

Northland Pioneer College Hopi Center Community Outreach Meeting

Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2014

Present: President Swarthout, Vice President Hatch, Vice President Vest, Eric Bishop, Prescott Winslow, Cara Dukepoo, (Northland Pioneer College) Gloria Lomayestewa, Rachel Goy, Pascal Nuvamsa, Wayne Taylor Jr., Stanford, Lomakema, (Hopi Housing Authority) Monica Nuvamsa (Hopi Foundation) Ebin Leslie (Sichomovi Village)

Next meeting: TBA, Skill Center Tour.

I. Summary of Current Strategic Plan

President Swarthout started the meeting with a brief introduction of the Administration staff and Center Staff. There was also a roundtable introduction of guests.

President Swarthout started with the introduction of NPC, same programs and services as last year. Focus at the Hopi Center is transfer education and not a lot of technical education.

President Swarthout also talked about the three-year strategic plan, which is available on-line. NPC is doing things differently this time. They are working on the budget and NPC is on a three-year budget cycle and the budget is influenced by the accreditation process.

II. Budget and Facilities

Vice President Hatch talked about the three main revenue sources of NPC budget; Property Tax, State Aid (Operating, Equalization) and Tuition.

President Swarthout mentioned that NPC has the lowest tuition in the state and the possibility of a \$2.00 yearly increase for the next three years. By moving to a three-year tuition cost increase, this will help students plan their future education costs. She also stated that the AZ constitution states that education should be provided for free and NPC takes that statement seriously by providing affordable education. She also mentioned that there are several tuition proposals at the district governing board level. One is increasing the tuition by two dollars for the next three school years, which will allow students to plan their education cost.

President Swarthout went on to present the other four tuition proposals and stated they they are awaiting District Board approval. The first two are scholarship type proposals. The first is no tuition for the last 12 credits of a degree. Students would have to apply for this. The second proposal is to give seven general education credits each semester with no tuition to junior and senior high school students. This also would have an application process along with GPA requirements. The other two proposals are discounts in tuition. The first is to reduce tuition for all summer session courses by 50%. Secondly, establish a 50% tuition reduction for all adult basic education courses.

III. Roundtable

The Hopi Tribal Housing Authority was asked what needs they have and how NPC could assist. They mentioned that Job-Ready skills are needed and Vocational Training is needed on the Hopi

Reservation. It would also be great to provide courses on-line such as accounting and management training for their administration staff.

Vice President Vest then mentioned that the NPC skills center is brand new and just opened. The skills center is available for vocational training. The Business classes would depend on what the employees want to pursue. If they want courses to go towards a degree they can take NPC business classes. If they want career-job training classes with no credit bearing, HTHA can take advantage of the NPC's Corporate Training program and the Small Business Development Center.

HTHA went on to mention that they must provide services to the community through Financial Literacy training; they have an obligation to educate community/tenants. It would be great if NPC can help HTHA in providing this service. They also would like to work more on creating programs like an apprenticeship program which will target high school students. This will allow HTHA in providing a qualified workforce which will allow HTHA in hiring local employees rather than contracting their services out. HTHA mentioned that there was an older program that they worked with NPC the staff person was Jo Costion.

Vice President Vest stated that the construction program is being brought back after being on hiatus. Ken Wilke would be the person to work with in getting national certification for the High School Instructors. Vice President Vest also stated that NPC would need to contact Albert Siquah about the building trade program at the Hopi High School program. VP Vest went on to state that NPC is working with the Navajo Nation High Schools in providing Dual Enrollment Welding on the NN. NPC has helped with getting their instructors nationally certified and this can serve as a model with Hopi. Hopi Housing Tribal Authority also mentioned that they could provide instructors also by getting their employees certified.

Monica Nuvamsa mentioned that they are opportunities for demonstration projects on the reservation, and mentioned the Red Feather Straw bale project on the reservation. She also mentioned that the Hopi Foundation has created a Technical Guide on Restoration of Traditional Houses.

Stanford Lomakema stated why can't we train our own people, the time is right, everyone at the roundtable has the same goal.

President Swarthout said it is important to know what the community needs are. She mentioned that NPC is aware of the difficulty in working with Hopi. She mentioned the issues encountered when the NPC Hopi Center was being construction. NPC wants to be responsive in addressing the community needs and that there are difficulties in addressing them because Hopi is unique.

Monica Nuvamsa agreed that the people present have the same vision and each agency has their own agenda. Hopi is not ready, but it is time to start working together. Important partners are missing from the roundtable.

Attendees threw out the question of "which villages are ready to plan and work together?" Ebin Leslie, our only village representative mentioned that there is a need to train the youth. He is willing to help and with guidance would like to help the youth in providing opportunities.

Pascal Nuvamsa, HTHA, said it would be easier to focus on High School Students, but what about the older community. There are a lot of displaced workers who have skills and knowledge. How can NPC help them? How can they become instructors to share their knowledge and how can the NPC harness their knowledge.

Monica Nuvamsa mentioned the Hopi Foundations Hopi Opportunity Youth Initiative Program.

Mr. Prescott Winslow, District Governing Board member and Hopi representative introduced himself and stated that the meeting had a lot of good discussion and wished that there were more people at the roundtable.

Hopi Tribal Housing Authority mentioned that they will be offering rental assistance to Hopi College students. They also invited everyone to their Home/Garden Show on April 12 at the Hopi High School.

Mr. Prescott Winslow asked about the Veteran on Hopi, what are their needs? Attendees mentioned that there is a Veterans program but they do not know much about their program.

President Swarouth mentioned that the Train the Trainer model would fit the needs of Hopi Housing Authority.

Vice President Vest described the Mechatronics program. He said NPC chose this program due to the Coal Fire plants in the area and future business ventures. NPC asked how would NPC train employees across the board and prepare individuals to get a job with different companies. NPC chose Mechatronic training and invested ½ million dollars in equipment. Once student complete the training they will be nationally certified.

Mr. Prescott Winslow, went on to describe new economic Navajo County ventures that would use mechatronics. Good Earth Paper is starting a Forest Clearing program and they use mechatronics.

The meeting was adjourned and it was discussed that another meeting is needed with HTHA, Hopi Foundation and the Villages. A Skills Center Tour needs to be scheduled and the meeting can be scheduled afterwards.