



**City of Saxman
Totem and Tourism Committee
Meeting
March 14, 2023
4:30 PM**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Mayor Seludo called the meeting to order at 4:12 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Frank Seludo
Vice Mayor Billy Joe Thomas
Committee Member Norman Natkong Sr.
Committee Member Woody Watson

ABSENT

Committee Member Rick Makua
Committee Member Denny Blair
Committee Member Gabriella Blair

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Consideration of the Agenda

A recommendation was made to use the agenda as guide. Motion Passed.

Motion made by Committee Member Watson, Seconded by Vice Mayor Thomas.
Voting Yea: Mayor Seludo, Vice Mayor Thomas, Committee Member Natkong Sr., Committee Member Watson

Old Business

1. Report on progress of totem carving

Background: The Administrator is submitting a report on the progress of totem re-carving projects.

The City Administrator provided an update on the totem carving progress through a written and verbal report. She mentioned she was working on an estimate with Samsung Tug and Barge. Log will be moved from current location to where the carver Jon Rowan is in Klawock to begin work.

2. Chief Ebbits Pole

Background: Update on the Chief Ebbits Pole. Robert Mills would like clarification on the specification that the pole be carved all the way around.

Robert Mills believes he has found a standing core for this pole. The question came up of a hollowed out back for this pole? The Council directed the City Administrator to respond via email to inform him that 3/4 carved is fine and we request that the pole is hollowed out. This needs to be specified and changed in the RFP. We can hollow out the back on both of them.

3. Oyster Pole Art Creation Agreement

Background: Discussion and Review of the Art Creation Agreement.

The City Administrator mentioned that she was working on an estimate with Samsung Tug and Barge. Log will be moved from current location to where the carver Jon Rowan is in Klawock to begin work and that we inform the carver of the hollowed out back on this pole.

New Business

4. Carving Center Rental

Background: The Mayor will present a request to rent the Carving Center.

The current Carving Center Rental Policy is outdated and the City Administrator requested that the Council schedule a meeting/workshop to update the policy before moving forward with this agenda item. Mayor Seludo asked the City Administrator to send out a message to schedule this meeting. Mayor Seludo will inform the inquired applicant of the discussion. The inquired applicant is requesting the use of the Carving Center to work on a 12ft pole and is willing to pay rent. The log is currently outside of the Carving Center covered up. As long as it does not conflict with future projects and current leases in place then the Council will update the policy and reach out to the inquired applicant to move forward with this process.

5. Cape Fox Tours Proposed Projects

Background: Discussion of parking lot schematic presented by CFT along with a design for signage throughout the park during the tour season.

Adrianna Oliva-Parks, the Manager of Tour Development & Transportation with Cape Fox Tours attended this meeting and presented two proposed projects.

1. Signage Design throughout Totem Park and any other areas the City of Saxman would like to have included in the project.

Adrianna mentioned that CFT would purchase the signage and they could be removed in the winter months. She presented two examples to the Council for their review. Other signage ideas are encouraged. One concern is that this idea was brought up a few years back and was voted down. There is a concern of the totem park becoming commercialized. Totem park is kept as authentic.

Lead time would be estimated towards the end of April.

Discussion:

Vice Mayor Thomas requested a sample be presented of the proposed designs on the signage throughout the totem park - a visual for the rest of the Council to review and vote on. He also questioned if there could be a centralized informational panel that would not be next to each of the totems.

Mayor Seludo does not agree with putting City Logo on the signage as we need to specify who owns the pole and clarify that the City of Saxman is the caretaker of the poles.

The Council requested that Adrianna receive input from President Joe Williams with the Organized Village of Saxman. And that she present samples for the council to review and vote on. Further discussion will be held at the next Regular Council Meeting on March 15, 2023, for the other Council Members to discuss.

2. Schematic for the Parking Lot including usage of the lot and flow of traffic for the months of April to October.

Adrianna presented a visual to the Council for their review.

Discussion:

Vice Mayor Thomas: Insight on this topic for Council Watson and Natkong SR - Adrianna has worked in transportation for years and she does a great job. She would be one to know in regards of this department due to her experience and years in this work.

Adrianna mentioned that she can actually bring down a few vehicles and show the Council in person to give a better idea of this proposed project before moving forward.

She also mentioned that the Tour Hosts will most likely move into the tour shack so they can actively be in the park this season which would help implement this new proposed project. Obtaining Wifi might have to be a priority for the shack if this is the case.

We have a regular meeting tomorrow and this can be brought up to the rest of the council for discussion. This proposed project will be presented to the council on 3.15.2023 and the administrative staff will take direction from the Council on the next steps.

Councilor Watson: It would nice to see this become successful and work in the way proposed. My concern is the independents following the new schema.

Councilor Natkong SR: It might be time for a change. Maybe we could send out flyers to see what the community thinks.

Council Comments

Mayor Seludo requested we move Council Comments to the Building and Ordinance Committee Meeting.

Adjournment

There was a motion made to adjourn. Motion Passed.

Motion made by Committee Member Watson, Seconded by Committee Member Natkong Sr..
Voting Yea: Mayor Seludo, Vice Mayor Thomas, Committee Member Natkong Sr., Committee Member Watson

Meeting adjourned at 5:11 PM.

Frank H. Seludo, Mayor

Lori Richmond, City Clerk