**NORTHLAND PIONEER COLLEGE**

**Community Outreach, Whiteriver Center**

Meeting Minutes

*November 2, 2017*

*Time:* 9:00am

* *Present:* 
  + Marilou Areno, Dishchibikoh
  + Jessica Beach, First Things First
  + Lynell Burnette, WMAT TERO
  + G. Hall, WMAT TERO
  + Jerome Kasey, WMAT Tribal Councilmember
  + Leola Larzelere, WMAT Head Start
  + Derrick Leslie, OHE
  + Jeremiah Minjarez, Community member
  + Tim Webster, WMAPD

* Jeanne Swarthout, Mark Vest, Jason Foutz, Dawn Johnson, Ralph Mahkovec, April Horne

*Meeting Location:* 720 S Chief, Whiteriver, Arizona

Whiteriver Center Room 118

1. **Introductions, Jeanne Swarthout**
2. **Recommendations and comments from Community Members**

* **Jeanne Swarthout:**
  + We like to touch base with each community each year – what should we be doing, what don’t we do well, etc. for Strategic Planning Committee
  + It’s important that we hear what you [community] has to say
* **Jerome**
  + Missing credits – petitions 4 years.
  + How many other students are missing credits – is there a way we can streamline this issue?
  + Where is the main campus? Students have issues getting a hold of the “main campus”
* **Jeanne**
  + Most of our services are in the Holbrook office, Records/Financial Aid/Business – should be accessible from any location
  + Clearly these offices are not being easily accessible for this location
* **Jerome**
  + Tribe and NPC tried to get masonry course work here in Whiteriver
  + Tribe is trying to create partnership to have those courses offered here (construction)
  + NPC courses can be pipeline for working on Miner Flat Dam and water pipeline tribal workers
  + GED program: people are finding it hard to get enrolled here
  + Lack of consistency of Center Manager here in WRV Center – the community needs someone that is permanent. They need to become familiar with the students here
* **Jeanne**
  + We don’t have consistent contacts who have worked on Miner Flat Dam to know where programs stand
  + The building where NPC was going to host the training/classes has been condemned
* **Jerome**
  + What do we need to do?
* **Jeanne**
  + We need to know what skillset you need in the community
  + We don’t see a commitment from the board to build a skill center down here – it would have to be a partnership between the Tribe and NPC
* **Jerome**
  + Right now is a good time to open those conversations
  + Once Tribal leadership sees this, they may see the opportunity in this
* **Mark**
  + Is there a timeframe for the new hospital?
* **Jerome**
  + We are in the site selection – Phase 1
  + Once that is done, once appropriations are passed, the building starts and it should be a 5-8 year project
    - The infrastructure, wires, sewers,
  + When we first had a discussion in 2011,
  + Now we have two projects – Miners Flat Dam and hospital
* **Tim**
  + That’s a long term class – long term trades
* **Jeanne**
  + I don’t see the need for these skills going away
* **Jerome**
  + Once the water infrastructure is laid out - the water line will run from Miner Flat to Cibecue
  + We are looking for people to be certified
    - How to water treatment, how to take care of pumps
  + The tribe is now growing in a Southwest area – the water pipes are now running towards to Cibecue
* **Jeanne**
  + Cheryl was in our initial water discussion, Mr. Waters was here as well
* **Jerome**
  + Since there are new people, Colbert Burnette, who are interested we can make meetings happen and bring the idea back into the table
* **Jeanne** 
  + We have a 20-month interval before we can make this happen
* **Jerome**
  + We need to put in place some mechanism or something in writing that will keep this moving forward that is besides the political pressure of the tribe
  + Tribal council has changed twice
  + Gila River community has a business and an infrastructure plan – what they are working on today is what they were working on 4 years ago
  + We need to have agreements in place that will withstand changeover
* **Jeanne**
  + Well NPC will be having a President change in the future
  + Retiring in June 2018
* **Jeremiah**
  + You’ve been here for a while – you’ve been here since my first meeting
* **Jeanne**
  + Let’s see if we can get a meeting together and see where we can go
* **Jeremiah**
  + We need more marketing
  + We are still with word of mouth
  + Facebook
* **Jeanne**
  + What is the best way?
* **Jeremiah**
  + Some water that was donated to a Sunrise Dance from NPC
  + The Fair, obviously
  + I used to make appointments on the radio, we had an hour dedicated to the Manager once a month to keep the name on people’s tongue
* **Dawn**
  + The radio is a good idea, everyone listens to that
* **Jeanne**
  + Are there other ways?
* **Dawn** 
  + What other parades are there?
* **Jeremiah** 
  + Homecoming parades, CBQ
* **Jeanne**
  + If you think of other ways, keeping the word out on a consistent basis – let me know.
* **Leola**
  + Can NPC talk to high schools more?
  + How many people go to NPC WRV?
  + I have two seniors that do not talk about NPC
  + If they stay here, they need to know NPC is an option
  + Getting their basics here – they can be ready for a university
  + A lot of students are not graduating from college from Alchesay
  + People going into the community need to hear
* **Jeremiah**
  + I think that’s what offering a trade school here would do
  + Outreach to schools: when people go over to schools we need familiar people
* **Leola**
  + In ECD, in the past few years we have been able to get qualified co-teachers here – before it was really hard
  + Now we are able to get people qualified because of the courses NPC offered currently
  + We had several students take the course, but the students are being dropped
