

WHITERIVER COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of May 25, 2000 Meeting

PRESENT: Ron Troutman, Navajo County Programs
Grace Pooley, Coordinator Native American Programs
Linda DeClay, Tribal Education Director
Kathleen Norton, 21st Century Community Learning Grant
Sherwin Wool, NPC Student
Nelda Golden, TLC Instructor
Brittneye Martin, NPC Student - Absent on Fire Duty
Denise Massey, Center Advisor - excused

Ron opened the meeting with a statement of appreciation for their attendance, and requested that each person introduce themselves.

Ron updated the committee with the announcement of the selection of Laurel Padilla as the new Center Manager. He stated that the selection committee felt that Laurel was an excellent choice for the position. Ron also stated that the Center Advisor position, being vacated by Denise Massey, was advertised and applications were being accepted. The selection process would take place in June, 2000.

Sherwin Wool, who has been assisting with Center coverage since Nancy Kessay's resignation, has agreed to continue as temporary help to assist the new Center Manager and until a new advisor is appointed.

Ron presented copies of the Fall 1999 and Spring 2000 registration statistics which showed an increase in head count and FTSE for Whiteriver. Whiteriver had the largest FTSE of all the Navajo County Centers.

Grace raised the question to Linda DeClay if the Tribal Education Department felt as though NPC was in line with meeting Tribal Education Department goals. Linda responded that she felt the meeting at Honda with the Tribe, NAU, and NPC was a very positive step towards improving working relationships and felt good about the future for students at Whiteriver. Grace agreed with Linda's statement and reinforced the value of the cooperative meeting due to statements she had received.

Grace felt it was important for NPC to be visible to the residents as a constant reminder of NPC's presence. She plans to attend as many functions, as possible, on the reservation this summer and distribute NPC information.

Instructor Nelda Golden raised the question as to what could be done about receiving their textbooks so late at the start of the semester. Ron stated that there was a plan to reorganize the bookstore operation for the next school year but at this time had no details on the reorganization but was in hopes this would improve the situation.

Kathleen Norton suggested that it might be beneficial to allow students to pre-register at or near the end of the regular class for the advanced section of the class in which they are currently completing. It was noted that students have the early registration option.

Kathleen concern was that many students inform the instructor of their intention to enroll in next semester's class, but wait until first night of class to do so. Running the risk of that class being cancelled due to low enrollment.

It was discussed that this has been a continuing problem and that maybe the instructors could help by encouraging students to take advantage of the early registration or by stressing the importance of registering before the first class time.

Linda DeClay stated that the Tribal Education Department wants to have a degree plan on file for each new student who applies to them for educational assistance. The need and importance of Degree Contract was discussed and noted that this will be stressed to the new Advisor when selected.

Ron distributed copies of the floor plan for the new Whiteriver Center. All members felt, once constructed, the enrollment and community support for NPC would greatly improve.

A date for the next meeting was discussed and agreed it would be appropriate to have a short meeting in August, when the new staff was on board.

Next meeting date was set for August 23, 2000 at 12:00 p.m. in Whiteriver.