



**NORTH CAROLINA  
COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
September 2, 2022**

**Wake Technical Community College**

9101 Fayetteville Road, Building-L  
(HWY 401 South), Raleigh, NC 27603

**WELCOME:** Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:16 am, welcomed and acknowledged the guest, Commission Members, Tribal Leaders, Chiefs, State Officials, and staff.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Due to lack of quorum Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman, delayed the adoption of the minutes.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

The Chairman called for a moment of silence and observance d for Commissioner Lenora Locklear's mother, Mrs. Joyce Locklear, Commissioner Larece Hunt's sister, Ms. Nezzie Hunt, and former Commission Member Ms. Julia Phipps, all who recently passed away.

**INVOCATION:** Mr. Gerald Goolsby, President ProTem General Assembly Appointee, presented the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Larece Hunt led the membership and guests in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

**ETHICS STATEMENT:** The Executive Director read the Ethics Statement on Behalf of Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman. He urged Commission Members to declare any conflicts of interest, or the appearances of any conflicts of interest, that may exist in relation to any business matters before the Commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were noted.

It was determined once again that a quorum did not exist, therefore, the Chairman, skipped to welcoming remarks and read a brief Bio of Dr. Ralls, President, Wake Technical Community College.

Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, welcomed and introduced the President of Wake Technical Community College. He expressed gratitude and appreciation for allowing the Commission to hold its meeting at the prestigious Wake Technical Community College.

**WELCOME REMARKS**

Dr. Scott Ralls, President Wake Technical Community College, welcomed the Commission and staff to Wake Technical Community College and expressed how delighted he was to host the Commission meeting. Dr. Ralls gave a brief overview of Wake Technical Community College, its history and legacy. He noted that Wake Tech started in 1958. It is the largest Community College in North Carolina which



serves almost 70,000 students each year. He expressed that the Commission is welcome anytime on his campus and at any of the other locations in Wake County. He indicated that was a pleasure to host the meeting and thanked everyone for coming to Wake Technical Community College.

## **INFORMATION ITEM**

### **The Chairman Welcomed Secretary Pam Cashwell, Secretary of the NC Department of Administration to the meeting.**

Secretary Cashwell gave a brief update as follows:

- Budget FY 21-22: Funding for Deputy Director Position in the budget and the Ms. Candace Lowry has been hired in this position. Expansion Budget and Biennium Budget: Indicated that there is an opportunity to request additional funds for the next two years; Dept. of Administration did request for \$125,000 for Indian Child Welfare Funding and a staff support position.
- Executive Networking Conference, Pinehurst: Attended the conference “Engaging with Diverse Business Population” native businesses from North Carolina. Information gained at the conference was very beneficial and information was provided on how to get more business for small and minority owned businesses in North Carolina.
- Woman’s Equality Day Interview: The interview with Ms. Gloria Stein is on the DOA website. Discussed distribution of funds. Noted that Native businesses need to take advantage of this grant opportunity.
- Department of Administration (DOA) Move: Secretary Cashwell informed the Commission that DOA building will be demolished, and staff will need to move out of the downtown complexes by July 1, 2023. However, a new location has not been identified.
- Human Trafficking Summit: Nikki Locklear, Domestic Violence Program Manager, and another team member from Council and Youth Involvement, DOA, are participating in an international summit on violence, abuse, and trauma. Together they will be presenting data on human trafficking survivors in NC Native American communities.
- State Boards and Commission: Secretary Cashwell is advocating on behalf of the Governor to recruit American Indian to serve on State Boards and Commissions.
- Recruitment: Secretary Cashwell expressed that there are a lot of young talented professionals in the Native American communities. She emphasized and supported the need for the recruitment of younger people in local and state government.

### **SWEARING-IN CEREMONY – NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS:**

The Executive Director welcomed and introduced the Honorable Angelica McIntyre, Chief District Court Judge, Robeson County, who conducted the swearing in ceremony and invited new and returning members to come forward for the swearing-in ceremony.

The Honorable Angelica McIntyre, Chief District Court Judge, Robeson County District 16 B, Robeson County, North Carolina presided over the swearing-in ceremony.

The following Commission members were sworn into office under the “Oath of Honor” promising to serve the people of North Carolina:

#### **New Members:**

- Pamela Sunshine Richardson, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe (Replacing Charles Richardson)
- Vernanda Oxendine, Lumbee Tribe (Replacing Furnie Lambert)



- Nadine Patrick, Waccamaw Siouan (Replacing Chief Michael Jacobs)

**Returning Members:**

- Isabell Freeman-Elliott, Coharie Tribe of North Carolina
- DeVane Burnette Sr., Guilford Native American Association
- Constance Mitchell, Meherrin Indian Tribe

**State Official:**

- Craig D. McMillian, Speaker of the House Appointee (Replacing Wanda Burns-Ramsey)

**Absent Members:**

- Karen Harley, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe
- Gladys Hunt, Cumberland County Association for Indian People

Chairman Rev. Ricky Burnett and the Executive Director thanked Honorable Angelica McIntyre, Chief District Court Judge for presiding over the swearing-in ceremony.

