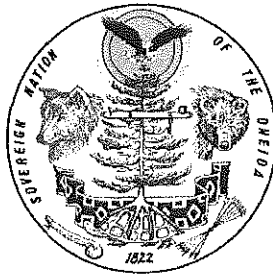


# Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin



Oneidas bringing several hundred bags of corn to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge, after the colonists had consistently refused to aid them.



UGWA DEMOLUM YATEHE  
Because of the help of this Oneida Chief in cementing a friendship between the six nations and the colony of Pennsylvania, a new nation, the United States was made possible.

## BC Resolution 11-10-10-F

*Request to Call Secretarial Election for Five Constitutional Amendments Approved by the General Tribal Council on August 21, 2010*

- WHEREAS,** the Oneida General Tribal Council is the duly recognized governing body of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin; and
- WHEREAS,** the General Tribal Council has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section I of the Constitution of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin (*Constitution*); and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee may be delegated duties and responsibilities by the Oneida General Tribal Council and is at all times subject to the review powers of the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** the Constitution identifies a process for adoption of amendments in Article V which requires one-third of the members age 21 and over to sign a petition calling for a Secretarial Election; and
- WHEREAS,** the General Tribal Council has directed the amendments to the Constitution be pursued from time to time culminating in a request presented in June of 2001 which was ultimately withdrawn upon request of the Oneida Business Committee in November of 2001; and
- WHEREAS,** since 2001 members have identified several items for amendment to the Constitution and the Oneida Business Committee, through its Legislative Operating Committee, has presented public hearings, community meetings, surveys and presentations at membership meetings to identify levels of concern and directions to proceed; and
- WHEREAS,** at a special General Tribal Council meeting on August 21, 2010 the General Tribal Council was presented six amendments for action, and 1227 members present at that meeting approved five of six amendments to be forwarded for a Secretarial Election; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has finalized the proposed ballot language, has drafted the form of the amendments to be presented to the membership for a Secretarial Election vote, and believes that approval of the request for a Secretarial Election is in the best interests of the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee believes that obtaining signatures of one-third of the members on a petition is not an achievable act and that accessing the Secretarial Election process through the exception identified in 25 C.F.R. 81.5(e3) is in the best interests of the Tribe and fulfills the request of the General Tribal Council as expressed on August 21, 2010;

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED,** that the Oneida Business Committee hereby requests the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a Secretarial Election regarding the following five amendments to the Constitution of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin.

- Lower the minimum voting age and age to participate in General Tribal Council meetings from 21 years of age to 18 years of age.
- Change the Tribe's official name from Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin to Oneida Nation.
- Remove the Secretary of Interior from an oversight and approval role with the Tribe.
- Formally establish a judicial branch within the Constitution.
- Remove the mandatory "first Monday" meeting requirement to allow the Annual and Semi-Annual meetings to be held on different days in January and July.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum. 6 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2010; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 4 members for; 0 members against; and 1 member not voting; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

  
Patricia Hoeft, Tribal Secretary  
Oneida Business Committee

\*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."