  + Is the teachers’ responsibly or is it the student’s responsibility?
  + Head Start is trying to get qualified people, every time they qualify someone they leave
* **Mark** 
  + We have 239 student enrolled at this Center this fall
* **Jerome** 
  + Is that an increase?
* **Mark**
  + Community college enrollment has dropped since economic crisis
  + We are down about 5% here where we were about 2 years ago
  + In 2007, -08, -09 when enrollment was in decline at other campuses/centers, enrollment here has increased
* **Jerome**
  + Community involvement is crucial
  + Being involved in high school games
  + Basketball is big here –
  + If we had more presence, more community involvement in those areas
  + If the community feels that we can trust you – like I can call Mark and President Swarthout since I have worked with them since 2010; and you have people are willing to stay here, then people will trust you
  + The way you are structured okay we got your money, you can drop – faculty isn’t working with students to get them to pass
  + This input from students who are getting ready to leave for colleges with big Native American populations
  + The faculty do not see the stress and the culture shock students will go through off the rez
* **Jeremiah**
  + This type of training is going to have to start in high school
  + A lot of life skills classes need to be taught in high school
  + When you got students here at NPC, getting students to show up on time, prepared, is something HS needs to work on
* **Leola**
  + The high school is changing- last week the HS went to ASU; next Tuesday they are taking another trip to a university thanks to Richard Carver
* **Jeanne**
  + That leap from HS in 2017 to Community College is a big leap these days
  + HS-College should be working closer together so that giant leap isn’t’ there
  + Deadlines – what does the college expect in terms of being on time, the disconnect trips students out
  + Getting students to get their federal Pell grants on in time – something that high school students need to be aware of
* **Dawn**
  + Coming from an instructor’s perspective, when students come to my classes I can tell when students are fresh from high school because of the way they approach their coursework
  + I find myself holding hands, I don’t mind doing that, they need someone there to transition them in terms of course expectations, if you plan on attending a four-year university – know that you are responsible for the courses that you are taking, for the coursework, and the expectations of deadlines
  + I spend a lot of time on deadlines – they all have a syllabus that lays out deadlines
  + Just the other day, I was talking to them about the semester-end project you have to do and they were shocked – I asked did you read the syllabus?
  + I know that I have been guiding them along in GED prep, college, prep, I prepare them for this building (WRV main building) if they plan to move onto the next level
  + We work a lot to help students transition from high school to college
* **Mark**
  + This is a challenge that community colleges have had to overcome
  + Personal motivation
* **Tim** 
  + A huge complaint is that students say that instructors do not have time for them
  + My daughter is at NPC and her instructor will not give her the time of day
* **Mark**
  + Get her to talk to April and we can get this sorted out
  + I need to know which class, and which instructor
* **Tim** 
  + Why are our students sinking?
* **Jerome**
  + When will we get instructors that come down to WRV – tuition is the same everywhere but our students only get to talk to instructor over the airways
  + NPC can work with JOM – for high school/higher ed outreach – let’s work together as partners
  + The mentality of some instructors is not quite so pleasant
* **Marilou**
  + I would like to share about Cibecue – I am grateful for memo to start GED program and Adult Basic Ed in Cibecue, so thank you for entertaining that request.
  + Working with Gail Campbell to host GED orientation even if it’s online.
  + We have a lot of paraprofessionals - who we are trying to get certified. Bringing online courses to Cibecue will hopefully be involved for students to earn more advanced online courses – so they can obtain AA.
  + We are working with the Cosmetology Department and we are working toward accreditation.
  + I know the existing TALON grant project – we missed that deadline simply because we did not hear that it was going on – we are hoping to be included in the next batch.
* **Mark**
  + Marilou and Rennell Easter is the Project Director and they are working on it together
* **Marilou**
  + With regard to tech – we are tech capable, we have active boards in every classroom
  + We want to establish courses in our high school
  + We have resources to spend CTE and AP
  + We need help recruiting teachers to teach those courses.
  + If we get support from NPC to help accredit AP/CTE courses that would be a great help
  + We started with Robotics on a small scale – we haven’t started the FAC and FRC
  + Perhaps we can send Cibecue people to Show Low to consult and earn college credit
  + With regard to the water sources, we just completed project to provide clean water and high pressure water to community
  + We have two pumps and house to provide water – through help of BIE office
  + The only thing we need from tribe is to maintain those facilities – in the past these facilities have been abandoned, so we hope to get more support from tribal utilities
* **Mark**
  + Sounds like Arts & Sciences Dean and Mark Vest need to visit Cibecue for dual-credit and Talon grant
  + After grant ends – can we create some sort of system to share system
  + We were there 4 times there in March at Alchesay – maybe we are not talking to the right people
