

Gadii'ahi/To'koi Chapter Government

• P O Box 1318 • Shiprock, NM 87420 • Phone (505) 368-1070 • Fax (505) 368-1072 • gadiiahi@navajochapters.org •

Gadii'ahi/To'koi Planning
March 9, 2017

AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Invocation
- III. Reading/Approval of Agenda
- IV. Reading /Approval of Planning Meeting Minutes: February 2, 2017
- V. Guest
 1. Alisa Ellison-Capacity Builders
- VI. Old Business
 1. N-57 Road Improvement
 2. 195 Acres
- VII. New Business
 1. Financial Report for February 2017
 2. Resolutions
 - a. Health Representative
 - b. Renew Housing Discretionary Plan of Operation
 - c. Chapter land withdrawal resolution (current site)
 - d. Approve budget transfers
 1. Auto Tech
 2. Taxes
 3. Senior Citizens Building
- VIII. Others/Open
 1. None
- IX. Reports/Announcements
 1. Farm utilization
 2. Site master plan
 3. PTF Funding
 4. Irrigation Rehab
 5. CLUPC Training
- X. Next Planning Meeting: April 6, 2017
- XI. Adjournment

Chapter Officials

Harry Descheene, President
Arnold Nelson, Vice-President
Sylvia Tyler, Secretary/Treasurer

Council Delegate

Amber Crotty

Grazing Rep

Douglas Deswood

Farm Board Rep

Gilbert Harrison

Chapter Admin

Lynda Hayes, CSC
Janice Biggs, AMS

Health Rep

Maggie Johnson

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March 9, 2017

Minutes

- I. Call Meeting to Order: at 4:01 pm by Harry Descheene
- II. Invocation: by Harry Descheene
- III. Reading/Approval of Agenda
Motion to accept by Arnold Nelson, second by Sylvia Tyler; Vote: **04-00-01**
- IV. Reading /Approval of Planning Meeting Minutes: February 2, 2017
Read by Harry Descheene. Motion to accept by Arnold Nelson, second by Sylvia A. Tyler; Vote: **04-00-01**
- V. Guest
 1. Alisa Ellison-Capacity Builders: Ms. Ellison asked at the last chapter meeting to be on the regular Chapter meeting agenda each month. Mr. Gilbert Harrison, Sr. mentioned Capacity Builders funding expired and will renew their grant application. Lynda Hayes also mentioned Capacity Builders used the six Northern chapters in their last grant to update Chapters land use plans, instead they started having trainings.
- VI. Old Business
 1. N-57 Road Improvement: Tabled at last meeting. Harry Descheene clarified the road improvement is on the dirt road that goes up on the hill and beyond, not the dirt road that begins at the end of the pavement. The area that's disputed is too narrow for a two lane. He asked for the name of the President for Grazing Officials and their next meeting. He was informed it's Lawrence Gould, Newcomb Chapter and next meeting is the first Thursday in April 2017.
 2. 195 Acres: Mr. Gilbert Harrison, Sr. reported all legal documents and surveys need to be done before withdrawal and a surveyor identified; however, the Navajo Nation Resource Development Committee changed that. In order to get the 195 acres quickly, we can use the "withdrawal for determination" process; which requires a survey and a letter addressed to Mr. Mike Holana, Navajo Nation Water Land Department. In the future, if we want to put housing in the area, we can deal with environmental then and the Grazing consent comes after. Lynda Hayes said she touched base with Jonathan Davis, ASU, who helped Dilcon Chapter update their Community Land Use Plan and he's willing to help us free of charge and to use Gadii'ahi/To'koi Chapter in his dissertation. The land use plan needs to be updated before we apply for funds. Gilbert Harrison, Sr. mentioned Bobby Charley claims the 195 acre site is his and began plowing without a land use permit. Research revealed he does not have grazing rights. According to BIA, he has no legal holdings. Lucinda Lee, previous Grazing Official worked with three permit holders with no livestock who were willing to sign off on it. You have to have a permit, livestock and tally count for the last two years in order for it to be honored. Again, Mr. Harrison, Sr. reiterated if the Chapter is serious to acquire the 195 acres, we can use the "withdrawal for determination" process. First, determine where the location, some archeological sites and Mesa Verde cactus exist and second, the Chapter needs to agree and compose a letter to Mr. Holana. Only the chapters can use this process and only for chapter use.
- VII. New Business
 1. Financial Report for February 2017: The Balance Sheet – Detail combining balance sheet and statement of revenues and expenditures – summary combining statement of revenue and expenditure from February 1, 2017 through February 28, 2017 provided.
 2. Resolutions
 - a. Health Representative: Two candidates submitted their letter of interest. Ms. Dorothy Begay and Ms. Carletta Lee.

