January 27, 2010

MACPRA Meeting

Bay Mills Casino Resort Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Opening: Justin Teeple from the Bay Mills Indian Community does the prayer for the opening as well as a smudge before the meeting got started.

Roll Call Present: Bay Mills, Grand Traverse, KBIC, LVD, Little River, Little Traverse Bay, and MatcheBenashi Band, Guests: Mike LaPointe, Cynthia Prior, and Angela Sherigan.

Additions/approval of October 30, 2009 minutes: Kinross MI - Comments Bio-Ethanol Plant - Frontiera or Mascoma Co. Kay Touhy added to new Business. Motion by Wanda Perron, Bay Mills to approve the agenda and 2nd by Paula Carrick, Agenda Approved 2010.

Motion by to approve the October 30, 2009 minutes with corrections by Kevin Daugherty 2nd by Jay Samm, All in favor. O abstaining 0 opposed. Minutes were approved with corrections. Corrections to Willie Johnson name and Kevin Daugherty name. Will be corrected.

Approval of Treasurers Report: giwe Martin delivered the January Treasurers Report. No comments or changes. Additional dues received that are not reflected on the Treasurers Report: Gun Lake Band, Pokagon Band, Saginaw Chippewa, SSM. These will be reflected on the May Treasurers Report. Motion to approve the January Treasurers Report by Cecil P., 2nd by Kevin Daugherty All in favor, 0 abstained, 0 opposed. Approved.

Kevin Daughtery – Funding Subcommittee Update: said he was supposed to have a budget prepared for MACPRA and did not do it. He will do it and post it on MACPRA site.

Angela Sherigan: By Laws were approved and they cannot be re-signed because that would be a violation of the 501 C (3). Angela will look through her stuff to see if the signed copies that were forwarded to her by giwe Martin are in the in-active file. If not we will re-sign and do the resolution to move forward now. So we will get new signatures on the 2006 meeting when they were approved. Re-affirm the by-laws and moving forward, Resolution was drafted and presented regarding the By-Laws: Res. #: 2010-002 Motion by Kevin Daugherty, 2nd by Winnay, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining. Motion carried.

501 c 3 – Angela Sherigan – Administrative Function i.e. updating articles of incorporation or issues with other things they need to be discussed in closed session. We have to move into closed session because of the attorney – client privilege. We will be paying 2009 and reimbursing Angela for the 2008 and we can get copies of it for the file. The 501 c 3 filing fees were not paid for 2008 so Angela paid those, and we will pay her and issues a check today for the 2009 filing fee for the 501 c 3 status. Summer did sign the 2009 filing and we will have a copy on file in the Treasurer’s Office. Angela Sherigan is working pro-bono to do attorney work for MACPRA. Check number 512 to Angela Sherigan for reimbursement for 2008 501 c 3 renewal was issued today. Check number 513 issued to the State of Michigan for 2009 501 c 3 renewal. Both checks were given to Angela at today’s meeting.

LTBB - Presentation of NAGPRA repatriation process was done by Eric Hemenway and Winnay Wemigase. They applied for a repatriation grant and putting a manual together for other Tribes to use for this process. They are going across the country to get advice and input and put into a manual that would be pretty much inclusive for this process. A manual that would help even those who are new to NAGPRA Repatriation Process. Definition issues that seem to be a problem? Cecil P. asked about this.
seeing this is a potential problem area. Things they themselves have dealt with in the process and put into the manual and then to have it printed for all Tribes. NAGPRA would also like to give copies to non-Indian Institutions so they know the Native American Process in all of this. Shannon Martin also said that another organization NPI National Preservation Institute also offers regional workshops and training on these issues. Locally and regionally to train on these issues. Eric went through the process to do the claim. A copy of the power point presentation that was given is attached with these minutes. Also offers a $500 travel stipend.

Shannon thanked Eric and Winnay for all of the work that they do in these repatriation cases. She said that working with each other and keeping each other informed about things that pertain to our ancestors and letting each Tribe know when these issues are out there and need to be dealt with. Working together as Anishinaabe people.

Eric said remember the 90 day rule for the Museum to respond – because they have to abide by this. They cannot deny you a response one way or another.

**Sydney Martin** went to NAGPRA review committee meeting in FLA and how nervous she was to testify. She felt that the board is there to help us, not work against us. They want to help us, and they made their decision right after all testimonies are heard. She said that the cooperation between all entities involved could be a national model, because then these are successes to everyone involved all working toward the same goals. All of the NAGPRA Board members are Native American except one. Summer asked Eric what the Board felt about the presentation that MACPRA did to the Board, and Eric believes that because of the large number of Tribes all working together to support these efforts as one, they are very inclined to make a favorable decision on our behalf. Eric stressed again how important it is to have these support letters in as soon as they ask for them. In order to make the disposition work out smoothly. 90% of the time the Dept. of Interior who makes the final decision concurs with the recommendations of the Review Committee. Then it is published for 30 days at the Federal Register and once that is up with no competing claims, possession of remains can occur. Cecil is working with Detroit Institute of Arts on trying to identify a safe location for remains. Mr. Penny was grateful to the Tribes and was very respectful of returning our ancestors. Cecil said he feels that only a small % of these Museums really want to fight and hang onto the remains that belong to our people. They seem more willing to work with the Tribes because of the cooperation that they are showing in this movement. Cecil said even the Tribes that are not recognized are helpful in this pursuit.

**Shannon Martin Detroit River issue.** Mound issues in the area of a proposed project. Let those entities know about MACPRA organization that should be dealing with these issues.

