




# SENECA-CAYUGA NATION

## CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE MEETING

|             |                                |                       |                                |                    |                 |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| <b>DATE</b> | Monday,<br>October 30,<br>2023 | <b>TIME<br/>PLACE</b> | 6pm CDT<br>Tribal HQ +<br>Zoom | <b>FACILITATOR</b> | Carrie Kneeland |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|

| MEMBERS                         |                |                             |   |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Roberta Smith</b>            | Present        | <b>Scott B Goode</b>        | Present later - Zoom  |
| <b>Carrie Kneeland</b>          | Present - Zoom | <b>Angela Anglen Kelley</b> | Present   |
| <b>Natalie Dixon</b>            | Present        | <b>Earlyne Gentry</b>       | Present   |
| <b>Kristi Birdsong Blansett</b> | Present        | <b>Jo Lynn Gentry</b>       | Present later - Zoom  |
| <b>Yvonne Perryman-Matthews</b> | Present later  | Others Present              | <b>Vincent Blile</b><br><b>Dennis Sisco – later,</b><br><b>Zoom</b> |

| TIME      | ITEM   | OWNER   |
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| 6:00pm    | <b>Called to Order</b> - Quorum established at the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's regular Constitution Committee meeting.  | Carrie  |
| 6:02-05pm | <b>Committee begins discussion of the approval of previous minutes. Scott, Jo Lynn, Dennis, Yvonne enter meeting within minutes of each other. All parties present prior to the vote taken for approval of minutes.</b>  |         |
|           | <b>Approval of Previous Minutes</b> – October 23, 2023 minutes spoken to and discussed, several word choice/grammar corrections made on the record – Committee did check-in with a member who had not received minutes, technological concerns were addressed, and proper service was ensured for all Committee members as well as to Secretary-Treasurer Kim Guyett, Committee member did confirm | Natalie |

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|                      | <p>that they are receiving emails on the minutes email thread -<br/>minutes <b>APPROVED</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>CERTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>On <u>10/30/2023</u> the minutes of <u>10/23/2023</u> were approved<br/>by unanimous committee consent. Copy emailed to BC Secretary<br/>on <u>11/04/2023</u>.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attest:</b> <br/><b>Natalie Dixon, Secretary</b></p>   |       |
|                      | <p><b>Housekeeping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Roll Call</li> <li>ii. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes – OCT 23 2023</li> <li>iii. Confirmation of next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Town Hall – NOV 4 2023</li> <li>ii. Regular meeting - NOV 6 2023</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |       |
| --                   | <p><b>Planned Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housekeeping</li> <li>• Finalizing Town Hall Meeting</li> <li>• Any Other Business</li> <li>• No BC Meeting Tomorrow</li> <li>• Next Regular Constitution meeting 11/06/2023 @ 6pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Back to every 2 weeks schedule</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |       |
| <b>Minutes Begin</b> |  |       |
| 6:17pm               | <p><b>Committee reviews BC Meeting Notes taken by Natalie on 10/24/2023, read out for all members. Discussion ensues including clarification from those present at both this and that meeting.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Points Made – confirms much previous discussion amongst Constitution Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Constitution needs to have enough vagueness to allow for business to be conducted, but still protect the rights of General Council and the health of the Nation against political intrigue or bad-faith actors</li> <li>○ A functioning Grievance Committee with a Code of Ethics, smaller quorums for Special Meetings of the General Council that can be called by Grievance Committee, possible 3<sup>rd</sup> step of a mail-in ballot ratification for the Removal of Officers</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |       |

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|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Looking at the further actions we can take regarding judicial sovereignty (possible intertribal crime court, outlined powers to Grievance Committee, SCN-only tribal court) there is a distinct need for an Attorney General type position who can pick-up criminal investigations that the Grievance Committee may or may not depending on their future outlined powers</li> <li>○ Intertribal court is in talks right now, this is a benefit to us because it does not allow for an elected political administration to defund a stand-alone SCN court system over political issues, also allows for cheaper implementation (funded thru fed grants currently) of a court system that will still be culturally-sensitive in a way that CFR court is not <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jack Brill no longer the prosecutor for this court, has not been for a few months, replaced by Kyle Alderson is a former DA and now the AG for this consortium</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Currently there are 3 different ways the reaffirmation of the Seneca-Cayuga Reservation may play out in regards to McGirt v Oklahoma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ AG and DA being sued in Northern District of Oklahoma Federal Court</li> <li>▪ Department of Interior including Assistant Secretary Bryan Newland has been contacted, a brief sent to the Department of Justice to uphold reservation status</li> <li>▪ Misdemeanor case in Ottawa County of Seneca-Cayuga tribal member is going to Oklahoma Court of Appeals, if dismissed it will go to the Federal Courts</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Further discussion on the complications of a stand-alone versus intertribal court system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Concerns include cross deputization across 9 jurisdictions of law enforcement, subjection to political funding</li> <li>▪ Can be done now with a historical resolution banning court and/or law enforcement creation that was rescinded during Annual Meeting 2023</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Discussion over the need for a Committee regarding judiciary, the possibility of the Grievance Committee intersection in initial development</li> <li>○ No ongoing lawsuit has been served to the Nation as of this meeting</li> </ul> |       |

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|           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Natalie to email Kim Guyett regarding Enrollment and the presence of the Constitution Committee               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Possible date for Committee includes 11/14 @ 3pm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |       |
|           | <p><b>Secretary provides draft presentation for tribal citizens present at November 4, 2023 Town Hall. Committee collaborates on presentation, Secretary makes changes according to Committee suggestions.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Committee agrees upon the following premises for a future Constitution, specific wording subject to change as needed               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grievance Committee has power to call Special Meetings – not currently clear, power currently seen in Constitution Article X &amp; Ordinance Article 2</li> <li>○ Vacancies – elected officers are immediately sworn in using an Oath of Office, can be sworn in by Chief, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chief, or a seated Faithkeeper.</li> <li>○ Code of Ethics</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Discussion over different matters to be included for Town Hall discussion               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Code of Laws</li> <li>○ Conflict of Interests and/or Financial Disclosures (incl. campaign funding)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |       |
| 7:51-55pm | <p><b>Angela, then Roberta and Vincent Blile leave the meeting while Committee continues to discuss financial disclosures</b></p>  |       |
|           | <p><b>Next Town Hall meeting topics discussed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Qualifications of Officers named as important article</li> </ul>  |       |
|           | <p><b>Natalie to email Kim Guyett regarding the Constitution Committee coming to the Enrollment Committee meeting on 11/08/2023</b></p>  |       |
|           | <p><b>Working document review and discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Natalie to create new link that Committee members can suggest edits to, lets Secretary retain a master copy for group meeting edits.</li> </ul>  |       |
| 8:11pm    | <p><b>Meeting Adjourned by Group Consensus</b></p>   |       |