

## Elders Council Business Meeting August 5, 2015

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Stanley Morseau, 11:10 a.m.

**Invocation:** Clarence White.

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman, Stanley Morseau, P, Vice Chair, Maxine Margiotta, P, Treasurer, Clarence White, P, Secretary, Audrey Huston, P, Member-at-Large, Catherine Ford, P.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Beth Warner, Elders Specialist, P, Carl Wesaw, Elders Representative, P. Thanked the Elders for giving him a chance to serve as the Elders representative. He also noted that the Eagle Head Staff will stay with the MIEA.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Clarence moved to accept the Treasurer report, Cathy supported, 5 yes, passed.

**MINUTES:** Maxine, moved to accept the July 2, 2015 minutes, Clarence supported, (4) yes, (1) abstain, passed.

**AGENDA:** Stephanie Holland, Administrator with Social Security spoke about retirement benefits. If you retire at age 62 you will receive a reduced benefit, 65 years old you will receive 100% benefit, at age 70 you will receive 132 %. Your highest 35 working years is used to figure your benefits.

A change has been made that if you born after 1960 the retirement age for full benefits is 67. An interesting note is that white men's life expectancy is 82, and the Native American man is 84, white women's is 85, while the Native American Woman is 88. Sometimes Social Security can be taxed.

Medicare can be gotten at age 65. If you are over 18 and unable to work for 12 months you can file for disability. If you do get disability benefits you have to wait two years for Medicare. You can call (800) 633-4227 to ask questions about Medicare.

Judge Petoskey, stated that the week of Sovereignty Day, a Judge from Alaska will be here. There are two branches of government, Judicial and Tribal Council.

A grant has been received to help develop basic skills for mediation training.

This will help us understand the needs of our Native People. You must register for the class and if you sign up, it is expected that you are making a commitment to attend all 40 hours of the class. The dates are, Wed. Sept. 23, Thurs. Sept. 24, Fri. Sept. 25, Tues. Sept. 29, Wed. Sept. 30, 2015. The hours are 9am to 5pm.

This will held at the Community Center in Dowagiac.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Steve Rambeaux introduced the Chief Justices and and the Associate Judge.

A resolution was passed by Tribal Council to retain the Ohio Mounds.

Five years ago Elders Council was granted payments for their meetings, but nobody knew what the payment should be. On July 23, 2015, a resolution was passed by Tribal Council to pay Elders Council the same as Board Members.

Judy Winchester is the new Rep. for Elders Council.

The bus for the Gathering will leave at 7am, Aug. 12 from the Community Center, and return Aug. 16, 2015.

See Stanley Morseau for the tickets to the South Bend Cubs game, Aug. 27, 2015.

You will be seated in a suite and snacks will be served.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Don Summers stated that Kindle registration will be Aug. 22.

Kindle workshop will be held Aug. 27. New web page is available for education.

Beth Moody stated that the topic of breastfeeding will be Aug. 9, 1:00–5:00 to be held at the Wellness Center. Cancer awareness programs will be held at the Wellness Center Aug. 11 thru Aug. 14. Baby quilts will be held Sept. 13. Call Beth at the Wellness Center for more information.

A new flag and staff has been purchased for the MIEA conferences.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Jackets have all been sent. Hope you like them.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Language classes, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Monday morning.

A beginning language class will be held on Thursday evenings at Elders Hall, from 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. The class will be taught by Kevin Daugherty.

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:** Lorraine Gideon, Hal Wiggins, Norma Miller, Pat Shear, Theresa McFall, Earl McFall.

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES:** Fred & Joyce Klemm. Belated Anniversary wishes to John & Kelly Curran. July 26 they were married 40 years.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Maxine moved to adjourned, Clarence supported. 5 Yes, passed.

## Can't Get to Elders Council Business Meetings? Participate Via Webcast

Business meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at the Community Center in Dowagiac. For your convenience the meetings are now broadcast on the internet to listen in on what is going on with the Elders. If you are able to take advantage of this—please do!—Elders business meetings are called to order at 11:00 a.m. Visit the Pokagon website to access the webcasting: [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/citizens/web-casting](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/citizens/web-casting). Any questions, please call Stanley Morseau, Elders Chairman, (269) 783-6828.

Don't forget our social lunches held every third Thursday of the month. On these days we may have holiday parties, special events, or games. Every weekday a hot lunch is served at the Elders Hall. You are welcome to come to meet new elders you may not know or visit your friends.

### Medicare Part B Information for Elders

If you wish to be reimbursed for Medicare Part B, please send Beth Warner, Elders Specialist, a copy of your Social Security Statement. Statements can be mailed to:

Elders Program  
PO Box 180  
Dowagiac MI 49047

Or they can be faxed to (269) 782-1696. If you have any further questions, feel free to contact Beth Warner at (269) 782-0765.