

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Saturday, October 3, 2020
Primary Administrative Office, Sparks, Nevada

CALL TO ORDER: Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the Special Meeting of Saturday, October 3, 2020 to order at 8:54 am.

ROLL CALL: Secretary/Treasurer, Eugene Mace, Sr. called the roll: Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle, present; Vice-Chairwoman, Nedra Crane, present; Secretary/Treasurer, Eugene Mace, Sr., present; Council Member Phillip Frank, present; and Council Member, Steven Crane, present.

STAFF: Austin New Moon, Housing Manager

The meeting is about Housing, HUD, IHP Housing plan which needs to be submitted by October 18, 2020.

Ms. New Moon began with the Housing Plan. The Housing Plan will be losing a model activity when the new building is purchased this year so there is a need for a new model activity for fiscal 2021 to claim in the IHPG and how to use it.

The meeting's objective is to go over the different types of eligible activities, discuss these, and see how the Council wants to push it forward.

Currently SLPT receives \$74,594 for IHP through NAHASDA. Ms. New Moon stated the existing Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program does not include the state of Idaho. She would like to revise the policy to include the Idaho service area. This would start in fiscal year 2021.

Ms. Lone Eagle stated she thought this revision was fine with the Council's approval. She also brought up several questions she received from Tribal members.

- Rehabilitation Assistance Program—would a certain percentage be designated for the older members
- Rental Assistance—how about mortgage assistance especially during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Implementing half-way houses, homeless or domestic violence shelters for those who do not have specific homes, locations or apartments.

Ms. Lone Eagle said that SLPT needs to open up for these things. This will also show HUD that SLPT is restructuring their programs so they do not lose their funding.

Ms. New Moon will submit the change in the Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance program to the IHP. She will then bring a resolution to approve the revision to add Idaho to the policy. Any other changes to policy or policy to be added will need to have policies developed. She will work on that before the end of the year.

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Saturday, October 3, 2020
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Types of Activities

The question on Idaho was the only thing on the Down Payment/Closing program Ms. New Moon received. As far as the Rental assistance there are four continuing assistance. It was clarified that Rental assistance is for a term of one year except for elders whose assistance can continue. Others must reapply. Two of the assisted are elders and their assistance can continue. One is moving from an apartment to a house and they were informed that they have used up half of their allotted assistance.

Ms. New Moon suggested making a change in the policy to add a year or treat the applications case-by-case. Ms. Crane mentioned a possible case-by-case option. There was a discussion that most seemed to like the case-by-case but not to use too many specifics.

There was also a discussion about getting people to apply for assistance. Ms. New Moon would like to give assistance to more people. Since the Council will be restructuring the Housing programs, there should be a new introduction to it. Ms. New Moon should send out a letter or survey and also explain that people should apply because there is a need to show that there is a need in order to continue receiving funding.

The Rehabilitation program is good, but no one has applied or even asked about it. It is only in the state of Nevada and is for ADA (handicap) accessibility like widening of doors, ramps at either front or back door. Applicant must own their own home. There have been no enquiries. Most people she talks to rent or already are on public housing. Ms. New Moon suggested maybe putting the money into a different program and just lowering the amount of funds in this program.

Ms. Lone Eagle said that that made sense. She listed items for consideration:

- Mortgage Assistance
- First and Last Rent for Apartments
- Housing for the homeless
- Sports program
- Assistance for the Elderly

There was a brief discussion on the pending purchase of a new office. Things are back and forth battle. There are some things still of concern with the inspection. Hope to finalize things this week. Finance will bring back the topic of flooring a paint at the Regular Council Meeting October 17, 2020. Until the purchase is locked, leave the model activity in the report. It can be amended later.

Ms. New Moon likes the idea of a sports activity.

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Saturday, October 3, 2020
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- Other types of activities:
- Indian Housing assistance which does not pertain to SLPT
- Development assistance
- Housing services
- Housing management services
- Crime prevention and safety
- Admin and Planning
- Model Activities:

Ms. Lone Eagle asked if it was possible to use HUD to restructure the new building. Ms. New Moon said it was possible under Model Activity which covers modification and rehabilitation of current buildings.

