

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Gathering of Native American Veterans

Wednesday, March 8th, 2017

## Event Committee Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm – 9 pm

Present: Macky, Joe P, Theresa, Marco, Nick, Emily, Lisa, Jodi, Joe Y, Phil, Shiela, Eve, Angel, Crystal, and Nicki

### Old Business:

- Veterans voted 'yes' on making Nick Vice Commander to Macky
- Reviewing a few more changes to the National Gathering 'Save the Date' flier; floated idea of adding 'in a native way' to the end of the title
- Having native veterans represent on Memorial Day in the parade

### New Business:

- Adding more sponsors for this year/fundraising
- New ways to connect with possible volunteers
- Code Talkers at the event

### Meeting Topics:

#### 1) Special Guests and Fundraising:

Charles Norman Shay is coming, there is the possibility of having four second wave Code Talkers for the event as well. Fundraising is needed for them, and there is the possibility some of their tribes might sponsor them coming. PNC Bank is in as a sponsor, Key Bank will be meeting at the end of the month with a possibility of \$2,500. \$10,000 is needed for tables, chairs, tents, and staging. Joe will have a spreadsheet of projected costs next meeting. Possibility of a BBQ and blues event/benefit concert at the gallery as a fundraising alternative to a dinner.

#### 2) Video Crew:

Jeff Spitz from Colombia College will be the head of the video crew, Joe and Emily will be meeting with them soon as well as the photography team to work out specifics.

#### 3) Volunteers:

Nick brought up the possibility of partnering with Hands On: Suburban Chicago for volunteers. They have access to large volunteer databases and can even do 'job postings' for volunteers with specialized knowledge. Deal breaker might be that there is a fee of around \$200 to sign up with them, although that would be for access for a full year (possibly could help with connecting to volunteers for other events).

Jodi brought up the March 23<sup>rd</sup> volunteer and job fair, and connecting to organizations like VFW with presentations to help with sponsorships and volunteers. It was expressed that organizations that are not serving veterans but would like to be at the event can have a booth for \$150 for the weekend.

4) Meals

John will be cooking for all meals, Lisa is seeing what Tyson might be able to provide in the way of meat products to bring costs down. DryHootch will have coffee again and Jack from PepsiCo talked to Joe about water/snacks/beverages. Theresa brought up Lester's bison farm and the possibility of bison burgers. Jimmy's Red Hots will be providing hot dogs for lunch Saturday again.

5) Event Schedule

The revised event schedule was discussed, as well as where the Code Talkers might fit into it (Saturday, 3/4). Possibility of charging the general public to hear the Code Talkers presentation to balance costs brought up to be decided on a later date. After clean up Sunday veterans will be invited back to Trickster again for food.

6) Documentary

Newest draft of documentary was shown; feedback was given on music, archival footage, and lighting for Emily to fix.

7) Before Next Meeting:

Reach out to different organizations and people for possible sponsorships and volunteer opportunities.

**Next Meeting is April 12<sup>TH</sup> at 6:30pm.**

The meetings will be the second Wednesday of each month.