The Executive Director noted that Ms. Karen Harley and Ms. Gladys Hunt were not in attendance during the swearing-in ceremony. They will each need to take the Oath of Office at a time of their choosing, by a judge or elected official before the December Commission meeting.

**Photo Session in Recognition of New and Returning Members:**

Commission members and state officials were asked to come together for a group photo session, along with the Honorable Angelica McIntyre, Chief District Court Judge, Robeson County District 16 B, Robeson County, North Carolina.

Chairman Rev. Ricky Burnett and the Executive Director thanked Chief District Court Judge Angelica McIntyre for presiding over the Commission 's 2022 swearing-in ceremony of new and returning members.

**ROLL CALL:**

**TRIBAL AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERS**

Coharie	Isabell Freeman-Elliott	Present
Coharie	Lenora Locklear	Absent
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Helen Cook	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Gladys Hunt	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Joshua Welch	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Carolyn West	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	Shelia Epps Wilson	Present
Guilford Native American Association	DeVane Burnette, Sr.	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Karen Harley	Absent
Haliwa Saponi	P. Sunshine Richardson	Present
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Present
Lumbee	Ricky Burnett	Present
Lumbee	Vernanda Oxendine	Present
Meherrin	Constance Mitchell	Present



**ROLL CALL** *(Continued)*

Metrolina Native American Association	Walter D. Baucom	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Rebecca LaClaire	Absent
Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation	Tony Hayes	Present
Sappony	Dorothy Yates	Present
Triangle Native American Society	Danny Bell	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton R. Jacobs	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Nadine F. Patrick	Present

**STATE OFFICIALS**

President Pro Tem Appointee	Gerald Goolsby	Present
Speaker of the House Appointee	Craig D. McMillian	Present
Department of Administration (DOA), Pamela Brewington Cashwell, Secretary		Present
Designee: David Elliott, Deputy Secretary		
Department of Commerce/ ESC, Mabelle Sanders, Secretary		
Designee: Betty Marrow-Taylor, Chief Diversity Equity Inclusion Officer		Absent
Department of Environment Quality (DEQ), Elizabeth Biser, Secretary		
Designee: Sharon Martin, Deputy Secretary		Present
Representative: Cardina Jimenez, NCDEQ		Present
Department of Health & Human Services, Kody H. Kinsley, Secretary		
Designee: Debra Farrington, Deputy Secretary Health Equity		Present
Department of Labor, Josh Dobson, Commissioner		
Designee: Julie Ryan, Director of Govt. Affairs		Absent
Department of Cultural Resources, Advisor, John Mintz - Adhoc- <b>Non-Voting Member</b>		Absent
Designee: Chris Southerly		

The Chairman declared that a quorum existed, therefore, the meeting can proceed.

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE**

NCNAYO	Korbyn Walton (Co-Chair) - <b>Non-Voting Member</b>	Absent
NCNAYO	Peyten Jones (Co-Chair) - <b>Non-Voting Member</b>	Absent
NC NACOHE	Joshua L Richardson - <b>Non-Voting Member</b>	Absent

**STAFF PRESENT**

- Gregory Richardson, Executive Director
- Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary
- Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Economic Development Program & Supporting Undergraduate Native Students Program
- Pamela (Shena) Brewington, Program Director, Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
- Steven (Steve) Maynor, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Sue Faircloth, Interim Program Director, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
- Vinu Kamal, Administrative Associate, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program

**OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice



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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Commissioner Tony Hayes made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gerald Goolsby. The Chairman asked those in favor to raise their right hand and say “I”. With the I’s being a majority, the agenda was adopted via voice vote by unanimous consent, with no objections noted. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF June 2, 2022, and June 3, 2022, MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes of the June 2, 2022, and June 3, 2022, meeting were presented. Commissioner Gerald Goolsby made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2 and June 3, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Larece Hunt. The Chairman requested that members raise their right hand and say “I” if they are in favor of approving the minutes. With the I’s being a majority, the minutes were accepted by voice vote by unanimous consent, with no correction or objections from the membership. Motion carried.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS – 2022-2023**

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Chairman Rev. Ricky Burnett announced that there are two Commission officers positions up for election during the Annual Meeting and they are: Vice Chair and Secretary / Treasurer

**Nomination of the Vice Chair:** Chairman Burnett opened the floor for the nominations.

- Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs nominated Mr. Larece Hunt
- Commissioner Shelia Kay Wilson nominated Mrs. Dorothy Yates

Chairman Burnett asked if there were any other nominations.

- Commissioner Tony Hayes made a motion to close the nomination for the Vice Chair position. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Danny Bell. Motion carried.

**Nomination and Election of Vice Chair**

- Larece Hunt
- Dorothy Yates

**The Election Tally:** 10 Voted for Dorothy Yates and 9 Votes for Larece Hunt.

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced that Commissioner Dorothy Yates has been elected Vice Chair of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs.

