Present
Employment Security Commission Lynn R. Holmes, Chairman	
Designee: Debra Derr	Absent

Department of Administration, Moses Carey, Jr., Secretary
Designee: June Michaux Present
Department of Environment & Natural Resources, Dee Freeman, Secretary
Designee: David Knight Absent

ADHOC HEALTH COMMITTEE CHAIR -

Robin Cummings - Absent

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

LeAnn Martin, Assistant Attorney General - Absent

STAFF PRESENT

Greg Richardson, Executive Director
Sue Brewington, Workforce Development Coordinator
Missy Brayboy, Director, Health Initiative
Elk Richardson, Director, Workforce Investment Act Program
Sadie Barbour, Director, Community Services Program
Kerry Bird, Program Coordinator, Teen Tobacco Use Prevention Program
Kim Hammonds, Director, Economic Development
Mickey Locklear, Director, Educational Talent Search

OTHERS PRESENT - A list of others present is on file at the Commission office.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Greg Richardson read the Ethics Statement on behalf of Chairman Brooks. No conflicts of interests were reported.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Motion to approve December, 2010 minutes was made by Commissioner Brett Locklear, second Commissioner Faline Locklear and approved.

GUEST SPEAKER INTRODUCTION – CHAIRMAN PAUL BROOKS

Representative Charles Graham, NC House of Representatives 47th District comments:

- The General Assembly upheld the Governor's veto on House Bill 2, "Protect Health Care Freedom". The federal health care law would require most people to buy health insurance in 2014 or otherwise face a penalty. Several states have chosen to challenge the health care law and some of those state are pursuing lawsuits. Therefore, the

Attorney General has been authorized to work along with the states that are looking at lawsuits.

- Charter Schools Cap Discussion. Senate Bill 8 – An act to increase educational opportunities for the children of North Carolina by removing the cap on charter schools, by creating a new public charter schools commission to approve and monitor charter schools, by strengthening the standards for granting and retaining a charter for a charter school, by authorizing local boards of education to convert schools to charter schools without forming a nonprofit corporation, by clarifying the funding formula for charter schools, and by providing that counties may provide funding for charter schools in their jurisdictions; and to make other changes to the general statutes governing charter schools. This is a very controversial bill.
- License Insignia Plate – Representative Graham requested clarification on a request to increase the fee from \$10 to \$20 and a portion go to the scholarship fund and operation of the commission. Commissioner Brett Locklear commented that he supports the legislation, but he does not want the General Assembly to assume that the Commission does not need appropriation from the General Assembly. Moreover, this would be a supplement to the commission’s appropriations. There could be some questions in the HHS committee. Commission members asked for a breakdown of how much money would be put in the scholarship fund. We should look at other agencies to see what they are getting from the revenues. We are asking that \$10 dollars come to the commission. The bill should be introduced by March 24. Representative Graham will move forward with the proposed language.
- Indian Mascot: The Commission requested support for this issue. It was agreed that school systems should be given a time frame to make arrangements for changing their mascots. Discussion ensued regarding support for school systems that have predominately Indian population to keep their mascots. The Commission will provide Representative with more information on this issue.
- Joint Legislative Indian Affairs Caucus – An initial meeting was held with great support. Please encourage your representative to become a part of this Caucus. More information will be provided to the Commission as the process moves forward.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – GREGORY RICHARDSON

The Executive Directors’ Report, which is a summary of his activities during the quarter, was distributed. (Attachment 1)

Action Required

Member Terms Update: The following members terms will expire June 30, 2011: Ruth Revels, Guilford Native American Association; Sheila Wilson, Sappony; Larece Hunt, Lumbee Tribe;

Earlene Stacks, Metrolina Native American Association; Sharn Jeffries, Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation; Lila Spaulding, Waccamaw Siouan Indian Tribe. Returning/New members will be sworn in at the annual meeting in September.

Legislative Agenda: A motion to amend the 2010 Legislative Agenda Item to remove Metrolina Native American Association and Waccamaw Siouan Tribe from the Commission Membership item. Motion made by Commissioner Brett Locklear, seconded by Commissioner Furnie Lambert and carried.

LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

Greg Richardson thanked Dr. Elizabeth Warson and George Washington University for sponsoring the break and lunch for today's meeting.

