



Quality of Life (QOL) Committee

FY 2020 1st Quarter Report (October – December 2020)

PURPOSE

The Quality of Life Committee is a standing committee of the Oneida Business Committee that has oversight responsibility of the following areas of the Tribe: Language and Culture, Health, Human Services and Public Safety. This oversight responsibility also extends to any board, committee, or commission related to these specific areas.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Vice-Chairman Brandon Stevens, Quality of Life Committee Chair
Councilman Ernest Stevens III, Quality of Life Committee Vice Chair
Councilman Daniel Guzman-King, Quality of Life Committee Member
Chairman Tehassi Hill, Quality of Life Committee Member
Councilman Kirby Metoxen, Quality of Life Committee Member

Other partners include: General Manager, Wellness Council, Oneida Police Department, Division Directors, other senior leaders and their staff

MEETINGS

Quality of Life Committee meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month starting at 8:30 a.m. Meetings in the 4th quarter were held in November and December. October was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

1. Environmental Issues

Members from the QoL, Law Office, and Environmental had multiple working sessions focused around Treatment as a State. Dr. James Grijalva explained options for the Oneida Nation and how to address eligibility for Treatment of State.

Two areas outlined to begin working on improving the over-all Reservation environment:

- Oneida's Strategies for increasing Environmental Sovereignty through Treatment as a State (TAS) from the EPA.
- To develop the "Rights of Nature".

A draft of a Rights of Nature Proclamation has been developed from Environmental, ERB and Cultural Area.

2. Tribal Action Plan (TAP)

The two new TAP positions have been finalized and are posted – TAP Manager and TAP Project Specialist. The first posting will be for 7 days and open to Oneida Enrolled Only. Closing date January 6, 2020.

Behavioral Health presented Comprehensive Community Services to the QoL Committee. These services are to be billed to Medicaid and would provide Oneida enrolled Tribal members a recovery-focused, person-centered program. By exercising our Sovereignty with this program, members will be able to have an encultured experience on their recovery journey. The presentation also addressed staffing needs. The motion was made to draft a letter of support for this proposal to the General Manager, Business Committee, and the Finance Committee.

The Tribal Action Plan is now a Bi-Monthly Report given by the General Manager to the Quality of Life Committee.

3. Wellness Council

Mental Health Fair – Wellness Council decided to plan a Wellness Summit for May 2020 focusing on navigating mental health resources. An endorsement letter was signed by the Vice-Chair of Quality of Life and the General Manager in support of this initiative. Planning team will meet in January to continue to move forward with the summit.

4. Education Center for Learning Challenged Oneida Children

Bobbi Webster presented this initiative to QoL this quarter. It addressed the need in the Oneida Community for specialized education for those with learning disabilities such as autism, attention deficit disorders, speech, hearing, and sight disorders that affect the ability to learn. QoL decided this would be best to forward onto the Business Committee and to direct the General Manager to work with the Oneida Nation School Board on completing an assessment and analysis of autism needs.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Motion to accept the Quality of Life Committee FY2020 1st Quarter Report.