



“Celebrating over 40 years of Advocacy”



**NORTH CAROLINA  
COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
(Teleconference Meeting)  
December 4, 2015**

**WELCOME:** Chairwoman Ruth Revels, called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. with a quorum being present. She acknowledged and welcomed all Commission members, State Officials, and staff present.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** Commissioner Shirley Freeman made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Charlene Jacobs. Motion carried.

**INVOCATION:** Commissioner Roy Maynor recited the invocation prayer. Commission members and community members that are currently very sick were remembered during the prayer. Also remembered were the fourteen victims of the California mass shooting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Isabell Freeman-Elliott led the membership and guests in the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS**

President Pro Tem Appointee	Daniel Locklear	Absent
Speaker of the House Appointee	Wanda Burns-Ramsey	Present
Coharie	Isabell Freeman-Elliott	Present
Coharie	Charlene Jacobs	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Roy Maynor	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Gladys Hunt	Present
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Sam Lambert	Present
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Marvel Welch	Present
Guilford Native American Association	Ruth Revels	Present
Guilford Native American Association	Julia Phipps	Absent
Haliwa Saponi	Jeffrey Anstead	Absent
Haliwa Saponi	Charles (Pete) Richardson	Present
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Absent
Lumbee	Daniel Jones	Absent
Lumbee	Furnie Lambert	Absent
Meherrin	Constance Mitchell	Absent

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS (Continued)**

Metrolina Native American Association	Walter D. Baucom	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Jessie Jacobs	Present



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Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation	Sharn Jeffries	Present
Sappony	Dorothy Crowe	Present
Triangle Native American Society	Lana Dial	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton R. Jacobs	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Shirley Freeman	Present

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE**

NCNAYO	Halona Benjamin	Absent
NCNACOHE	Toni Hendeson	Absent

**STATE OFFICIALS**

Department of Administration, Bill Daughtridge, Jr., Secretary	Absent
Designee: Bill Bryan, Deputy Secretary	Present
Employment Security Commission, John E. Skvaria, III	
Designee: Dale Folwell	Absent
Department of Cultural Resources, Steven Claggett	Absent
Department of Environment & Natural Resources, Donald R. van der Vaart	Absent
Department of Health & Human Services, Dr. Aldona Wos, Secretary	
Designee: Sherry Bradsher	Present
Department of Labor, Cherie Berry, Commissioner	
Designee: Tina Morris Anderson	Absent

**STAFF PRESENT**

Greg Richardson, Executive Director  
Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Economic Development Program & Supporting Undergraduate Native Students Program  
Mickey Locklear, Program Director, Education Talent Search Program  
Stephen Maynor, Program Director for Community Development Program & Low Income Energy Assistant Program  
Elk Richardson, Program Director, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program  
David Grigsby, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program  
Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary

**OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice

**OTHERS PRESENT:** List on file with the Commission

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes from the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs meeting held on September 4, 2015, were presented. A motion to approve the minutes with a minor adjustment to the title to include the word “minutes” was made by Commissioner Shirley Freeman and seconded by Commissioner Charles Richardson. Motion carried.



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**INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSION MEMBER:** Chairwoman Revels announced that Ms. Julia Phipps from Guilford Native American Association will be completing Commissioner DeVane Burnette Sr.’s term of office until June 30, 2016. Chairwoman Revels noted that Ms. Phipps was absent but will be sworn-in by the Mayor of Kernersville, NC, before the next scheduled meeting in March 2016.

**READING OF ETHICS STATEMENT:** Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, N. C. Commission of Indian Affairs, read the Ethics Statement, on behalf of Chairwoman Revels. He charged the Commission Members to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest that may exist for agenda items being considered by the Commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were noted.

### **INFORMATION ITEM:**

**DIVISION UPDATE:** Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs presented the division report as follows:

- **Budget Update:** The NC General Assembly has adopted a state budget and the division has received a certified budget for this fiscal year in the amount of \$302,850.
- **Documents Signed:** Governor McCrory signed two documents this quarter (a) Indian Heritage Month Proclamation – This document was signed during a ceremony at the Governor’s Mansion on November 6, 2016; (b) State Advisory Council on Indian Education Legislation – This legislation was signed into law by Governor McCrory, during a ceremony held at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke on October 29, 2015.
- **Indian Heritage Month Celebration:** Mr. Greg Richardson expressed that the event was successful. It was held at the NC Museum of History, Raleigh, dated November 21, 2015. He noted that WRAL TV aired information about the Indian Heritage Month Celebration and the Raleigh News and Observer ran an article about it. Mr. Richardson informed the Commission that the Town of Garner and the Town of Clinton, both had adopted and signed the Indian Heritage Month Proclamation. He requested that Commission members encourage tribes and organizations to promote the 2016 Indian Heritage Month Celebration with their municipalities and government officials.