**Nomination of Secretary / Treasurer:** Chairman Burnett opened the floor for the nomination for Secretary / Treasurer.

- Commissioner Walter D Baucom nominated Danny Bell for Secretary / Treasurer
- Commissioner Larece Hunt nominated Nadine Patrick for Secretary / Treasurer

Chairman Burnett asked if there were any other nominations.

- Commissioner Gerald Goolsby made a motion to close the nomination of Secretary/ Treasurer process. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walter D Baucom. Motion carried.

**Nomination of Secretary/ Treasurer**



- Danny Bell
- Nadine Patrick

**Total:** 12-members voted for Nadine Patrick;8-members voted for Danny Bell.

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced that Commissioner Nadine Patrick has been elected as Secretary/Treasurer of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs.

Chairman Rev. Burnett recognized former Commission members Ms. Marvel Welch, Ms. Shirley Freeman, and Ms. Wanda Burns Ramsey, who were sitting in the audience as well as the family members of newly elected Commission members. He thanked them for attending our meeting.

### **BUSINESS ITEM**

Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chair opened the floor for the following business items.

### **INFORMATION ITEM:**

#### **Guest Presentations**

**Briefing on the new American Indian Heritage Commission:** Mr. Kerry Bird, Director, NC American Indian Heritage Commission and Mr. Quinn Godwin, Associate Director, NC American Indian Heritage Commission, with the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Mr. Bird presented a PowerPoint presentation. The following was discussed:

- **Mission Statement:** To preserve, interpret, and promote American Indian history, arts, customs, and culture.
- **Goals:** Promote public awareness of the annual American Indian Heritage Month Celebration. Encourage American Indian cultural tourism. To advise the Secretary of NC Department of natural and Cultural Resources on issues associated with the oversight and management of all state-managed American Indian historic sites and properties. s.
- **Member:** Presented the Member List of the American Indian Heritage Commission.
- **Arts:** Promote, Preserve, and Celebrate American Indian traditional arts, and culture
- **Education:** Promote the teaching of North Carolina American Indian History
- **Other:** Discussed plans to research and write history of historic sites
- **Social Media:** Mr. Quinn Godwin informed the Commission that he would oversee social media and setup of a Facebook page.
- In conclusion, Mr. Bird informed the Commission that the first meeting will be held in October 2022. Date to be announced. He expressed that the new American Indian Heritage Commission would like to establish relationships within NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and build partnerships with other institutions.

#### **Comments from the Commission:**

- Commission Ray Jacobs expressed that previously the point of contact was Mr. John Mintz, State Archaeologist, regarding canoes issue and wanted to know if Mr. Mintz would still be the point of contact. Requested information on point of contact regarding canoes issues. Mr. Bird responded that he will be happy to relay the concerns regarding canoes to Dept. of Archeology and to Secretary Wilson.
- A Commission member asked a clarifying question regarding the review of historic books and who will oversee validity of American Indian history in history books, to ensure the historic



books are inclusive of the correct history of American Indians. Mr. Bird stated that his division will not be reviewing textbooks. The new Commission will be a support and voice for concerns or matters relating to textbooks.

- Questions on NC Pedia an equivalent to Wikipedia was asked regarding inaccurate information, what is the process for correcting misinformation? Mr. Bird noted that NC Pedia is related to NC Department of Cultural Resources. If there is inaccuracy, he requested that it be brought to their attention.
- Mr. Bird stated that they are here to assist tribal communities to promote and preserve American Indian culture accurately.

No handout was distributed.

**Update on Tribal Pandemic Recovery Funding:** Dr. Tara L. Fikes, Grants Administration Director, NC Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO). The following was discussed in a PowerPoint presentation:

- The Pandemic Recovery funding was appropriated by NC General Assembly in 2020, to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The office is responsible for the distribution of the federal funds. The state received just over five billion dollars in finding. As part of the appropriation process, the General Assembly appropriated funding to the state recognized Indian tribes and Indian organizations.
- Seven American Indian tribes received \$715,285.00. (Tribes listed in Chapter 71A of the General Statutes).
- \$4,000,000.00 will be distributed per capita to the same seven American Indian tribes
- \$250,000 will be distributed to the four Urban Indian Organizations.
- Overview of the distribution of funding and details of the breakdown was explained
- Dr Fikes explained the process in detail. The tribes must sign funding agreements Once the agreements are received, NCPRO will set up financial accounts, then the funding will be distributed.
- NC Pro will obligate funds and the funding must be expended by December 31, 2026.
- Tribe completes reports on use of funds. NCPRO is working on a template that will guide the process. It was noted that the tribes are receiving funds due to the direct impact from the COVID-19 Pandemic. Dr. Fikes informed the Commission that the tribes are beneficiaries considered by US Treasury and funded through the state of North Carolina.
- NCPRO needs feedback on how the funding has been helpful to the tribes and organizations as they must report back to the US Treasury, with regards to how the funding is being spend. In closing, Dr. Fikes introduced Mr. Neil Coles, as the primary contact and noted that she was the secondary contact, and Ms. Stephanie McGarrah, as Director of NCPRO, together they will assist with the distribution of the Pandemic Recovery funding.

