

New Hampshire Commission on Native American Affairs

April 6, 2023 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

Diane Polewarczyk

Estlin McLellan

James Edgell Jr.

Carlos Cardona Lebron

Members Absent: Deborah Calabrese, Bridget Herrera, Christine Nih'shaw

Public Attendees: Charlie Jennison (INHCC), Ken Gallager (BEA/OPD), Paul Pouliot (Cowasuck Band), Ben Wilson (DNCR), Nancy Marashio (NHLWV), M. Simms, R. Simms, Dick Widhu (UU Church of Nashua)

Quorum: Yes

Meeting Proceedings:

1. **Anne Jennison** called meeting to order at 1:09PM
2. **Anne Jennison** moved to review and discussion of the draft December 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes
 - a. Change/edit - add Nancy's last name (Marashio) in #8
3. **Denise Pouliot** motioned to approve the draft December 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes with edit;
Sheila Charles seconded
 - a. Vote: unanimous; approved
4. **Anne Jennison** welcome and introductions
5. **Anne Jennison** moved to review and discussion of Annual Reports
 - a. 2021 Annual Report
 - i. Change/edit – include the following next to Barbara Shea's appointment; Estlin McLellan appointed to replace Barbara Shea
 - ii. **Sheila Charles** motioned to approve the draft 2021 Annual Report with edit;
Cherie Pernaw seconded
 1. Vote: unanimous; approved
 - b. 2022 Annual Report
 - i. **Denise Pouliot** motioned to approve the draft 2022 Annual Report; **Cherie Pernaw** seconded
 1. Vote: unanimous; approved
6. **Anne Jennison** moved to reading the letter sent to Governor Sununu on proclamation that made November 2022 to be Abenaki Heritage Month in New Hampshire
 - a. **Anne Jennison** motioned to send a letter to the Governor to invite him to a future meeting after Commission confirms dates; **James Edgell Jr.** seconded
 1. Vote: unanimous; approved
7. **Anne Jennison** asked Denise Pouliot to provide update on bills that had been proposed in the NH Legislature
 - i. HCR7- Recognizing the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation

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1. Was tabled
 - ii. HB390- Revising the membership and structure of the New Hampshire commission on Native American affairs
 1. Was tabled
 - iii. HB180 - Renaming Columbus Day as Indigenous People's Day
 1. Was tabled
8. **Anne Jennison** noted future agenda items
 - a. Ad hoc committee on state recognition process
 - b. Ad hoc committee on NHCNAA bill
 - c. Attending events and going on the road
 - d. Social media
9. **Anne Jennison** discussed request from Kathleen Blake regarding NHCNAA sending a letter to NH standing legislative committees
 - a. Will discuss further at future meeting
10. **Anne Jennison** moved to discussion on sharing meeting materials with Commission members in advance online vs. paper copies in-person; need to cut down on use of paper (agendas will still be printed in advance and distributed at the meetings)
 - a. **Denise Pouliot** motioned for meeting materials to be shared online with Commission members; **Diane Polewarczyk** seconded
 1. Vote: unanimous; approved
11. **Anne Jennison** moved to scheduling future Commission Meetings
 - a. Proposed Dates: May 18; June 15, 22 or 29; all Thursdays in July and August
 - b. **Kayla Schweitzer** will send out a Doodle Poll to Commission Members with the proposed dates
 - c. **Denise Pouliot** motioned that after results of Doodle Poll that Anne Jennison will reach out to Governor's Office to invite the Governor to a future Commission meeting; **Cherie Pernaw** seconded
 1. Vote: unanimous; approved
12. **Anne Jennison** moved to reviewing and discussing the "How to Be An Indigenous Ally" draft handout
 - a. Will continue working on it
13. **Anne Jennison** invited **Cherie Pernaw** to speak about her tribe's upcoming powwow
 - a. Cherie Pernaw discussed that her tribe is having a powwow in Alstead June 10-11 and invited the NHCNAA to have a booth there
 - i. Will discuss at next meeting
14. **Anne Jennison** invited **Ken Gallager** to present on the Geographic Name Change Process
15. Discussion on the Geographic Name Change Proposals submitted by Kris Pastoriza (looking for NHCNAA's support)
 - a. From Baker River to Asquamchuake
 - b. From Mt. Washington to Agiochook
 - c. **Carlos Cardona Lebron** motioned for NHCNAA to write a letter of support for the Mt. Washington to Agiochook geographic name change proposal; **Cherie Pernaw** seconded

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1. Vote: unanimous; approved
- d. **Sheila Charles** motioned for NHCNAA to write a letter of support for the Baker River to Asquamchuake geographic name change proposal; **Denise Pouliot** seconded
 1. Vote: unanimous; approved
- e. **Denise Pouliot** mentioned her tribe is working on a geographic name change proposal for Eastman's Cove to Nokemesek Cove
 - i. **Anne Jennison** motioned for NHCNAA to write a letter of support for the Eastman's Cove to Nokemesek Cove geographic name change proposal; **Diane Polewarczyk** seconded
 1. Vote: unanimous; approved
 - f. **Anne Jennison** will write the letters and bring them for review and approval at the next NHCNAA Meeting
16. Public Comments
 - a. **Nancy Marashio**
17. **Anne Jennison** adjourned meeting 3:02PM

NHCNAA Meeting Adjourned