Chairwoman Revels thanked Ms. Emily Grant, NC Museum of History, for planning and coordinating a successful event. She also thanked everyone for participating in the event. Mr. Greg Richardson acknowledged and thanked Mr. Elk Richardson, Director for Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program for serving on the planning committee.

Mr. Elk Richardson informed that the planning for 2016 Indian Heritage Month Celebration (21<sup>st</sup> event) has begun. He indicated that they are receiving feedback from this year’s event regarding areas that can be improved and are generating new ideas for the 2016 event. Mr. Elk Richardson requested that Commission members email him if they had comments or suggestions for next year’s event.

- **Participation in Cornell University Speaker Series:** Mr. Greg Richardson presented at the Speaker Series held at the Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. He noted that it was part of the



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Universities American Indian Heritage Month program. The topics included an overview of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs, the Commission’s relationship with the NC General Assembly, Indian Child Welfare Initiative and the Commission’s relationship with the Indian tribes in North Carolina.

- **Tribal Elections this Quarter:** (a) Eastern Band of Cherokee: Mr. Patrick Lambert, Former member of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs was elected as the Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Nation. He was sworn into office during the tribe’s inauguration on October 5, 2015. (b) Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina: Mr. Harvey Godwin, was elected Chairman of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina on November 17<sup>th</sup>. He will be sworn into office in January 2016.
- **Parish Place Housing Development:** The Parish Place Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on November 19, 2015, in Red Springs, NC. The project is in collaboration between the Commission’s Section 8 Housing Program and the Indian Housing Authority. Secretary Bill Daughtridge, Deputy Secretary Bill Bryan, Mr. David Grigsby, Director of the Section 8 Housing Program, Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director for the NC Commission of Indian Affairs, Rep. Charles Graham, Senator Jane Smith from Robeson County, Mayor and City Council from the Town of Red Springs, the Robeson County Commissioners, the NC Housing Authority, the NC Housing Finance Agency representative and the Chairman of the State Employee Credit Union Foundation were all in attendance for the ceremony. It was noted that the Commission has allocated eight Section 8 Housing Vouchers to this development project, which provides new housing units for the Section 8 families. Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that everyone was pleased with the quality of the housing units.
- **2015 Indian Child Welfare Gathering and Conference:** The event was held on November 5, 2015, at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. The purpose of this event was to continue the Commission’s work associated with the Indian Child Welfare in the state.

### **ACTION ITEM:**

#### **New Grants**

- **Governor’s Crime Commission Grant (Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Grant):** Mr. Greg Richardson announced that the funding for the grant has been approved. The grant is funded in the amount of \$129,000 and is a twenty one month grant. A motion to approve the grant was made by Commissioner Roy Maynor and seconded by Commissioner Wanda Burns-Ramsey. The motion was unanimously approved.
- **Family Violence Prevention Services Act Grant (FVPSA):** It was noted that this is a federally funded grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services and is funded through the NC Council for Women, located in the NC Department of Administration. The amount of the grant is \$ 20,000 and requires \$4,000 in matching funds. The FVPSA grant is associated with the Governor’s Crime Commission grant. This grant is also funded for twenty one months. A motion to approve the FVPSA grant was made by Commissioner Charles Richardson and seconded by Commissioner Charlene Jacobs. Motion carried.
- **American Indian Benefits Enrollment Grant Program:** The grant proposal has been submitted to the funding agency (National Council on Aging for grant funding). The grant amount is



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\$129,105,80, which includes \$29,105,80 in matching funds from the Commission. This is a one year program.

It was noted that the commitment letters received from the tribes and organizations were included in the grant. Several tribes and organizations chose to opt out of the grant, because they do not have the administrative capabilities to meet the program requirements or are already participating in a similar program. Mr. Greg Richardson informed the Commission that the commitment letters received after the deadline for submitting the grant will be included in the program, if the grant is approved.

A motion to approve the American Indian Benefits Enrollment Grant Program was made by Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs and seconded by Commissioner Charles Richardson. Motion carried.

