



CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

COMMISSION ON AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE AFFAIRS

Topic: Monthly Meeting

Date/Time: March 19, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Location: Zoom

Contact: Terry Sloan, Liaison

MEMBERS

Dr. Lloyd Lee
Alicia Ortega
Denise Zuni
Jaqueline Platero
Dr. Maggie George
Kimberly Gleason

Rebecca Riley (Chair)
Brittany Schulman (Vice Chair)
Thelma Antonio (Secretary)
Kyle Tapaha
Kim Benally
Lorenzo Jim

Minutes

- 1. Call to Order by Rebecca Riley, Chair. Roll call and invocation. Kim Gleason, Kyle Tapaha, Lloyd Lee, Maggie George, and Kim Benally were absent; no quorum was established; no decisions will be made.
2. Approval of meeting agenda. Quorum not established to approve agenda.
3. Approval of meeting minutes for February 19, 2021. Quorum not established to approve minutes and will table until April meeting.

- a) Guest Presentation: Alan Armijo, City of Albuquerque Director of Public Affairs, and Helen Maestas, City of Albuquerque Deputy Director of Constituent Services, Boards and Commissions - Commission Terms

Alan Armijo and Helen Maestas provided information on term limits and membership position that the commission need advisement on. The ordinance, Terms and Appointment were shared on screen. Santa Ana and Sandia Pueblos are still not represented. Mayor Keller's office will send a letter to the Pueblos to have individuals appointed. Dr. Lloyd Lee is in his second term which is the limit for commission membership. Three members are to be at large. Dr. Lee can be reclassified to be the Education representative; he was listed as an at-large commission member. The Environmental Representative is currently vacant.

Staggered Terms. The ordinance does not specify staggered terms. One way to achieve that is for three members to resign, and new appointments will then be staggered at 3 years. Another method is for three members to be appointed for 3 years, another three members for 2 years, and one member for 1-year terms to make staggered terms. At the onset of new members joining the commission a decision was to be made on its structure. If a member was selected for a one term and has been on board for 2 years is considered a consecutive term. Only time it doesn't count as a second term is if a member has served less than 1 year.

If anyone member misses 50% for 3 consecutive meetings, they can be removed from the board and replaced. The new member would also create a staggered position.

Tribal Appointments. There are no term limits for tribal appointments. Due to tribal leaders selecting according to their own terms can appoint individuals with the same terms. A letter is then sent to the tribes requesting for appointments to make them aware of the commission. Currently, there are tribal appointees that have been designated for three years terms (Isleta and Laguna). Mr. Armijo suggests that the Mayor will send the initial letter to tribal leaders and that the commission can send a follow up letter, due the government to government process.

Commissioner Zuni, Isleta tribal representative, received a term document stating that her term ends August 1, 2022, referenced to the in §§ 3, 2-6-6-3 of City of Albuquerque Twenty-third Council Ordinance, stating the date of appointment is for three years. Mr. Armijo pointed out that tribal appointments are not approved by the city council and tribes can appoint whoever and for whatever length of time they decide; the city is not involved on tribal appointments.

Commissioner Shulman asked if city board needed assistance in board recruitment. Ms. Maestas was appreciative for the postings. Balloon Museum and Albuquerque Museum have vacancies for certain city district are available. Board positions were changed due to the lack of diversity and would like to reflect the community. Mr. Armijo stated that an individual cannot be appointed to two boards and that information on board vacancy is on the ABQ website, Boards and Commission. Ms. Maestas offers to be of assistance at anytime requested.

b) Guest Presentation: **Amber Carrillo**, *Executive Director, All Pueblo Council of Governors*

Amber Carrillo, APCG

Ms. Carrillo is the new executive director for APCG and is from Laguna Pueblo. The All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG) includes 19 Pueblos and Ysleta del Sur in El Paso, Texas. APCG has six committees with members appoints: Health; Legislative; Education; Natural Resources, Elder and Youth committee. There is also an Advisory Committee with six Governors that vet issues to be presented to the council: Governor, Anthony Ortiz, San Felipe; Governor, Philip Perez, Nambe; Governor Brian Vallo, Acoma; Governor Val Pantea, Zuni; Governor John Antonio, Laguna; and Governor, Mark Mitchell, Tesuque.