**Comments from the Commission:**

- Questions on distribution process. Is the distribution on a first come first basis?
- Dr. Fikes indicted that the NCPRO is working on the legal aspect of this process.
- Dr. Fikes informed the Commission that NCPRO will treat all tribes and organization the same, during the distribution process.
- Chairman Rev. Burnett requested Dr. Fikes to email her presentation to Mr. Greg Richardson.



No handout was distributed.

**Briefing on 2022 Indian Heritage Month Celebration, planned for November 18th and 19th, at NC Museum of History in Raleigh:** Ms. Michelle Carr, Curator of Special Programs, NC Museum of History, NC Department of Cultural Resources presented as follows:

- Presented a brief overview on the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual American Indian Heritage Celebration
- The Celebration will be held on November 19, 2022, in conjunction with the Education Day on November 18, 2022.
- She noted that last year's virtual registration and participation was over 9000 attendants.
- Registration this year is free. Indicated that registration is on-line at NC-AIHC, 2022.
- Weblink: [visitraleigh.com/event/27<sup>th</sup>-annual-american-indian-heritage-celebration](http://visitraleigh.com/event/27th-annual-american-indian-heritage-celebration).
- Posters will be distributed in the following weeks.
- Requested Commission members help promote the event in their communities.
- Ms. Carr thanked the Commission for their support.

No handout was distributed.

**Executive Director's Report:** Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs, presented his written report. The following highlights his presentation:

- Secretary Cashwell, ACE Award: This certificate of excellence in customer service was presented to Carolyn Crocker, who works in the WIOA Program at the commission.
- Welcomed Mr. Kerry Bird, Director, and Mr. Quinn Godwin, NC American Indian Heritage Commission staff.
- Thanked Ms. Michelle Carr, NC Museum of History, NC Department of Cultural Resources.
- Announced that staff members Ms. Candace Lowry and Mr. Steve Maynor were recently in an automobile accident. Ms. Lowry, Deputy Director is recovering at home and that Steve was not seriously injured.
- Informed members to get their photographs taken for the Indian Times Newsletter.
- Discussed budget items (listed in the report).
- Announced that he is a member of the Governor's Interstate Indian Council (GIIC). This is a National Council of Indian Commissions throughout the United States.
- Discussed the American Indian Scholarship Fund. The American Indian license plate is issued through the NC Department of Motor Vehicle. Funding from the American Indian license plate goes towards the American Indian Scholarship fund. A PowerPoint presentation on the data of American Indian license plates issued in the state of North Carolina was shared. Triangle Indian Foundation keeps track and manages the American Indian Scholarship fund.
- Mr. Richardson thanked Wake Technical Community College for hosting the Commission meeting. He expressed appreciation and gratitude to Wake Technical Community College for not charging the Commission for the meeting space. He indicated that Dr. Scott Ralls, President has extended to us an invitation to hold future meetings and workshops as Wake Community College.
- Mr. Richardson announced that the December 2022, Commission meeting will be at Campbell University, noting that the university has extended an invitation to host the quarterly Commission meeting in December of each year.





- Discussed the Department of Administration tentative move out date which is June 30, 2023. This is a tentative date set by the Legislation. In anticipation of the move, staff will prepare to scan documents, surplus items that is no longer needed.
- He announced that staff member Tenley (Nikki) Locklear is attending a National Human Trafficking Summit in California.
- He announced that the National Conference on American Indians (NCAI), will be held late October 30, 2022-November 4, 2022, in Sacramento, California.
- The Executive Director Report was distributed in the Board packet.

The Executive Director Report is on file and an official part of the minutes.

**Comments from the Commission:**

- Commission member asked about programs for youth programs. He advised that the staff is conducting research to identify funding for a youth-based program.

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced a short break at 12:16 pm to give member an opportunity to meet and greet new members who have joined the Commission.

**LUNCH BREAK**

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced lunch break at 12:30 pm. He requested former Commission member Ms. Shirley Freeman to bless the food.

Mr. Greg Richardson noted that Ms. Shirley was Vice Chair of the Commission and for many years one of the founding members of the Commission. He thanked Ms. Shirley for attending the meeting.

Lunch break, meeting reconvened at 1:31 pm.

Chairman Rev. Burnett acknowledged and welcomed Dr. Joe Richardson, Haliwa Saponi, oldest teacher. Standing ovation for Dr. Joe Richardson.

**Report on Strategic Planning Session, Held June 2-3, 2022, at Campbell University:**

Dr. Bridget Johnson, Consultant with ImaginED Partners, on behalf of Priscilla Maynor, Ed. D. Founder+CEO ImaginED Partners presented this item.