**Cynthia Pryor:** Presentation on the Yellow Dog Plains Mine site. What is Kennecott Minerals up to in the U.P. and how it is going to impact not only KBIC, there is currently 5485 acres of undeveloped lands, of which includes KBIC Spiritual Sites as well. Showed her Mining Madness CD and stated that she has copies available to those who did not get one last time she did her presentation at LVD last year. Mining laws are not as strict in Michigan as they are in Wisconsin, which is where Kennecott was previously. Discussion with member and some suggestions to Ms. Pryor with who to take this cause up with – possibly MAST, also the Canadian Chiefs Alliance, and other organizations that are not just Native American, possibly churches and other organizations.

**Grand Rapids Public Museum:** Next Step J Sam will work with this issue dealing with next steps to proceed. Ron Yap from Grand River Historic Tribe is also involved with this issue.
Cecil MDOT MOU - Inadvertent discovery MOU Suggestions via email with MDOT regarding the issue. These issues shall be addressed at the Tribal levels and they could sign individually. If we could rather affect the language that is now being used. Motion to have Angela do a Memorandum of Law regarding today’s discussions regarding the Attorney General’s position on the MACPRA MOU issue. It is to be distributed and taken to the Tribal Councils and Cultural Committee for those opinions. Motion was made by Cecil, 2nd by Kevin Daugherty, All in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining. Approved.

Cecil Pavlat – Detroit Institute of Arts - Cecil picked up remains in November and they are in his possession and will be buried in the spring. Kevin Daugherty talked about property in Dundee with mounds, and burials, and local tribal group uses if for different ceremonies. Owner of the property has a potential to lose property to taxes or divorce. Cecil brought it up for MACPRA to consider for Detroit Institute of Arts Burial for this. Possibly MACPRA could take ownership of property and utilize it for these types of circumstances. Kevin and Cecil would like to look at the property and check it out to see if it would be a legitimate option. Asking the group what they think.

Michigan Burial Law- Giwe handed out copies and they are posted on the MACPRA Forum for comments. We are looking for comments and suggestions so that we can get this worked on to getting the language changed. We will look at draft (2) - Angela will look at it as well and give us recommendations as well. Winnay made a motion to draft up a MOL regarding the Burial Law, 2nd by Cecil All in favor 0 opposed, 0 abstaining. Motion was approved.

MACPRA Funding Sub-Committee – Draft asking reps to review it and make comments and suggestions. This is what I said I would help with so that we have something as far as regulations, and back up documentation for future requests.

Cecil Pavlat use of tobacco in state prisons. Resolution 2010-001 as amended with changes to abeam “tobacco” regarding Tobacco use in the State Prisons of Michigan. Angela Sherigan drafted a resolution in support the American Indian Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan reaffirming that Indian People have inherited from our “Ancestors: to care for and preserve our Cultural Heritage and Traditions, Motion to approve by Winnay 2nd by giwe Martin Approved All in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

MACPRA Forum Access for Angela Sherigan: Motion by Winnay to give Angela access to the Forum for purposes of gathering and compiling comments on issues referred to within these minutes, 2nd by giwe Martin, All in favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstaining. Approved.

Meghan Howey, University of New Hampshire regarding the GIS Files of Historic American Indian Trails Kate Touhy and Kathy Kaye Burt Lake Band presentation regarding Geophysical Survey of Graves. Last year because we didn’t have our meeting at the Training Biological Center University of Michigan hired Time Horsley to do a mapping project using geophysical techniques. Burt Lake Band is shown in the vicinity on the map and trying to relocate missing graves and traditional properties. She speaks of an area east of Brutus Michigan. Information is attached with this packet. Deal with it next meeting in closed section. Why is it confidential and why don’t Tribes already have this? Contact Nick Reo about getting this to all Tribes. Summer will contact Ms. Howey and Nick Reo on this issue. Tabled, no permission given. Angela advises to be cautious on these things, and also Shannon Martin stated the U of M website says they are working with Tribes on what issues? Are they?

New Business:

Summer MACPRA Forum for posting and reviewing documents. She will review it with us.
Shannon Martin/SCIT appeal for MACPRA for the participation of spiritual leaders for the CMU reburial scheduled for May 13-14 2010 in Mt. Pleasant. Update from Willie regarding the Flint, MI reburial and Parcel A was completed in November 21 plus individuals. On Friday November 20, 2009 they were re-buried. Parcel C on the other side of house and work has been going now and it will resume in May on this second parcel and prepare for 144 reburials. Appealing to MACPRA asema pouches, and identifies spiritual people in each of our communities for this project. They will accompany their spiritual person. Press release from Flint, MI newspaper. Appeal list given for the May 13-14 reburial.

Cecil: Update on the Biochemical plant. Would adversely affect the entire 1836 ceded territory. Waste wood, air quality, water, animal, plants. 1440 tons of wood a day would be used.

Motion to go into closed session by Winnay, 2nd by Sydney, all in favor 0 opposed, 0 abstaining. Went into executive session at 3:53 p.m. Discussion with Angela Sherigan 501 c 3.

Next Meeting: May 26th, 2010 Little River, Manistee. Winnay felt because of all of the work that has been done and the time we should accommodate the Manistee request to have MACPRA meeting there and have MACPRA rep. After a discussion it was decided that Little River will host next MACPRA Meeting. NMU in August meeting is proposed by Summer who already had gotten NMU to host the meeting.

Adjourn Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mark Russell, 2nd by Winnay Wemigwase. Meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Update your representative contact information on the www.macpra.org website.