Various subject matters and concerns evolve on a daily basis. APCG is organized with Articles of Association and a handbook. It is planning an event recognizing Secretary Haaland which was organized through the youth committee. It is supporting Georgene Louis who is running for district 1 for the vacant congressional seat.

One of the initiatives we are involved in is in section 106 consultation with state and federal agencies. Functioning as a facilitator of requests and inform the Governors of the issues. APCG is a policy arm as with Indian Cultural Center and marketing, 19 Pueblo District, and Santa Fe Indian School. APCG is working on environmental issues such as Chaco Canyon and Bandelier and working with lawyers, congressional delegates, and the Department of Interior. Much of the work is writing letters and policy briefs. It will also host a COVID-19 vaccination event which shows the need when 600 doses were available and within 4 hours' time, they were all scheduled.

Commissioner Schulman asked about a letter supporting a building to purchase from the city. Ms. Carrillo explained that the Julia Bernal of the Pueblo Action Alliance is advocating for the purchase of the old Saint Mary's school which may be available to create an Indian Center that is needed within the city. There is a move for a church reconciliation of Indigenous people and the building could be used for a center. Shirley Zuni, Native American Advisory Chairperson of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe was

instrumental in providing information. By getting her involved it could create leverage of support. There is an understanding that there is an offer to the church. APCG leadership offered that an ask would be to the church to donate the property. Commissioner Schulman explained there is a move in a support letter to stop the soliciting and the various groups can collaborate to purchase the property for an Indian Center.

Mr. Sloan offers his appreciation for APCG leadership on addressing the consultation issue and legislation work.

Ms. Carrillo informs the commissioners they are invited to the APCG's meetings and is interested in relation building. She relayed that in the month of May would be the most likely schedule that the commission may want to consider presenting to the Council.

c) CABQ Updates: **Dawn Begay**, *CABQ Native American Affairs Liaison* **Terry Sloan**, *CABQ Intergovernmental Tribal Liaison*

Dawn Begay

Dawn reads Isiah's report that shelters are allowing more people to stay, but The Good Shepard is no longer providing sheltering services, and the shelter on the westside is offering vaccinations and are expecting the Johnson & Johnson vaccine soon, but it is not keeping track of demographics of people getting the vaccine. Three wellness hotels are set up for people 60 years and older, or that are higher risk of COVID complications, and an isolation hotel for families and families experiencing homelessness. Lovelace Hospital is being transitioned to a Gateway center for homelessness services. Data research is hoped to gather data of Native American using services.

Rental Assistance is available through the city. \$24 million was provided for the city for eviction prevention assistance. MFA also covers mortgage assistance. The city has a call out to organizations for contract work to assist in completing applications for rental assistance or conducting outreach. First Nations or the Indian Center will be contacted. Agencies and organizations are partnering to conduct COVID testing and vaccination registration events at community center locations and eventually hard to reach communities. A Healthy Native virtual conference is scheduled for April 26 – 29 with the Native American Community Academy (NACA), Albuquerque Public Schools, National Indian Youth Council (NIYC), tribal behavior health departments and First Nations. The Mayor's office established a food agricultural workgroup to assess and evaluate community garden development and asset mapping, food insecurities, food waste and research economic models to local food distribution. The office of Equity and Inclusion has provided social justice training for 1,500 employees. Office of Indian Affairs is offering 7 training sessions and possible partnering with the Navajo Nation for a virtual hate crimes seminar in the summer due to current events happening in the country. It is also working on workforce development including a workforce diversity report with demographics and supporting internships with the city. The City of Albuquerque planning department is conducting assessments and seeks to include Indian communities.

Commission Schulman asked if there is a space to reach out to the commission. Dawn relayed to the public that the commission exists and possibly providing the same information at a director's meeting.

Commissioner Zuni mentions that the tribes receive some of the same type of funding for energy assistance and rental assistance. It would be a good idea to mention this to the public, for instance Isleta is aiding tribal members within a 50-mile radius. There should be outreach for other tribes as well.