- Discussed highlights of the Proceeding Summary Report. The report was distributed in the Board packet.
- Discussed: Why, Purpose, Mission, Vision, Values, Focus area on future work, Strategic Planning.
- Discussed next steps: Mission and Vision, Research and Binding, Strategic Goals and Objectives (long range plans), Strategies and Implementation plan, monitor and evaluate.
- Discussed combined mission statement. The draft mission statement read as “The mission of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs is to advocate on behalf of North Carolina’s American Indian population to address needs and improve the quality of life through effective, efficient, and equitable programs and services.”
- Discussed the three different draft vision statements. It reads as follows:  
Vision: To protect tribal sovereignty, improve the quality of life for American Indians and their communities through improved health, enhanced social, financial, and educational attainment.



Vision: Create tribal parity while enhancing social, financial, and educational excellence within the N.C. American Indian populations.

Vision: To see all Native Americans healthier, wealthier, stronger, and recognized.

- Discussed the core values.
- Discussed the six focus areas: (1) Economic Development, (2) Education, (3) Leadership Development, (4) Policy, Legislation, & Advocacy, and (5) Culture, (6) Communication.
- Discussed recommendations for consideration in the next six months as follows: (1) Initiate the exploration phase, (2) Needs assessment in the strategy phase, (3) Final approval of the 3-year plan and accountability.

**Comments from the Commission:**

- Question was asked on the timeline.
- Dr. Bridget Johnson informed that Dr. Priscilla Maynor is working with Greg on the follow-up work session by December to finalize the draft mission, vision, and values.
- Mr. Greg Richardson informed the Commission that he and Dr. Maynor are discussing another group session sometime before December 2022.
- Chairman Rev. Burnett took a collective consensus, all in agreement, no further questions

**Presentation of 2022-2023 Committee Appointments:**

Chairman Rev. Burnett the Commission that the Committee Appointments were in the Board packet. He requested members to review the Committee appointments and if members need to change or add their names to a certain Committee, to email him with a copy to the Executive Director.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Indian Education:** Committee Chair, Dorothy Yates presented the following:

Handout of the August 22, 2022, Education Committee Meeting Minutes was distributed in the Board packet.

- Chair Yates noted she did not have a quorum for her committee meeting this quarter.
- Discussed page 2 of the minutes – Unfinished business, motions from previous meeting, add items to the legislative agenda as follows: (1) Mandate all high school students be required to take an American Indian Studies class. (2) Authorize American Indian high school students to wear cultural items during graduation ceremonies.
- Chair Yates advised that Dr. Robin Cummings previously acted on a resolution at UNC Pembroke, indicating that all students will be required to take an American Indian History class. Chair Yates expressed that the resolution be added to the mandate all high school students be required to take an American Indian Studies class.
- Chair Yates opened the floor for discussion. Chair Yates requested a motion from an Education Committee member to approve the above recommendations since they did not have a quorum at their meeting on August 22, 2022.
- Chair Yates indicated that her Education Committee members did discuss the matter with Chair Tony Hayes, Legislative Committee and requested that these items be included on the 2023 legislative agenda.

**Comments from the Commission:**



Re: Mandate all high school students be required to take an American Indian Studies class. The following was discussed:

- Commission member asked if there is a mandatory Cultural/ Historical class in all high schools?
- Chair Yates responded all high school students will be required to take an American Indian study class.
- Commission member asked who will be teaching this American Indian Studies class?
- Chair Yates indicated that the changes would have to be implemented by the high school curriculum and the school system will be responsible to adopt and include such courses in the high school curriculum.
- Commission member asked additional clarifying questions and reiterated the same question who will be teaching the classes. She suggested the graduated students can then teach the high school students.
- Chair Yates indicated that Dr. Shannon Brayboy, will serve on the Textbook Committee.
- Secretary Cashwell expressed that it is unlikely that there will be a mandatory American Indian history class authorized by the NC General Assembly in North Carolina or the United States.
- Secretary Cashwell indicated that in the current curriculum a mandatory American Indian history class will not be implemented for every high school student. She indicated that the school system must develop the curriculum, then find qualified teachers to teach the curriculum. Every public school will not be able to comply with this mandate. She indicated that currently high schools have several set classes that students need to attend. The curriculum is set at a later stage assuming it is approved, it will be implemented as an elective class that high school students can attend. Secretary Cashwell expressed that in terms of mandatory class, this will not happen.
- Secretary Cashwell informed members that she is open to have a discussion or proven wrong. She is happy to have the discussion. She does not think this will happen in North Carolina.
- She acknowledged the efforts made by this Committee to get someone appointed to the Textbook Commission and move DPI to look at the curriculum and American Indian Studies is a possibility.
- Legislative Committee Chair, Tony Hayes informed Secretary Cashwell he would love to disagree, but he cannot. He advised that there are many ethnic groups in North Carolina and that he does not think this effort can be implemented. He prefers to take a more realistic approach.
- Chair Yates indicated that the Education Committee recommended this mandate, but they did not have a quorum, that is why she is having a discussion during the meeting.
- Commission members expressed that the textbooks need to be investigated first, then branch out to the next step. In time the goal can be accomplished.
- Commission member informed that the textbooks must be more inclusive of Native Indian History and students can take the subject as an elective course.
- Legislative Chair Tony Hayes recommended that the committee come back to the Commission with a better strategy and proposal.
- **Motion:** Commission member Tony Hayes made a motion to refer the recommendation back to the Education Committee for further review to create a strategy moving forward. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gerald Goolsby. Chair Rev. Burnett requested members to raise their right hand and say "I". With the I's being majority, via voice vote, by unanimous consent. Motion carried, with no objection from membership.