Housing Services

Housing Counseling is being done but has not been charged for, it should be added to the plan. They should look into getting funding to get supplies. Personalized bags for SLPT for users of the food bank. There was a discussion of how the food bank is going and much the members like it.

The Council wants to look into aid for the homeless. The only thing Ms. New Moon can do currently is help the find places and recommend them to Catholic Charities or City of Reno, in other words, counseling. She has no money she can give them. They talked about transitional housing. Ms. Lone Eagle suggested contacting Reno-Sparks Indian Colony to see about possibly buying or renting land from them.

Homelessness prevention activities: SLPT already does Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) under Rental assistance. Under this the Housing Department can do security deposit and first or last month rent to permit a family to move in. It was agreed to try to add the security and first or last month rent to the existing \$500. If this is not available, there can be two policies.

Payments to prevent foreclosure is an available activity. No one has asked about this yet.

Under Self-sufficiency they can help with childcare costs, or job placement for trainings. Ms. Lone Eagle asked about the possibility of helping with the costs of maintaining certification, OSHA, etc. for a caregiver for minor children. Ms. New Moon said that they could come into the office and do the training digitally, or take a local CPR class and Housing Department could cover some of the costs. The idea is to help them stay self-sufficient since they already have the certification.

Youth Activities encompass youth sports, drug abuse education programs, Boys and Girls Club, any other services related to giving assistance to owners or tenants,

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Saturday, October 3, 2020
Primary Administrative Office, Sparks, Nevada

contractors or others to participate in the program. SLPT can pay registration fees for sports and help with purchasing special gear like cleats. It would be targeted as training/prevention for drug and alcohol abuse.

Housing Management Services:

Loan Prevention

Inspections

Management

Grant Writing

Maintenance

This refers to the NAHASDA funds, if SLPT had developed anything under NAHASDA. SLPT does not have any units here.

Crime Prevention: Maybe able to use it to get a security system for the new office, but it is usually used for an apartment building or purchasing security lighting or security fencing. Ms. Crane felt this might be nice to get an alarm for the building and maybe cameras.

Model Activities: They will keep the model activity for the building purchase in the plan because by the time SLPT knows for sure whether or not they are making the move, the IHP will already be due.

Construction of an office building used for NAHASDA activities including the rehabilitation of existing office space.

New Construction: Construction of an office building for program staff, construction of a warehouse, maintenance or storage space for housing materials. Construction of a day care center for residents living on the Reservation, construction of a community center or building used by residents of affordable housing for housing activities, paying operating expenses related to IHP funded units.

Development

Reconstruction of affordable housing units

- Ms. New Moon summarized which items to put on the IHP plan for fiscal year 2021.
- Keep the down payment and closing cost assistance
- Keep the rental program for the TBRA, looking to add the security deposit and/or first month's rent
- Possibly send out another survey which has been reconstructed or restructured to ask to show numbers and encourage everyone to apply.
- Rehabilitation: lower the amount but keep in the IHP

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Saturday, October 3, 2020
Primary Administrative Office, Sparks, Nevada

- Keep the Model activity in the IHP pending the purchase of the building, also for the possible rehabilitation of the new building
- Under Self-sufficiency—Counseling
- Look into Homeless Prevention to see if SLPT can help
- Add in Sports Activities under Youth Activities for drug and alcohol abuse prevention

This would add a couple new line items in the IHP. Ms. New Moon will finish it and send it to the Council for review and final numbers before getting a signature. It is due October 18, 2020. She will work with Patricia, the HUD representative.

Ms. New Moon is very happy with the food pantry. She is so please and is getting good feedback. There are about 20 people in the office each week. It has also help enrollment applications.

Ms. Lone Eagle gave a heads up that the Enrollment Committee has moved up their meeting because they have received 14 to 16 new applications to review and then bring to the Council.

Ms. New Moon it is good to have the people coming in and being able to talk to them. She was able to clarify some COVID assistance applications.

