

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs

Monday, February 2, 2015
Department of Budget Management (DBM)
45 Calvert Street, Room 164A/B
Annapolis, Maryland

Chair: Robert F. Killen

Staff Present: E. Keith Colston

Commissioners Present: Chair Robert F. Killen, Vice Chair Ashley Minner, Rico Newman, Lisa Savoy, Rebecca Stone, Leanora E. Winters

Commissioners Absent: Virginia Busby, Patricia Carson

Chair Robert Killen called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Invocation by Commissioner Rico Newman

Minutes

Postponed approval of minutes

Administrative Director's Report

E. Keith Colston

Finalizing the Annual Report with corrections and finishing with touch-up. The 2014 Annual Report will be posted on website as soon as received. Transitional meetings have been going on at the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives. Met with Chief from Delaware where there is no Commission on Indian Affairs. This says a lot getting a call from a tribal leader from another State looking at what we do in a positive manner. Meetings with Tribal Chair Mervin Savoy seeing what they are doing in their community and how we can be of assistance.

Advisory Committee Report

Chair Robert F. Killen

The Advisory Committee met on January 13, 2015, 301 W. Preston Street, 15th Floor, Baltimore MD at 7:00 p.m.

Commission Newman: Suggestions of variety of State Agencies that should be added to Advisory committee. Examples given: MHT, DHCD. Those appointed should provide information to Advisory Committee not restricted only to meeting times. Provided information for contact that should be added to committee via email:

Juanita J. Mullen (RET. USAF)
Program Analyst
Center for Minority Veterans
Department of Veteran Affairs
810 Vermont Ave. N.W., (OOM)
Washington DC 20420
[202-461-6191](tel:202-461-6191)
Juanita.Mullen@va.gov

Provided and requested further information on executive orders concerning other State advisory committees for American Indians to be appointed to including MCIA.

Inquired on specific GOCI staff that would alert MCIA on legislation during general assembly. Administrative Director Colston commented that after January 21st, a definitive answer would be provided.

Richard Allen, Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Suggested developing a brief charge to Advisory Committee. Prompt areas that should be made aware of. Provided information on the following:

House Bill 36, sponsored by MD Delegate Schulz, concerning a 5% goal total dollar veteran-owned small business participation within procurement contracts of Maryland state government units. This is distinguished from the previously passed MD Small Business Reserve goal for Disabled American Veteran (DAV) owned small business participation and overall Maryland state government certified MBE participation goals for minority groups and People with Disabilities.

2.) Our work on developing a required MD DNR Environmental Justice plan & program, in terms of MCIA input and recommendations. Compliance with EJ is required under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and under state of Maryland law, coordinated by the MD Commission on Environmental Justice (EJ) and Sustainable Communities. We certainly want to make sure that Native American tribal concerns, if any, are included in any plan & program signed off on by the MD DNR Secretary.

Mr. Dennis Seymour, Community College of Baltimore County Catonsville (CCBCC): Represents the Campus President. Mr. Seymour would provide information on funding and programs provided by the campus. Commissioner Newman asked if he could provide a broader scope beyond CCBCC. Answer – yes.

Chairman Killen: Suggested that contact and interaction with National Security Agency (NSA) for scholarships for youth. He will share information with committee and during MCIA public meetings. Chairman Killen responded he supports the suggestions of the committee members.

Educational Committee

Vice Chair Ashley Minner

Second meeting of the newly reformed committee took place on January 28, 2015, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, DBM, 45 Calvert Street, Room 163, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dr. Taylor-Thoma, our contact with MSDE for the curriculum project, has retired and the status and/or whereabouts of our curriculum is unknown. Will follow up in 2 weeks as the office is in transition.

Work has begun on the “Indian Education for All” document.

Community Colleges in Maryland do not offer funding based on race or ethnicity.

A scholarship source list for Indian students in Maryland is in progress, to be posted on MCIA website.

Our committee is working on establishing data to prove that funding and programs for Indian students is needed. Data to be used to write legislation.