Re: Authorize American Indian high school students be allowed to wear cultural items during graduation ceremonies. The following was discussed:

- Currently it is up to the individual schools, the request goes to the Board of Education within their local districts. The local Board of Education makes the decision.
- Chair Yates recommended to place this item on the legislative agenda to authorize American Indian high school students be allowed to wear cultural items during graduation ceremonies without having to go to their individual Board of Education. This will make a onetime rule for all.
- A Commission member advised that he agrees that students should be allowed to wear cultural items, but this needs more specifics regarding approved cultural items.
- The Executive Director suggested that the Committee modify the recommendation to one cultural item during the graduation ceremony, as this might be more acceptable.
- **Motion:** Commission member Tony Hayes made a motion to include this item on the legislative agenda, specifically, to authorize American Indian high school students to wear a cultural item during graduation ceremonies across North Carolina. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Constance Mitchell. Chair Rev. Burnett asked if there is any questions or discussions. Chair Rev. Burnett hearing none, requested members to raise their right hand and say "I". With the I's being majority, via voice vote, by unanimous consent. Motion carried, with no objection from membership.

**Legislative - 2023 Legislative Agenda Announcement:** Committee Chair, Tony Hayes, presented the following:

- The Chairman informed that the Legislative Committee did not meet, however the Chair did request to receive the items via email.
- He announced that all appropriations request that need funding need to be submitted by October 1, 2022. These items need to be submitted to DOA Legislative Liaison, Katie Hall.
- He indicated that action need to be taken on the appropriated items at the Commission meeting today.
- Chair Tony Hayes read the items as follows:  
**Non appropriated items:** (1) Noted higher education study to track data on Indian students, Chair Hayes removed this item from the legislative agenda; (2) to include on the legislative agenda to authorize American Indian high school students be allowed to wear cultural items during graduation ceremonies across North Carolina. Noted that the Committee will discuss limited items; (3) Discuss Offensive Mascot at schools; (4) Legislation authorizing NCDMV to develop American Indian Senior License Plate for Motorcycles with a portion of the money to fund the American Indian Scholarship Fund which already exist.  
**Appropriated Items:** (1) Indian Child Welfare funding will be submitted again in the 2023 Legislative agenda. Chair Hayes informed that this request was declined last year. This action item will be voted today.
- Chair Hayes opened the floor to discuss additional items that need appropriations. Commission member expressed since everything is driven by data, he would like to see a study done on higher education on recruitment, retention, graduation, students who are not graduating due to financial burden. Chair Yates, Education Committee informed that the funding request will need to be researched.
- The Chairman recommended a motion for Indian Child Welfare funding.
- Mr. Greg Richardson requested to include the amount of funding of \$125,000.



- Secretary Cashwell announced that DOA Legislation will request the appropriated amount to fund the Indian Child Welfare Program.
- Chair Tony Hayes confirmed that he does not have to recommend Indian Child Welfare funding since DOA Legislation will be requesting the appropriated funding for Indian Child Welfare on behalf of the Commission of Indian Affairs.

**Recognition Committee:** Chair Larece Hunt, welcomed Mr. Elk Richardson, Director, State Recognition Program. He announced that Elk Richardson will review the recognition process and update the chronology of all groups on file, send letters to all groups who send in letters of intent and get up to date contact information on each group. No action item to report currently.

**Veterans Committee:** Chair Rev. Ricky Burnett announced that the 2023 Veteran Awards nominations are due to Mr. Greg Richardson by December 15, 2022. He indicated a need for donations from each tribe and organization to cover the cost of the plaques. The Donations need to be sent to United Tribes with a note indication that the donation is for the 2023 Veteran awards. The March 2023 Veterans award will be presented in-person as part of the 2023-NC Indian Unity Conference. It was noted that only one nomination per tribe and organization will be considered.

Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that the 2022-Veterans Awards were distributed to the veterans virtually during the 2022 NC Indian Unity Conference. r.

**Commission Program Overview:** Mr. Greg Richardson gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on all the programs and services offered at the Commission of Indian Affairs for new and returning members.

