

New Hampshire Commission on Native American Affairs

December 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes

1-3PM

DNCR Main Conference Room, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord, NH 03301

Members Present:

Anne Jennison, Chair
Denise Pouliot, Vice Chair
Kayla Schweitzer, Secretary
Sheila Charles
Cherie Pernaw
Christine Nih'shaw
Diane Polewarczyk
Estlin McLellan
James Edgell Jr.
Carlos Cardona Lebron
Bridget Herrera (remote)

Members Absent: Deborah Calabrese

Public Attendees: Paul Pouliot (Cowasuck Band), Charlie Jennison, Marie Elaine Tefft, Sarah Widhu, Dick Widhu (UU Church of Nashua), Meredith Collins (DNCR – State Parks), Tara Blaney (DNCR – State Parks), Courtney Page (JSI Research & Training/Member of Public), Christopher Bond (DOJ), Mark W. Dell'Orfano (DOJ)

Quorum: Yes

Meeting Proceedings:

1. **Anne Jennison** called meeting to order at 1PM
2. **Anne Jennison** moved to review and discussion of the draft [July 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes](#)
3. **Denise Pouliot** motioned to approve the draft July 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes; **James Edgell Jr.** seconded
 - a. Vote: unanimous; approved
4. **Anne Jennison** welcome and introductions
5. **Anne Jennison** 2021 Annual Report – *tabled*
6. **Anne Jennison** moved to discussion on Abenaki Heritage Month Proclamation
 - a. **Anne Jennison** noted its Abenaki Heritage Month and not Native American Heritage Month; should be corrected/read through as such in materials
 - b. **Anne Jennison** reads draft letter to Governor
 - c. Open discussion among Commission members about Proclamation and draft letter
 - d. **Sheila Charles** motioned that after Commission discussion and consultation that Anne writes a letter to the Governor on the exclusion of the Commission on this process, future steps for improved consultation, and asking for a meeting with the Governor;
Cherie Pernaw seconded
 1. Vote:
 - a. In favor: Anne Jennison, Carlos Cardona Lebron, Denise Pouliot, Estlin McLellan, Cherie Pernaw, Christine Nih'shaw, Sheila Charles, James Edgell Jr., Diane Polewarczyk, Bridget Herrera (remote)
 - b. Recusal: Kayla Schweitzer
 - c. Approved

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7. **Anne Jennison** invited **Meredith Collins** and **Tara Blaney** from NH State Parks to speak to the Commission regarding State Parks incorporating Native American history into State Park's stories
 - a. Open discussion among Commission
8. **Anne Jennison** reads an email inquiry from Nancy Marashio of the NH's League of Women Voters for the Commission's information and awareness
 - a. Open discussion on bills
9. **Anne Jennison** moved to scheduling the next Commission Meeting
10. **Anne Jennison** adjourned meeting 3:11PM

NHCNAA Meeting Adjourned