MCIA has connected with the upcoming UNITY (United National Indian Tribal Youth) conference to take place in Washington, DC July 10 - 14, 2015

Title VII Indian Indian Education

Part I of the grant application is now open and in process. Anyone desiring to apply should now plan to do so next year, SY 15/16.

Ashley Minner is working with a representative of University of Baltimore School of Law to organize with a group of Baltimore County parents to apply for Indian Education funding at that time.

The representative, Mr. Parag Khandhar, will attend a future MCIA meeting to introduce himself and to see how he and/or his program might be of service to additional Indian communities in the State of Maryland.

Archaeology and Environment Committee Report

Commissioner Rico Newman

A conference call was held on January 27, 2015.

2015 American Indian Heritage Month (November) planning

ASM Annual Workshop in Archaeology will take place either 21, 28 March or 4 April, location TBD.

Archaeology Month (April) partnering potentials – Theme overall is “**Taverns**” however independent events around the state will cover American Indian sites/topics. Group decided not to pay ~\$200 to be full sponsors but rather to participate in other ways at different events around the state including seeking having a link to Archaeology Month placed on MCIA’s web page.

ASM Spring Symposium – 25 April at Howard Community College. Need to get further details.

ASM field school will be in late *May* at the Biggs Ford site.

Biggs Ford Site is an archaeological site near Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland. It is one of the few known, large late prehistoric Native American village sites near the Monocacy River. The site dates from the Middle to Late Woodland period. Our Appropriate Place of Repose group reburied remains from this site. This year we are seeking to participate in the field school. Participation includes tribal reps and Indian community members with a stringent push for youth to participate and get credit for it through both their schools and as community service credit if possible. Seeking tribes to circulate information among youth to see if any interest. ASM is excited about having tribal youth participation. Talks are part of the field school in addition to the digging. We are seeking tribal participants in discussions of the importance of plants, different kinds of plants, different native plant uses through time. This includes collecting and horticulture. We are seeking archaeologists and Indian people to participate in the discussion.

Charlie Hall, the MD State Terrestrial archaeologist has agreed to give a presentation at our April meeting regarding the fieldschool. Further info is available on the MHT web site and ASM’s website.

1. The 21st Annual 18th-Century Market Fair at Fort Frederick State Park is April 23– 26, 2015.
2. Environmental concerns of MCIA (*I just grabbed two articles not from the official permitting or regulatory entities. Seek root source data to evaluate for yourselves*):
 - a) **Conowingo Dam** permitting issues <http://www.baltimoresun.com/business/bs-bz-exelon-conowingo-20141208-story.html>
 - b) **Phosphorus regulations**
(http://www.bayjournal.com/article/newly_minted_maryland_governor_pulls_stronger_phosphorus_regs_hours_at_last)
3. **MHT / MCIA agreement document revisit** / Potential for 106 / NEPA course for MCIA / Indian community - The committee will request a Section 106 / NEPA process and stakeholder workshop for MCIA/tribal communities. We will also begin drafting letters for state and federal agencies clarifying what MCIA is interested in, how MCIA would like to be contacted, etc. We will provide information to tribes to also send their own letters defining their interests to state and federal agencies for both National Historic Preservation Act and National Environmental Policy Act consultation.

Seib and Rountree **book about southern Maryland Indians** is out now through MD Historical Society
<https://www.mdhs.org/books/indians-southern-maryland>

Economic and Social Welfare Committee

Commissioner Lisa Savoy

There has been no formal meeting between members at this time

The topic of establishing an American Indian Science and Engineering Society, AISES chapter for Maryland has been discussed between Committee Chair and Commissioner Rebecca Johnson-Stone during previous calls.

- a. Maryland University would probably be the best location for MD since they offer STEM programs/degrees.
- b. When speaking to local AISES members it was noted that the AISES Region 7 Conference will be held at Pembroke on February 28, 2015.
- c. Commissioner Rebecca Johnson-Stone has produced a PPT on the topic of AISES

A monitoring technique or process has not been determined as yet.