Mr. Greg Richardson thanked Commission members for supporting the programs and its efforts to expand the budget. He also thanked Mr. David Grigsby, Director for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, for his efforts to initiate the new grants and Ms. Carly Crim, DOA Grant Writer, for her assistance in writing the grant proposals.

Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that additional information regarding the implementation of the program will be provided later. He noted that jobs will be created with the result of the new grants.

- **Personnel Updates:**

**Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program Grant Position:** It was announced that the applications were in the screening process and the interviews will be conducted soon after.

**Educational Talent Search Program Position:** The Counselor position for Halifax, Sampson and Warren counties will be filled shortly. The interviews were conducted and the paperwork is being processed by the DOA Human Resources to fill the position.

- **Staff Quarterly Reports:** The handouts were enclosed in the meeting packets.

- **National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Annual Conference Re-Cap:** The handouts were enclosed in the meeting packets. Representative Larry Townsend, who serves on the Lumbee Tribal Council, has been elected Area Vice President (Southeast United States) to the National Congress of American Indians. Mr. Townsend of Pembroke represents District 6 on the Tribal Council. He was elected Vice President during the 72<sup>nd</sup> annual National Meeting in San Diego, California, which was held on October 18-23, 2015. Commission members requested that the NCAI conference handout be emailed again due to the technical difficulties in opening the document.

- **Upcoming meetings:** The future events were listed in the Executive Director’s report. The highlights are as follows:
  - The next Commission meeting will be held in conjunction with the NC Indian Unity Conference, March 10-12, 2016, at the North Raleigh Hilton. A minor change in the schedule was announced, the Pow Wow will end the celebration on March 12, 2016, from noon to 6 p.m.



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It was noted that the Indian Unity Conference program will be announced on the United Tribes webpage within a couple of weeks.

- Scholarship applications: The application is posted on the United Tribes webpage. These need to be completed and submitted now or during the NC Indian Unity Conference in March.
- The Installation Ceremony of Dr. Robin Cummings, as Chancellor at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, April 8, 2016.
- The swearing-in ceremony for the new Chief of Lumbee Tribe will be held during the second or third week of January 2016. The date will be announced later.

The handout is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Adhoc Indian Health Committee:** No report was noted.

**Adhoc Land Trust Committee:** No report was noted.

**Adhoc Veterans Committee:** No report was noted.

**Culture Resources Committee:** No report was noted.

**Employment & Training Committee:** No report was noted. Mr. Elk Richardson noted that WIOA program was actively involved with the implementation of the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This replaces the old title “WIA” program. The new WIOA program is involved with the NC Works Commission which is the State Workforce Development Board. The NC Works Commission funds the work force development center (called the NC Workforce Career Center around the state). The field offices are working with the local career centers to increase services with the tribal communities. This program allows it to be part of the system alignment and is affected by the new workforce development law.

On the national level, Mr. Elk Richardson indicated that he remains on the Native American employment training counsel. Through this counsel they are addressing Indian Counsel concerns on the National level. A WIOA National Convening session is scheduled next month in Washington, DC.

**Environmental Justice Committee:** No report was noted.

**Indian Child Welfare Committee:** Commissioner Marvel Welch and Ms. Sherry Bradsher, Co-Chairs presented the following report. It was reported that a total of 130 participants attended the Indian Child Welfare Gathering on November 5, 2015, at the UNC at Pembroke. The topics of discussion were education, outreach and how to do more for the communities. The Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the Commission and the NC Department of Health and Human Services. It outlines the terms, conditions and procedures with regards to the implementation of the Indian Child Welfare legislation and policies in the state of North Carolina. Mr. Greg Richardson expressed that there were one hundred and sixty five American Indian children in foster care in Robeson County. However, there were only eleven qualified families to receive the American Indian children in Robeson County. He indicated that Robeson County had a lot of American Indian population and there was a lot of work to be accomplished with regards to foster care. He informed that the interaction between the tribes and organizations and agencies that handle foster care will need to be improved. Chairwoman Revels and Mr.



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Greg Richardson thanked Commissioner Marvel Welch and Ms. Sherry Bradsher. Commissioner Welch thanked Commissioner Jessie Jacobs for setting up the site for the registration and all his work towards the Indian Child Welfare Gathering.

