

Budget & Finance Committee
Regular Meeting
March 24, 2004 - 2:30 p.m.
Library

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call-**

Committee Chairperson Laurie Reiter called the meeting to order at 2:42 p.m. Those present: Ann Marie Johnson, Jeremy Weso, Kathy Kaquatosh, Dan Maine and Randy Chevalier. Michael Chapman and Jane Sorely were absent. Also present: Jennifer Gauthier, Stephanie Awonohopay and Virginia Nuske.

2. **Moment of Silence** - A moment of silence was observed.

3. **Approval of Minutes Dated March 3 and March 9, 2004-**

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to approve the minutes dated March 3 and March 9, 2004. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

4. **Student Grants-Jennifer Gauthier-**

Virginia Nuske, Education Director and Jennifer Gauthier were present to discuss with the committee the needs for spring semester students.

Committee decided that they need to look at all the budgets to see what is left. Although no action was taken on the issue Chairperson Reiter stated that the education needs will be a priority with the committee.

Committee went into lengthy discussion regarding trust funds and investments. Harley Lyons Jr. had a question regarding the trust fund fees. Some committee members would like to know why the fees are coming out of tribal budgets instead of the trust accounts.

Motion made by Kathy Kaquatosh to recommend Dan Maine contact Tom Shea from Associated Bank out of Green Bay who handles Judgment & Minor funds for a better return. Motion was seconded by Jeremy Weso. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

5. **Woodland Bowl/Stephanie Awonohopay-**

Pow-Wow Coordinator Stephanie Awonohopay was present and informed the committee that the issues she is bringing to the committee are brought up every year but no action was ever taken.

The first concern is the bathrooms that are there (upper & lower). Every year there is complaints because of the smell. The bathrooms are basically out houses and no matter how much chemicals are poured or how often they are drained the smell still remains.

The next concern is seating in the bowl. Year after year only the worse seats are replaced. Now the cedar poles are rotted and need to be replaced along with the lumber on top. Stephanie is very concerned about the seating because it could pose a liability issue for the Tribe.

The last concern is the pine trees. Last year 3 or 4 huge pine trees were marked and cut down. Forestry said it was a hazard and that we need to look at replanting because most of those trees that are there are old and will need to be cut.

Committee discussed the issues and would like a total cost to fix the problems. Stephanie stated that the elderly are also complaining about the elderly seating area.

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to have Community Development do an estimate for repairs for Woodland Bowl and also the cost of upgrading the elderly seating. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

6. Funding Request Forms-

At a previous meeting Chairperson Reiter requested Jennifer Gauthier to develop a form for people to fill out when they are requesting funds from the tribe.

Committee went over the form and made some minor changes.

Motion made by Randy Chevalier to approve the Funding Request Form with changes and recommend it to the Menominee Tribal Legislature for approval. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

7. Budget Modifications-

Committee discussed the budget modification process and Jeremy Weso will do a problem analysis and bring back to committee.

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to table Budget Modifications. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

8. Revenue by Month-

Committee reviewed and discussed the Revenue and Expense by month calculating sheets.

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to approve the Revenue and Expense by Month for budget process. Motion was seconded by Dan Maine. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

9. Expenses by Month-

This issue was dealt with and action was taken under #8 Revenue by Month.

10. Ada Deer Request-

Committee briefly discussed the Ada Deer request which was a request for funds to help support a rehabilitation program designed to get convicts back into society after they did their time and to not become repeat offenders.

Motion made by Randy Chevalier to send the Ada Deer request for Menominee Tribal Legislative review. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 3-absent. Motion carried.

11. Budget Process-

Committee discussed the budget process and would like the forms for revenue/expenditures approve the committee by June 10th.

12. **Other Business-**

Committee discussed Firestone Settlement and Kathy will check into it.

Next meeting is set for April 15, 2004 at 2:30 p.m.

13. **Adjournment-**

Motion made by Dan Maine to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Ann Marie Johnson. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by
Legislative Staff Services