Health, Mental Health and Budget & Finance Committee

Commissioner Rebecca Johnson-Stone

No official meetings have been conducted. Having difficulty reaching offices and individuals whom specializes in health and mental health aspects of minorities. Commissioner Lisa Savoy has volunteered to help with this issue. Multiple resources have been reviewed but availability of updated guidelines are not available since 2011. Discussed having a roundtable with Native Americans in Maryland with their ideas and thoughts about health. Working with Commissioner Newman who will contact tribal leaders to see if we have enough interest. The Budget & Finance Committee has been tabled until clarification.

Unfinished Business

Chair Robert Killen

2015 Calendar of MCIA "Public Meetings"

April 6, 2015 DNR Annapolis

June 1 Cryptologic Museum

New Business

Charles County Board of Education Indian Education Program - Commissioner Lisa Savoy

There is funding available for a Indian Education Program. However there is no parent committee which is one of the regulations and no reaching out or documentation to parents for said Native children. She has Contacted Ms. Johnson about this issue. She will be doing further research into this.

Maryland State Parks Employment Information – Nita Settina, Superintendent DNR

Ms. Nita Settina spoke about employment opportunities at Maryland Park Service. She noted that working at the State Parks is about connecting people to State land and Maryland's heritage. They would like to diversify the workforce.

Maryland State Parks – Amanda Mock, Director of Administration

Ms. Amanda Mock gave a presentation on service recruit and hiring. She noted there are 71 State Parks covering nearly 141,000 acres. There are approximately 11.2 million annual visitors, largest owner of historic sites in the State, 230 full-time staff and 800+ seasonal staff. There annual operating budget for Fiscal 2015 is \$41 million.

There is opportunity for youth in two programs the Maryland conservation Jobs Corps (ages 14-17 years) and Maryland Conservation Corps (ages 17-25). They have seasonal contractual positions in which recruitment begins in late January. Full-Time classified positions include rangers, park technicians (maintenance) and administration. These positions have specific qualifications with experience and education. All recruitment is done on-line. The website: www.jobaps.com/MD/. You can contact her Amanda Mock @ 410-260-8178/amanda.mock@maryland.gov or Barbara Knisely @ 410-260-8169/Barbara.knisely@maryland.gov.

AI/AN Veterans Liaison – Juanita J. Mullen

Ms. Juanita J. Mullen is the American Indian Veterans Liason nationwide. She's a 20 year veteran retired. Department of Veterans is outreaching to Native Americans. According to DOD there are approximately 300,000 Native American Veterans alive today, but according to the Census there are only 157,000. DVA is trying to get tribal leaders to start tracking their veterans. The Federal Government only tracks what the Census says. The Federal Government focuses on federally recognized tribes but DVA focuses on federal, state and other interties. The DVA has an Advisory Committee for Minority Veterans and she makes sure American Indians are on the committee. She noted that Commissioner Rebecca Stone is on the Committee. Members term out once a year at the end of June. They can serve for two years. This is the Secretary's Advisory Committee. Ms. Mullen spoke about the different issues such as the mascots, etc. She noted her biggest thing is networking across the nation. The Advisory Committee need members from the State recognized tribes.

Administrative Director Colston suggested that Ms. Mullen speak to Mr. Jimmy Kwak, Director for Ethnic Commissions to put her in touch with the other ethnicities.

Governor's Office of Community Initiatives – Steven McAdams, Executive Director

On behalf of Governor Hogan thanks for your service. The Governor's door is open. In addition would like to work with the Commission on the Governor's agenda business development and the heron issue. He noted that he's just listening for now but in the future he will share some of the programs.

United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY)

UNITY is a wonderful opportunity for young people to identify. Conference will be held in July. Vice Chair Minner is a member of the planning committee.

Public Announcements

Next Meeting

June 1, 2015

Chair Robert Killen Adjourned at 8:50 pm