“American Indian Art Therapy – Elizabeth Warson, Assistant Professor, George Washington University spoke regarding collaboration between the Commission and George Washington University. The Project Narrative for the program is attached (Attachment 4).

Ian-Scott Wolfbane Barbour –Art Therapy Project: Ian is a 17 year old senior at Midway High School in Sampson County, NC. He is a member of the Coharie Indian Tribe. He shared his experience with the Art Therapy Project of George Washington University and his decision to use this idea to create his Graduation Project. He shared a PowerPoint presentation he created during the sessions, which in the end was not accepted by the school. Since this experience, Ian has been taken out of the public school system and placed in a private school to complete his high school education.

Commissioner Brett Locklear made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maynor, that the Commission draft a letter to the superintendent of the Sampson County and Clinton City schools addressing issues and concerns about the lack of cultural care and sensitivity to Indian students as it relates to education and final project selection, further that an opportunity be made available for the Education Committee to discuss this issue which appears to be blatant discrimination. Chairman Brooks requested that copies of this correspondence also be submitted to the Governor and Secretary of Education. Kevin Jennings in the US Department of Education has also been made aware of this issue. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

40TH ANNIVERSARY – COMMISSIONER BRETT LOCKLEAR, CHAIR

The committee met by teleconference to discuss the celebration. A summary of the plans was distributed. (Attachment 3) Recommendation is to hold activities from March through November with a “Closing Event” during the American Indian Heritage Month Celebration at the NC Museum of History. The Committee also recommended that Chairman Brooks and Vice-Chair Stacks co-chair the fundraising campaign for the Anniversary. Commission members were encouraged to commit at least \$100 for the event. It is proposed that the funds be held in the North Carolina American Indian Fund – can then be used as a tax deduction.

Motion from the Committee, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the Commission support the proposed anniversary celebration plans. Carried

ADHOC LAND TRUST – COMMISSIONER FURNIE LAMBERT, CHAIR

Commissioner Lambert commented on the Draft Indian Land Trust Procedures completed by Allison Richmond and Alanna Zuchelli, Students, Wake Forest Community and Business . A copy of the procedures is included in the Executive Director’s report attached. He noted that the committee will meet to review the procedures and have recommendations for approval at the next quarterly meeting. He re-iterated the fact that the Lumbee submitted land to be placed in trust in 2009.

Mr. Richardson noted that there will be an American Indian Land Rights and Religious Freedom Symposium at Wake Forest University on April 7 & 8. The Commission is collaborating with Wake Forest University to present this symposium. There will be national speakers at the symposium to discuss issues surrounding American Indian land rights and religious freedom.

ADHOC LEGISLATIVE– COMMISSIONER ROY MAYNOR, CHAIR

The Committee did not meet this quarter. The Legislative Agenda items for 2012 can be submitted quarterly this year - June 1, September 1 and November 1.

CULTURAL/RELIGION– COMMISSIONER SHIRLEY FREEMAN, CHAIR

The Committee did not meet this quarter. She will be scheduling a meeting of the committee during the next quarter.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT– COMMISSIONER RUTH REVELS, CHAIR

Elk Richards reported that he attended the Native American Programs Advisory Council meeting in Washington. The upcoming funding cycle and the new initiative on Career Pathways is the focus of the Department at this time. He noted that a meeting, via Webinar, is scheduled for all grantees in the east on March 15th at 11:00 a.m. and encouraged grantees to participate.

Elk reported that the department is discussing transfer of INA grants management responsibilities to the different regions. The Native American Programs Advisory Council opposes this transfer. If this happens, we could return to the time when Indian’s were not considered “Minority” for these programs. Commissioner Stacks made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maynor, to support the Advisory Council’s decision to oppose the transfer of the INA grants management function responsibility to the regions. Carried

Greg Richardson reported that the SUN’s program may be in jeopardy for the upcoming funding cycle. Across the nation, Community Action Programs are at risk, which is where the SUN’s program falls.

Tony Hayes spoke to the commission:

- NCIEDI is in the governor’s proposed budget for the upcoming year. He requested support of the commission for this funding.