* **Jerome**
  + Another org you should reach out to is the “WIAA”, Social Services Dept.,
  + We see a lot of disconnect –have we strengthened those connections?
  + Partnerships with Cibecue would be great for community
* **Derrick**
  + Coming from Higher Ed: we just got an email released in January regarding Financial Aid – Dept. Higher Ed is a private scholarships and cannot obtain information on the students
  + 40% of Dept. Higher Ed comes to NPC – Financial Needs Analysis is crucial for colleges/universities
  + I will forward the Guidance Letter that prohibits colleges from releasing information to private scholarships
* **Jeanne**
  + Will you forward it to me and Mark? We will look into it.
* **Derrick**
  + Several students end up being on suspension because lack of transportation
  + Is there a mobile unit that we can have in Cibecue?
  + WE need to ensure that those students are successful
  + I was looking at HLC website on diversity – it’s something that I really, really want to stress
    - I just came from the Federal Reserve Bank on High Ed in Indian Country – with any other K12 schools. Students will respond better to teachers that look like themselves
    - Are our faculty having culture-sensitive training?
* **Jeanne**
  + No help from creating diversity with faculty.
  + Yes, students do better with teachers that look like them
  + Getting those people that are master prepared to come teach for us has been a struggle
  + It’s always been a goal of mine to diversify faculty –
  + I am open to ideas, but they have to be masters prepared
  + It’s a huge issue
* **Derrick**
  + ASU has AISSS where all supporters are Native
  + Can NPC have a friendly, community-oriented events/organizations
  + NPC used to have a course - College Skills - that helped students transition
* **Mark**
  + Tribal required that all students funded through Dept. Higher Ed attend NPC college skills before any school they went to in the Fall
  + We can provide the course- but we cannot require the class.
  + A scholarship entity can require the course though.
* **Jerome**
  + NAU has a first year experience requirement
  + GCU requires a course similar to that
* **Mark**
  + We knew that class worked
* **Jeanne**
  + We will bring it back
* **Jerome**
  + Dr Gocklish can come and talk to teachers
  + I hated that prep class- but I used every single one of those skills
* **Jessica**
  + We had a stronger relationship – between college and high school
  + How can we better respond to the needs of the kids coming out of high school?
* **Dawn**
  + I had students that took the class but came back and thanked me for what I did for them
  + Many of them have been successful in obtaining those degrees
* **Jessica**
  + That’s a good resource to build relationship between NPC and community
* **Derrick**
  + For Indian Country – certificate programs make the most sense
  + The Adult Voc Training is specifically geared to fund those CP programs
  + In light of Education, Miner Dam – how can my office work with programs to get more tribal employees to service our region to help our economy
* **Mark**
  + Vocational programs – that would aid in teaching voc programs here in WRV and would help diversity aspect
  + We can’t seem to get enough students at the same time
* **Mark**
  + We awarded more certificate to Native Americans than any other school
  + Despite this we are still finding a hard time getting students where they need to be to get these certificates (PDC, WMC\_
* **Jeanne**
  + I think we can really work AAS and CP into Miner Dam programs
* **Jeremiah**
  + I was part of this group where the Certificate that was self-paced – it was based out of Utah and conducted online
  + That’s what I was wondering about A+ and MS word – it would be nice to have more of those courses available here
* **Jeanne**
  + For technical programs some of it can be done online but some skills need to be done in-person
  + We have a lot of programs that are hybrid
* **Jerome**
  + Native Americans are more hands-on so CP are good
  + Can the College meet with tribal council – we need some managers and directors to be trained in Excel, to hold their own COFE account- test is to have attendees provide budget
  + I don’t think some individuals know how to formulate percentages, insurance, etc. on their spreadsheet
* **Mark** 
  + How many people? Who does BUS Department talk to?
* **Jerome**
  + We have grants that can help with training costs –
  + I will take a look at numbers and tell you
* **Jessica**
  + There has been a shift in ECD
  + I have noticed that we need better communication to all child care centers/communities
  + We need a session like this for earl childcare providers to be on the same page
  + We need a focus on why this is a good shift of getting a CP or CDA?
* **Mark**
  + Can I circle back to diversity?
  + We have lost a lot of our qualified adjunct faculty which has been coming to campuses/centers
  + I know it’s hard – we are talking about students that have a master’s degree
  + This is where the college needs the community’s help to identify those individuals
* **Jerome**
  + How can we get Apache Language classes?
* **Mark**
  + Find the person and get them in touch with Rickey Jackson
* **Derrick**
  + Tribal Council needs to approve
* **Lynell**
  + We have Certificate training- it deals with college credits
  + A program from ADOT that want us to recruit individual tribal members to train and put through school for Dam project
* **Jeanne**
  + TERO needs to be at Tribal Council meeting for Dam Project
* **Jerome**
  + Let’s combine the partnerships for tribal Dam project to talk about these things as early as next week

-Close of Meeting-