The following was discussed:

- Website: Commission members can view the Commission of Indian Affairs website and get acclimated regarding the commission program and services
- Presented the Commission's General Statute: e General Statute 143-B; Commission of Indian Affairs Division is within the Department of Administration.
- Programs and Services: He gave a brief overview of the programs offered at the Commission of Indian Affairs
- Commission Membership: Discussed that the Commission membership consists of representatives from each of the federal and state recognized tribes and organizations. Including five state officials, one advisor from Cultural Resources, two representatives from NC Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO), one representative from NC Native American College Organization on Higher Education. (NC NACOHE).
- Nomination Process: Advised that Commission members are selected from eight tribes and four urban associations. Tribes and associations have their own rules and procedures that govern how commission members are elected or appointed to the Commission.
- Staff: Discussed staff support at the Commission, introduced staff. Program and Funding: Discussed each program and how they are funded.
- State Recognized Tribes: Referenced Chapter 71-A
- Census: Discussed 2020 Census and impact of the US Census.
- General Information: Sixty-three state recognized tribes in the nation. They represent eleven states. In North Carolina, we have the Eastern Band of Cherokee and Lumbee tribe are both state and federal recognized tribes.



- Categories: Discussed American Indian population in the state of North Carolina. Advised that the state has three categories of tribes; s federal recognized tribes, state recognized tribes, and unrecognized tribes.
- Other: Tribes have their own boundaries as per their general statutes. Census list data within the tribe and urban boundaries. State recognition authorizes tribes to set their legal boundaries. Discussed tribal sovereignty. Stated that tribal sovereignty is mentioned in US treaties and executive orders.
- Advised that the State Recognition Committee administers the recognition procedures.
- Discussed challenges due to pandemic.
- Discussed in brief the North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO) pandemic funding for tribes and organization.
- Discussed North Carolina Indian Housing Authority (NCIHA). The Governor appoints members after receiving nominations from Commission of Indian Affairs.
- Discussed State Advisory Council on India Education (SACIE). Nominations come from the tribal communities and the State Board of Education appoints these nominations.
- In conclusion Mr. Greg Richardson briefly discussed NC Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO); National Congress American Indian (NCAI); the New Indian Heritage Commission; and the Indian Health Commission.

No handout was distributed.

**FLOWER FUND REPORT:** Mr. Greg Richardson advised that the former Secretary/ Treasurer, Ms. Wanda Burns-Ramsey reported that Flower Fund balance is \$176.74. Ms. Nadine Patrick, new elected Secretary/ Treasurer collected \$64 at today's meeting.


Mr. Greg Richardson explained the importance of the flower fund. The proceeds are used for sympathy flowers and sympathy cards for deceased member and their immediate family. He advised members that the practice is for members to contribute \$6 per meeting; \$24 annually to help keep this fund sustained. He expressed it is not mandatory, members can opt out, but if they do, we cannot provide a flower bouquet for the member or their family.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Tribal Announcements from Commission Members: Commission members announced their upcoming events. Mr. Greg Richardson remembered Ms. Faith Hedgepeth on her death anniversary, on this date!

#### **ADJOURNMENTS:**

With there being no further items to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting, was made by Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tony Hayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2022, location to be announced.

  
Nadine F. Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer  
NC Commission of Indian Affairs  
(Sign & Date)

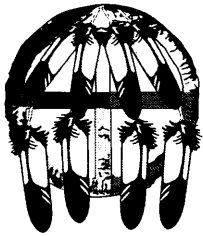
  
Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary  
(Sign & Date)



*These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs on December 2, 2022.*

*Nadine F. Patrick 12-2-22*

Nadine F. Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer  
NC Commission of Indian Affairs  
(Sign & Date)



# N.C. COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

## ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Wake Technical Community College

9101 Fayetteville Road; Building-L

(HWY 401 South)

Raleigh, NC 27603

**September 2, 2022**

**10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**(Draft)**

<b>Opening Session</b>	<b>10:00 am – 10:15 am</b>
Welcome, Call to Order & Adopt Agenda	Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman
Invocation	Gerald Goolsby, Commission Member
Pledge of Allegiance	Lenora Locklear, Commission Member
Roll Call	Daphne Pinto, Administrative Assistant
Reading of Ethics Statement	Greg Richardson, Executive Director
Approval of June 2, 2022, Meeting Minutes	Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman
Approval of June 2-3, 2022, Work Session, Summary/Report from Dr. Priscilla Maynor	Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman
<b>Welcoming Remarks</b>	<b>10:15 am – 10:30 am</b>
	<b>Dr. Scott Ralls, President</b> <b>Wake Technical Community College</b>
	<b>Pamela Brewington Cashwell, Secretary</b> <b>NC Department of Administration</b>
<b>Swearing-in Ceremonies</b>	<b>10:30 am - 10:45 am</b>
<b>Introduction of New and Returning Commission Members of the Commission</b>	Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman
<b>Introduction of Presiding Judge</b>	The Honorable Angelica McIntyre, Chief District Court Judge in the State of North Carolina.  First Female American Indian District Court Judge Elected in North Carolina
<b>New Members:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pamela Sunshine Richardson</b>, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe (Replacing Charles Richardson)</li> <li>• <b>Vernanda (Vee) Oxendine</b>, Lumbee Tribe (Replacing Furnie Lambert)</li> <li>• <b>Nadine Patrick</b>, Waccamaw Siouan (Replacing Chief</li> </ul>	