- The Pathways Collaboration with the NC Rural Center. A meeting was held on February 24 in Winston Salem with the Native American Business and Resource Council to create an agenda for the business community. To date \$100,000 million dollars have been contracted to Indian businesses.
- DOT Outreach Meetings – NCIEDI and NC Department of Transportation (DOT) are continuing to hold outreach sessions to receive comment and discussion regarding the change in American Indian participation eligibility in the minority-owned business goals of the DOT’s DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program). Eight American Indian businesses have been certified for this program to date. Meetings have been held in Pembroke, Asheville, and Bolton, NC. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28 at Western Wake Technical Community College in Cary. The last in the series of meetings will be held in Fayetteville on April 19. FMI go to the Initiative website at ncindian.com.

EDUCATION - COMMISSIONER EARLENE STACKS – CHAIR

The Committee met by teleconference on February 17, 2011. (Attachment 5)

Action item from the meeting: The Community College Board has made a decision regarding their open admission policy and students with a diagnosis of mental illness. The decision has the potential to affect the enrollment of the American Indian students. Motion from the committee: the Commission adopts a resolution asking that the implementation of the admission changes be delayed until further study can be made to determine how many American Indian students will be denied admission based on the criteria. Carried

HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES– DR. ROBIN CUMMINGS – CHAIR

Missy Brayboy gave the report in the absence of Dr. Cummings. The Committee met on February 21. (Attachment 6) The following are action items from that meeting:

Action 1: The committee recommended that the NC Commission of Indian Affairs make a formal request for inclusion in all federal agency tribal health advisory councils. Carried

Action 2: The committee recommended that the Commission ask the NC Department of Health and Human Services to hold a tribal consultation with tribes and organizations to gather input on how the agency can most effectively serve American Indians. Additionally, the NCDHHS should voluntarily agree to consult with state recognized tribes when required to consult with federally recognized tribes on federally funded program. Carried – one abstention from Patrick Lambert

Action 3: The committee recommended that the governor hold a tribal consultation and also request all state government departments to hold tribal consultations as well. Carried

Action 4: The committee recommended that qualified individuals be identified for appointment to the following boards and commissions: NC Mental Health Advisory Board, Health & Wellness Trust Fund Commission, and Office of Minority Health advisory Council - expand American Indian representation. Carried

Action 5: The committee recommended passage of the following resolutions: Resolution in Support of Health & Wellness Trust Fund; Resolution in Support of an Increase in NC's Cigarette Tax by at least \$1; Resolution to Support Graphic Images on Cigarette Packaging; Resolution in Support of an American Indian Supplement to the NC Youth Tobacco Survey; Resolution in Support of national Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day – March 20. Carried

HUMAN RESOURCES– COMMISSIONER RUTH EALING, CHAIR

The Committee did not meet this quarter.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE– DR. CLARA KIDWELL

Clara Sue Kidwell gave the report: 1) The American Indian Center has received a Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Nonprofit Internship for the summer of 2011; 2) The Center is pursuing a training agenda. Technical assistance may be forthcoming from national offices. A list of tribal contacts will soon be on the American Indian Center website; 3) Legislation is forthcoming that may bring the provisions of the federal Indian Child Welfare act into the state law.

The Indian Child Welfare Committee survey, “Keeping our children in Indian Communities” was distributed to the Commission. Everyone was encouraged to complete the survey.

RECOGNITION– COMMISSIONER LARECE HUNT, CHAIR

Commissioner Ruth Ealing reported that the Committee met December 16, 2010 (Attachment 4). No action required.

VETERANS– COMMISSIONER FURNIE LAMBERT, CHAIR

Commissioner Lambert reported that two veterans passed recently; Curt Locklear, WWII Vet. and Ted Brewington, Vietnam Vet.

Community Based Outreach Clinic opened January 18th. The Clinic will serve veterans in Robeson, Bladen Counties and Dillon County in South Carolina.

The Veterans Ball is scheduled June 25th, 2011. A former American Indian Vietnam POW from out west has been asked to be the guest speaker.

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Haliwa Saponi Powwow – April 15-17, 2011

Lumbee Powwow – May 6-8, Lumberton NC

Commissioner Locklear commented on mentoring American Indian students in the educational system. He mentioned Cody Oxendine who is in the Human Biology curriculum and who is being mentored by a renowned scholar. In his sophomore year, he is being recruited by Brown University in a PhD. program.

Commissioner Locklear encouraged the commission to support the efforts of the universities as they try to get American Indian students into their schools.

ITEMS AND ADJOURNEMENT

Future Meeting Dates:

- June 3, 2011
- September 9, 2011
- November 18, 2011

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Lila Spaulding, Secretary/Treasurer