There is roughly a few hundred dollars left in the HUD Cares Act funds. It was a good run. It was very helpful to the membership.

Ms. New Moon suggested sending a thank you card to Catholic Charities for their wonderful donations.

Ms. Lone Eagle suggested locking doors to maintain safety for the members, especially the young ones and to keep one access open but prevent access to the office space to prevent accidents. She also complimented Ms. New Moon on her work with Housing.

If SLPT does move to the new building, Ms. New Moon would like to partner with the state of Nevada for Welfare once a quarter to come to the office and assist the members who need assistance or help applying or to re-certify.

A Tribal member came in thinking they would be homeless soon. Currently they are living with a family who will be moving into a home. They are on a very low limited income and has applied to the Rental Assistance Program but the application is incomplete as of now. They are looking at renting a room and wants to know if Housing can help with the cost of renting that room. There is nothing in the policy about renting a room. It does require a lease. Ms. New Moon will look into trying to help her. She is also disabled. Ms. New Moon is looking into a few options to find her assistance and an

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Saturday, October 3, 2020
Primary Administrative Office, Sparks, Nevada

affordable apartment including public housing and Section 8. They have applied to the Reno Housing Authority. Ms. Lone Eagle said Council should find an avenue for some kind of assistance for them. Ms. Crane asked if it is a possibility to use the SLPT Cares Act funding to give initial assistance. There are available funds. Then they can do a case-by-case change to the rental assistance to help them long term.

Ms. Crane called for a consensus of the Council to utilize the Care's Act fund to assist disabled Tribal member with first and last month rent and security deposit and follow-up with Rental Assistance Program. There was a consensus of the Council.

Ms. New Moon needs a motion to approve modifications for the IHP to add Rental Assistance Program for security deposit and first month rent; the three-part model activity by adding Counseling and Self-Sufficiency and Youth Sports for Drug Abuse Prevention.

MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane made a motion to approve modifications to the Indian Housing Plan to lower the amount in the Rehabilitation Assistance Program, Model Activities kept for 2021, Counseling and Self-Sufficiency, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe TBRA, Homeless Prevention, to add Rental Assistance Program for security deposit and first month rent; and Youth Sports for Drug Abuse Prevention registration fees, sports equipment and swag bags, and add Idaho to Down Payment and Closing Program. Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace Sr. seconded the motion. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote: 4 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINED. Motion carried at 10:33 am.

Ms. New Moon will get the numbers by the end of the next week.

Mr. Frank noted that he worked for Reno Housing in the past. He remembered working with Lennox furnaces that had to be replaced due to the electronic ignitors which were flawed. He thinks this may be the same or similar model as is in the new building.

MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane moved to go into Executive Session for 20 minutes. Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace Sr. seconded the motion. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote: 4 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINED. Council went into Executive Session at 10:41 am.

Council out of Executive Session at 11:05 am.

Ms. Lone Eagle will have a meeting with the employee in question. She will inform the Council by text if there is something urgent otherwise, she will report any necessary information at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Saturday, October 3, 2020
Primary Administrative Office, Sparks, Nevada

Mr. Mace stated that the Council is not supposed to interfere with employee work time. Ms. Lone Eagle is in charge of the executive administration. The Council needs to be impartial if a vote is required.

The next meeting will be the General Meeting on the Summit Lake Paiute Reservation.

**MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane moved to adjourn the meeting.
Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace, Sr. seconded the motion.
Chairwoman Rand Lone Eagle called the vote: 4 FOR, 0 AGAINST,
0 ABSTAINED. The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 am.**

CERTIFICATION

I, **Eugene Mace, Sr.**, Secretary/Treasurer of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribal Council, hereby certify that the Minutes of the October 3, 2020 Council Meeting were approved by the Council during a duly held meeting November 21, 2020 at which there was a quorum present, and the Council voted: **4 – FOR; 0- AGAINST; 0-ABSTAINED;** Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle did not vote because there was not a tie vote.

11-24-2020
Date

Eugene M. Mace
Eugene Mace, Sr.
Secretary/Treasurer
Summit Lake Tribal Council