<p>Michael Jacobs)</p> <p><b>Returning members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Isabell Freeman-Elliott</b>, Coharie Tribe of North Carolina</li> <li>• <b>Karen Harley</b>, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe</li> <li>• <b>DeVane Burnette Sr.</b>, Guilford Native American Association</li> <li>• <b>Gladys Hunt</b>, Cumberland County Association for Indian People</li> <li>• <b>Constance Mitchell</b>, Meherrin Indian Tribe</li> </ul> <p><b>State Official:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Craig D. McMillian</b>, Speaker of the House Appointee (Replacing Wanda Burns-Ramsey)</li> </ul>	
<b>Election of Officers</b>	<b>10:45 am - 11:15 am</b>
<p><b>Nomination and Election of 2022-2023 Officers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-Chair</li> <li>• Secretary/Treasurer</li> </ul>	Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman
<b>Guest Presentations</b>	<b>11:15 – 11:45am</b>
Briefing on the new American Indian Heritage Commission	Kerry Bird, Director NC American Indian Heritage Commission NC Department of Cultural Resources
Update on Tribal Pandemic Recovery Funding	Dr. Tara L. Fikes, Grants Administration Director, NC Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO)
Briefing on 2022 Indian Heritage Month Celebration, Planned for November 18, at NC Museum of History	Michelle Carr Curator of Special Programs NC Museum of History NC Department of Cultural Resources ( <a href="mailto:michelle.carr@ncdcr.gov">michelle.carr@ncdcr.gov</a> or 919-814-7031)
<p><b>Executive Director’s Report</b> <b>Quarterly Program Reports (copies in meeting packet)</b></p> <p><b>2023 Legislative Snapshot</b></p>	<p><b>Gregory Richardson, Executive Director</b></p> <p><b>Katie Hall, Legislative Liaison,</b> <b>NC Department of Administration</b></p>
<b>Lunch Break (Working Lunch)</b>	<b>12:30 pm – 1:30 pm</b>
<b>Report on Strategic Planning Session, Held June 2-3 at Campbell University</b>	<b>Dr. Bridget Johnson, Consultant with ImaginED Partners, on behalf of Priscilla Maynor, Ed.D., Founder + CEO ImaginED Partners</b>

Presentation of 2022- 2023 Committee Appointments See Handout	Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman
<b>Committee Reports</b>	<b>1:30 pm – 2:30 pm</b>
Indian Education	Dorothy Yates, Chair
Legislative – 2023 Legislative Agenda Announcement	Tony Hayes, Chair
Recognition Committee Announcement	Larece Hunt, Chair
Veterans Committee Announcement 2023 Veteran Awards - Nominations Due December 1st Submit Nominations to G. Richardson by November 15 <sup>th</sup> .	
<b>Commission Program Overviews:</b>	Greg Richardson, Executive Director Candace Lowry, Deputy Director Steven Maynor, Director - Section 8 Housing Kimberly Hammonds – Supporting Undergraduate Native Students/Economic Development Sue Faircloth, Interim Director - Workforce Innovation Opportunity Tenley Locklear, Director-Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Pamela Brewington, Low Income Energy Elk Richardson, State Recognition
<b>Other Items</b>	
Flower Fund Report	NC Commission of Indian Affairs
<b>Announcements</b>	
Items from Commission Members	Ricky Burnett, Chairman
<b>Adjournments</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>
<b>Upcoming Commission Meetings:</b> -December 3, 2022 – In person, Raleigh -March 9, 2023-Meeting being planned in conjunction with the 2023 NC Indian Unity Conference-March 09-11, 2023, Hilton North Raleigh, NC -June 2, 2023, Location TBA <b>Upcoming events:</b> 2023 Indian Child Welfare Gathering, will be held October 14th.  National Congress of American Indians, 79 <sup>th</sup> Annual Convention October 30 <sup>th</sup> through November 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2022. See the following website for details: <a href="https://www.ncai.org/events/2022/10/30/79th">https://www.ncai.org/events/2022/10/30/79<sup>th</sup></a> - Annual Convention	

**Indian Heritage Month Celebration occurs at the NC  
Museum of History** Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Scheduled  
as a live – in-person event. See the following website for details:  
**<https://www.ncmuseumofhistory.org/aihc>**

**Commission Website:**  
Commission members are encouraged to review our website and  
Newsletter at:  
  
[https://ncadmin.nc.gov/about-doa/divisions/commission-of-  
indian-affairs](https://ncadmin.nc.gov/about-doa/divisions/commission-of-indian-affairs)