Chair Riley asked about the Mayor's initiative on agriculture products and suggests that there are local farmers within the city and on reservation farmers that have produce to distribute.

Mr. Terry Sloan

Terry explains why other tribes are not involved which is those communities it was limited to border tribes; however, if other tribes are interested in joining the commission, they are welcome to send a request to the city council.

Terry informed the commission that a film company is searching for Native American filmmakers for an education/training program by providing outreach. It would like to know if there are any Native American film festivals scheduled.

IHS (Indian Health Service) is providing COVID vaccinations, call the following numbers: (505) 252-0482 and (505) 238-4618 to make an appointment. Terry spoke to an IHS official and asserted his disappointment with the fact the urban Indian population have been ignored for the opportunity to get COVID vaccinations. The conversation resulted in the call out for Native Americans to receive the vaccination.

The media issue is on-going, and Terry is monitoring the launch of media access and sites. He suggests that a media policy and procedures be created.

The American Recovery Plan (ARP) stipulates funding for new business creation, or to assist current businesses that had lost revenue.

- d) Public Comment
No public comments were received.
- e) Discussion and Approval on New Action Items

Discussions and Approval on changes CAIANA Member Terms

Since we haven't established quorum we can discuss issues but cannot make decisions.

Most of the members have end dates of 2023. If anyone was interested in shortening their term, it still would have to go through an entire process. There are various end dates of many members. It would not impact the tribal representatives.

Commissioner Ortega provided information on the transfer of her commission position to the current APCG Executive Director. She has reached out to the APCG Chairman to inform him a change should be forthcoming.

There are five member's terms that will expire next year and two for 2023. There may not be a need to transition any members and wait for next year, since there are currently 12 commission members. Perhaps it can be included in the strategic plan. Chair Riley will write up a brief summary.

Commissioner Jim expressed the cultural position role and would like clarity of this unique, broad role. While he is settling in the role he will provide cultural updates and announce events. He provided information on the Healthy Native conference that targets youth. It was the youth that selected items of concern such as, substance use, language and culture, physical health, and bringing people together. He would like to see the media site become a resource site. Youth had requested that guest speakers and

presentations for the youth would be essential to learning. Opioid prevention and education are upcoming sessions offered to the public. He is involved in a distribution of care packages to medicine men for appreciation and for safety. He suggests a letter from the commission would be a nice gesture.

Chair Riley provided Commissioner Jim with a recap on the commission's year as it responded to the pandemic. He can create a subcommittee and involve relevant individuals to address cultural issues that are good fits. The commission will support initiatives the cultural committee determines.

Terry mentioned that Commissioner Jim can create the position description as he moves along and from his experience to determine what should take place or promoted. Commissioner Jim is welcomed to develop this important position with his perspective.

4. Old Business

Commission Sector and Sub-Committee Updates

a. Media Communications (Chair R. Riley, M. George, and K. Gleason)

Commission members are asked to send a brief bio and photo for the website.

Chair Riley presents that the website is live and provides a screen shot of examples of its structure with links, photos, and tabs for subject matters. There is a call out for commissioner photos and a brief bio.

b. Commissioner Search (Chair R. Riley, M. George, and A. Ortega)

A letter is being prepared for follow up for recruitment. Terry will contact tribes and inform leadership of positions available for appointments. He suggests a reconfirmation letter when leadership changes over.

Data Subcommittee (B. Schulman, K. Benally, and T. Antonio)

The subcommittee met and created a list of information from the Department of Equity and Inclusion and organizations, including the Indian Chamber of Commerce for any data that may be available to share.

c. Next meeting agenda

Native Women Lead has been invited to present at the April meeting. Commissioner Ortega will confirm by email. Native American Voter's Alliance is also scheduled to make a presentation. Commissioner Jim requested to be put on the agenda to announce cultural resource updates in the city.

Commissioner Jim introduced Tehya Barber, a student representative in a youth group who is interested in joining the commission meetings.

5. Adjournment at 8:30 pm

Commission Chair:  Date: 4/16/21