

MINUTES

Leech Lake Twin Cities Local Indian Council Meeting

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe 1308 E Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 5-7:30pm



Agenda

1. Call Meeting to Order after dinner

2. Referendum Informational Meeting

ROLL CALL:

Term ends 2018

X	Richard White
X	Christine Roy

Term ends 2019

X	Norma Jean Smith
X	Shannon Nordby
X	Jean Howard
X	Lisa Bellanger

Attendance: approximately 62 band members

Minutes

2. Referendum Informational Meeting

- Each LIC member introduced themselves and said a few words
- Richard called Chairperson Faron Jackson to the floor who welcomed everyone
- Bob Gogleye and Referendum Information Team took the floor to present the referendum information
 - This referendum is just to approve the project. Approving the construction will happen later
 - Votes cast will be binding on the council
 - This meeting is to inform band members of the project
 - Ballot was sent by mail
 - We're running this referendum like a general election
 - Many managers and directors were present to help answer questions
 - Issues with the current Palace Casino
 - Old HVAC system unable to handle the smoke
 - Wiring infrastructure is less than ideal
 - Net income is decreasing
 - Newer, more modern casinos are being built by competitors
 - Does not draw people in from farthest possible distances
 - On the intersection where a new casino may be built there will be higher volume car traffic
 - The old building could be turned into a dormitory or a homeless shelter
 - A new casino could more than double the jobs available
- Q: What is the right amount of debt so that we aren't just paying off debt? There is a plan for expansion in the feasibility study. The plan is to stay within budget, as shown in the feasibility study.
- Q: How does the new casino compare with Northern Light in size? How long until done? Just a little smaller than Northern Lights in gaming, similar in hotel rooms. The goal is to complete this architect work, financing, construction etc, to be completed in summer 2019.
- Q: Will the Palace continue to be used? Yes. The building has a lot of value, easier to handle if there isn't so much traffic, including smoking in the building.
- Q: Will there be training for improved customer service? How would this benefit urban Natives? Who will loan us the money? Customer service is a huge thing to tackle. A new property would really help to help lift customer service. Taking ownership of our work is something Leech Lake is eager to develop. A new casino would help to fund resource management, education ie scholarships, tribal development, reservation

services, tribal police, Twin Cities Office, LICs and powwows. Every single program we have is funded most by gaming. Funding would come through a loan from Shakopee and Leech Lake has had preliminary discussions with them. There are other financial institutions that are interested in competing and if there is a lower interest rate somewhere else, we aren't locked in with Shakopee.

- Q: All casinos all have Playworks. Will there be Playworks? Why don't gamblers get free rooms and other perks? The plan to make this casino is for the future and the kids to come. *UNANSWERED*
- Q: What are the thoughts on the US Government legalizing gambling across the US? We will wait and see and continue to support gaming lobbyists.
- Call Leech Lake Gaming Directors, Tribal Council members if you have ideas or questions you want to share
- Faron Jackson closed out the meeting by summarizing the discussion tonight, thanked the gaming board for coming down and presenting, and thanked the Local Indian Council for sharing their time tonight.
- Richard White said go home with your thoughts and come with your decision to vote Tuesday, May 16 from 8-8 at the Minneapolis American Indian Center.
- A drawing was held for a smart TV and an iPad

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shannon Nordley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Twin Cities Local Indian Council Secretary