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- b. Renew Housing Discretionary Plan of Operation
- c. Chapter land withdrawal resolution (current chapter site)
- d. Approve budget transfers
 1. Auto Tech
 2. Taxes
- e. New Senior Citizens Center Building

VIII. Others/Open

1. None

IX. Reports/Announcements

1. Farm utilization: Gilbert Harrison, Sr. reported there are two big irrigation projects. We received 56% of NM share on the water settlement with the State of NM. Five percent (5%) of all the water is running down to our community and during the summer, we can take out 2% water. The irrigation ditch is so old that Congress approved \$23 million, but due to inflation, we will hit \$30 million when completed. One project identified is the diversion where the water comes off the bed from Nenahnezad and Upper Fruitland. The intent is to make sure we have good water. Another is the huge pipes (siphons) that go under ground are also aging (70+ years) and will be the first to be replaced. In Shiprock, on the west side of the bridge, there use to be a pipe that went under water and came out by the High School, but somewhere the pipes rusted through, so that's one of the priorities; however, the problem is bureaucracy. The irrigation project was never properly withdrawn, now using funds from DC, starting with Upper Fruitland to Hogback to here, legal surveys and environmental studies going through now. With federal funds, the project can't begin until this is completed.

2. Site master plan

3. PTF Funding: Through the efforts of Tom Chee, B&F approved \$4.5 million from the Permanent Trust Fund for Northern Agency. Mr. Chee is in support of revitalizing our farms. There are three projects; one is to identify alternative water sources i.e. ponds or pumping stations to get water into the system. Engineers are taking a look at this. The cost estimate starts from \$100K to \$1 million. Area 7 is 2,700 acres; in the early 60's, Navajo Nation acquired the land. This is where NAPI got started and raised 2000-3000 sheep. When NAPI moved to Farmington, the NAPI Board turned the land withdrawal back to the Navajo Nation. That piece of land is withdrawn and working with the Navajo Nation Land Department to put under Farm Board. We made a visit to Area 7; all the old ditches are gone. If we are going to develop it for future use, what do we need? The irrigation ditches need to be redone and is there enough water? If there are plans for housing, certain things are needed. What do we need to make it a viable farming area? Land needs to be leveled, fence needs to be fixed, and irrigation system needs to be re-established. What happens after the study is being looked at. Will the land be divided into individual plots or will it be leased like the pumpkin patch. The monies that come from that can be put back onto the irrigation maintenance. Shiprock passed a resolution stating all that land north of the river is theirs. You can't claim it, you have to meet, negotiate and get RDC approval. The State of New Mexico will monitor the water usage. All the farms we have, 20% are used. If this continues, all the water allocated to us will end up in Phoenix or Las Vegas. It's our right to use the water. How can we help people revitalize their farms? Suggestion: Chapter can provide internship for two to five kids throughout the summer and perhaps work with NAPI.

4. Irrigation Rehab

5. April 12, 2017: CLUPC Training at Sheepsprings Chapter. Harry Descheene, Lynda Hayes and Arnold Nelson will attend.

X. Next Planning Meeting: April 6, 2017 @ 4:00 pm

XI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm. Motion by Sylvia Tyler, second by Arnold Nelson; Vote: **02-00-01**

*Submitted by: Sylvia Tyler
3/14/17*

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