**Indian Education Committee:** Commissioner Dorothy Crowe requested approval for the education committee report stating the nomination for the state advisory council positions. She indicated that the application date has been changed to November 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 in order to be voted at the Education Committee meeting in December. This will enable the Education Committee to submit their recommendation to the State Board of Education with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for approval in a timely manner. Commissioner Crowe stated that the nominees will be ready to take office in July 2016. She informed the Commission that the Senate Bill was signed by the governor in November. It is as follows: “The State Advisory Council of Indian Education will now be represented by five Indian parents and five Indian educators. The educators will need to hold a current license by the state of North Carolina with one of them being a Title VII Director.” Commissioner Crowe recommended that one parent and three educator position need to be filled. Commissioner Crowe indicated that the educators must have an additional documentation signed by the Superintendent from their education entity to serve on the State Advisory Council.

The State Advisory Council on Indian Education (SACIE) request the recommendation for July 2016 to be approved as follows:

- **Parent:** Ms. Gwendolyn D. Jones, Guilford Native American Association, Inc. Ms. Jones is currently serving as the Secretary of the Guilford County Indian Education Program.
- **Educator:** Ms. Chenoa Davis, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe (Eligible for reappointment to second term)
- **Educator:** Dr. Connie Locklear, Lumbee Tribe, Title VII Director. Dr. Locklear is the Director of the Indian Education Program in Robeson County, the largest Title VII program in North Carolina.
- **Educator:** Ms. Tiffany Pearson, Cumberland County Association of the Indian People. She is a member of the Lumbee tribe.
- It was noted that all three educators have their documentation signed by their local Superintendent.

A motion to approve the above nominations was made by Commissioner Dorothy Crowe and seconded by Commissioner Charlene Jacobs. Commissioner Lana Dial voted “no” and Commissioner Gladys Hunt “abstained” from voting. Chairwoman Revels noted that majority of the members voted the nominations that were recommended by the Education Committee. Motion carried.

Commissioner Crowe indicated that Ms. Mickey Locklear, Director for the Education Talent Search Program will need to forward the completed applications that were approved by the Commission to Ms. Deborah Williams, Department of Public Instructions.

**Indian Housing Committee:** No report was noted. It was suggested that Mr. David Grigsby will email committee members with an option for dates and times for this meeting. It was proposed that an action plan be submitted at the December 18, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs thanked everyone for attending the Parish Place Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Red Springs, NC.



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**Legislative Committee:** It was noted that the next session for the Legislative meeting is scheduled for April 2016. Mr. Greg Richardson discussed an item with regards to the Indian Child Welfare that the grandparents need to be given an authority to appeal the placement of a child in foster care. Commissioner Welch and Ms. Bradsher expressed that this was a complicated item. They expressed that it will need to be researched and discussed before placing it on the legislative agenda. Mr. Greg Richardson informed the Commission that the items for the 2016 Legislative Agenda were due to Commissioner Roy Maynor by January 31, 2016.

**Recognition Committee:** An update on the Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina Petition for State Recognition was discussed. It was noted that the work has been submitted to the working group. The work group will put together their preliminary findings and conclusions with regards to the Tuscarora petition for State Recognition. The work group meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2015, in Raleigh. The report will be brought back to the next Commission meeting. Mr. Elk Richardson concluded that the Recognition Committee will be communicating with the Tuscarora Nation of New York regarding some documents in the petition, verifying facts and obtaining answers to their questions.

### **TRIBAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Eastern Band of Cherokee** – Commissioner Marvel Welch gave a brief overview of the activities. She noted that Mr. Patrick Lambert was sworn in as Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee on October 5, 2015. Chairwoman Revels suggested that Chief Lambert be invited to speak at the 2016 Indian Unity Conference, she requested Commissioner Welch to provide his contact information to send a formal invitation. Commissioner Sam Lambert gave an update on the Cherokee and Franklin county officials, that they would be meeting the following week to start working on the maintenance of the Nikwasi Indian mound. The site is located in the Town of Franklin in Macon County (Eastern Band of Cherokee Territory).

**Coharie** – Commissioner Charlene Jacobs gave a brief overview of the activities. She noted that 2015 was a good year for the community garden project and the river project. She stated that they will resume the activities in the spring. She informed the Commission that the Veterans project has been successful. She noted that the Veterans are coming to the tribal office one-on-one. They have been receiving financial assistance and other benefits. Commission members encouraged all the tribes and organizations to do more with the Veterans in their communities.

