



Tribal Council Monthly Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2024
PIA Conference Room

PETERSBURG INDIAN ASSOCIATION
PO Box 1410
15 N. 12th Street
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Phone: 907-772-3636
Fax: 907-772-3637

I. Call to Order/Roll Call - Called to order by President Debra O’Gara at 5:16 pm.

Present Council:

Debra O’Gara, President
Nathan Lopez, Vice President
Jaclyn Eide, Secretary -- excused
Heather Conn, Treasurer
Jeanette Ness, Council Member
Brandon Ware, Council Member
Christine Yatchmenoff, Council Member -- excused

Excused:

Absent:

Quorum: [☒] Yes [☐] No

Present Staff: [☒] Jalyn Pomrenke, Housing Director
Hillary MacDonald, Director of Finances

II. Amendments and Approval of Agenda

Under reports: David Rogers will not be making a finance report.

Under Old Business: John Hanson Hall was moved to November meeting.

Under Old Business: Update on Youth/Adult job fair was also moved to November meeting.

Under New Business: Proposal to support Petersburg Borough Scow Bay was moved to November meeting.

- Motion by Nathan Lopez to approve the amended Agenda.
- Second by Brandon Ware.
- Motion Carried

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Brandon Ware motion to accept the September 18, 2024 minutes.
- Second by Heather Conn.
- Motion carried.

IV. Persons to be heard related to the Agenda

Audience members: Jeanette Strickland, Maryann Rainey, Colyn Lyons, Buddy Hanson, Brenda Louise, Laurel McCullough, Mary Gudgel, Cris Morrison, and Tina Sakamoto.



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V. Persons to be heard unrelated to the Agenda

Colyn Lyons asked about the Scow Bay haul out. He felt this was a Borough project. He also inquired if PIA will be providing assistance for heating oil and utilities to tribal citizens. President O'Gara responded that we are planning on providing vouchers before Christmas. She also stated that this may be the last time for this assistance until more funding is found. Colyn asked if grants can be used to have a portrait of Amy Hallingstad to be displayed in a public area. He stated that Janine Gibbons is willing to paint the portrait. He stated that Amy deserves to be recognized for her accomplishments in Petersburg and it's the tribal citizens. Tina Sakamoto, who came in shortly after Colyn spoke, inquired about assistance with utilities and food vouchers. Nathan repeated what President O'Gara had previously stated.

Brenda Louise and Laurel McCullough, JOM Parent Committee members reported to the Council their frustrations regarding the JOM Program. Brenda stated that a parent survey needs to be done but they are unable to get a parent list to do this. They reported that communication is not happening. After three years, they still haven't received a budget. They questioned how much funds have been drawn down? And what was it used for? What is the status of the past three years budget? Heather responded that budget numbers are not matching our Quick books. President O'Gara asked to be informed when next JOM Parent Committee meeting is scheduled so she and/or another Council member can attend.

Maryann Rainey wanted information regarding the new parking lot.

VI. Reports

A. Finance – Hillary MacDonald.

Attached

B. IGAP - Brandon Thynes: Attached

C. Facilities - Andy Edfelt: Attached

D. Housing - Jalyn Pomrenke: Updated that the 2020 funds have come in.

E. Roads/TTP - Susan Harai: Attached

F. ICWA/638 - Rachelle Larson: Attached

G. JOM -

H. Tribal Administrator –

I. President's Report – Debra O'Gara

There will be a meeting either November 7 or November 8, 2024, the Intergenerational Wellbeing Focus Group.

Brandon, Nathan, and Debra will meet regarding The Tides Inn transition.



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The sale of the Nordic Building has been stalled due to discrepancy of the title.

Petersburg Enterprise:

Heather Conn made the motion to add Nathan.

Second by Brandon Ware. Motion carried.

Colyn Lyons questioned if PIA will pay for tax exempt cards for tribal citizens.

VII. Unfinished Business

Business moved to November meeting.

VIII. New Business:

Proposal and approval to hire Tribal Administrator

Heather reports the hiring committee (Heather, Nathan, and Brandon) met September 21, 2024.

Heather Conn motions that Jalyn Pomrenke be hired as PIA's Tribal Administrator.

Second by Nathan Lopez.

Motion Carried.

Review and approve 2025 election process.

Nathan Lopez made the motion to approve of the Election Guidelines.

Brandon Ware seconds.

Motion carried.

Heather Conn motions to accept the \$4,200.00 election budget. The Election Chair will receive a \$20/weekly stipend.

Brandon Ware second.

Motion Carried.

President O'Gara proposes that Barbara Erickson be appointed Election Chair in a Motion. Brandon Ware second.

Heather states that PIA should advertise the position. Nathan remarked that Franc Fernandez also be considered. Appointed to Election Committee: Jeanette Ness, Nathan Lopez, and Heather Conn.

Brandon withdraws his motion.

Advertising deadline will be October 21, 2024 on social media for Election Chair.

The Election Committee will recommend the Election Chair.

IX. Comments from Council Members



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X. Next Meeting: November 20, 2024

XI. Executive Session

Motion by Brandon Ware to go into Executive Session

Second by Nathan Lopez

Motion Carried. In Executive Session at 6:35 pm.

Executive Session ended at 7:34 pm.

XII. Decisions, if any, following executive session

Motion by Heather Conn to send David Rogers a draft response requesting that all QPA requests be sent to PIA Director of Finance.

Second by Brandon Ware

Motion Carried.

Motion by Nathan Lopez to approve the Healthy is Here budget submitted by the Tribal Administrator.

Second by Heather Conn.

Motion Carried.

XIII. Adjourn

Motion by Heather Conn to adjourn.

Second by Brandon Ware.

Motion Carried.

Adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Minutes Approved by _____ Date: _____

As Presented [☐] As Amended [☐]