**Cumberland County Association for Indian People** – Commissioner Gladys Hunt is requesting speakers for the 2016 Indian Unity Conference.

**Waccamaw Siouan** – Commissioner Shirley Freeman informed that their tribe had a good Pow Wow this year. The workshops and presentations were very well attended by the students.

### **OTHER ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:**

#### **Acknowledgement:**

Mr. Greg Richardson thanked Commissioner Jessie Jacobs for setting up the toll free conference call for this meeting. He requested members to give a feedback on the conference call. Most members preferred a face-to-face meeting. They noted that the conference call was a good for a short meetings, but expressed meeting in person was better.





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**Announcement:**

A request was made for the updates on the 2016 Calendar of Events. Mr. Greg Richardson informed the Commission that the email was sent out for this request. He noted that the updated information needs to be included in the 2016 Indian Unity Conference booklet. The Pow Wow dates, location and contact information needs to be emailed.

Mr. Greg Richardson thanked the Commission members for their support this year. He also thanked the staff for their hard work and support in helping the American Indian Communities.

**2016 Future meeting Dates and Events:**

Chairwoman Revels read the 2016 Events and Meetings listed on the Agenda. She highlighted the official installation of Chancellor Dr. Robin Cummings is scheduled for April 8, 2016.

**Adjournment:**

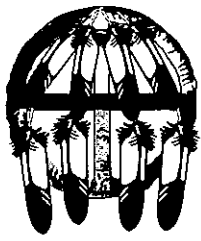
With there being no further items to discuss, a motion to officially adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Wanda Burns-Ramsey. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shirley Freeman. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2016 held in conjunction with the 2016 NC Indian Unity Conference at the Hilton North Raleigh.

Wanda Burns-Ramsey, Secretary-Treasurer  
NC Commission of Indian Affairs  
(Sign & Date)

Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary  
(Sign & Date)

*These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs on March 10, 2016.*

Wanda Burns-Ramsey, Secretary-Treasurer  
NC Commission of Indian Affairs  
(Sign & Date)



**N.C. COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**  
**QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Telephone Conference Meeting**  
 December 4, 2015  
**DRAFT AGENDA**

<b>Opening Session</b>	<b>10:00 am -</b>
Welcome, Call to Order & Adopt Agenda	Ruth Revels, Chairwoman
Invocation	Roy Maynor, Commission Member
Pledge of Allegiance	Isabell Freeman-Elliott, Commission Member
Roll Call	Daphne Pinto, Administrative Assistant
<b>Introduction of New Commission Member</b> Julia Phipps, Guilford Native American Association (to complete Commissioner DeVane Burnette, Sr. Term of Office)	Ruth Revels, Chairwoman
Reading of Ethics Statement	Gregory A. Richardson
Review and Approval of September 4, 2015 Meeting Minutes	Ruth Revels, Chairwoman
Executive Director's Report Quarterly Program Reports (copies included in packet)	Greg Richardson, Executive Director Program Directors
<b>Committee Reports – Only Reports with Action Items will be addressed.</b>	
Adhoc Indian Health	Chair Position Vacant
Adhoc Land Trust & Veterans	Furnie Lambert, Chair
Culture Resources	Jeffrey Anstead, Chair
Employment & Training	W.D. Baucom, Chair
Environmental Justice	Daniel Locklear, Chair
Indian Child Welfare	Marvel Welch & Sherry Bradsher, Co-Chairs
Indian Education	Dorothy Crowe, Chair
Indian Housing	Elton Ray Jacobs, Chair
Legislative (2016 Legislative Agenda)	Roy Maynor, Chair
Recognition • <i>Update - Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina Petition for State Recognition</i>	Larece Hunt, Chair
<b>Tribal Announcements</b>	<b>Commission Members (2 Minutes Only)</b>

<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
<p><b>2016 Future Meeting Dates &amp; Events</b>  <b>March 10-12, 2016</b> - NC Indian Unity Conference – Hilton North Raleigh  <b>March 12, 2016</b> - NC Indian Unity Conference – Hilton North Raleigh  Unity Pow-Wow (12 noon to 6 p.m.)</p> <p><b>2016 Commission Calendar:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March 10<sup>th</sup> – In conjunction with NC Indian Unity Conference</li> <li>• June 3 – Location to be advised</li> <li>• September 2– Location to be advised</li> <li>• December 2- Location to be advised</li> </ul>	<p><b>Location</b>  North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC</p>