



Quality of Life (QOL) Committee

FY 2020 2nd Quarter Report (January – March 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 2nd quarter were held in January and March. February 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 (updating Water Quality Standards).
- To develop the "Rights of Nature".

A second draft of a Rights of Nature Proclamation has been updated and presented to the Quality of Life committee from Environmental, ERB and Cultural Area. The QOL committee expressed the importance of having Oneida Language throughout the Proclamation and

Environmental collaborated with the cultural area to add the language throughout.

Next steps are to finalize the Proclamation and analyze how it will impact future decision making.

2. Tribal Action Plan (TAP)

TAP Specialist position has been filled by Leslie Doxtater. TAP Manager position is still in interview process. Interviews will place March 12th.

TAP continued to work with Yukwatsistay^ this quarter. Yukwatsistay^ hosted a Sobriety Community Potluck on January 12th with guest speaker Burdeena Endhunter. Yukwatsistay^ also hosts Weekly Recovery Meetings on Tuesdays at 6 PM and Friday Night Fires at 6 PM.

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. COVID-19

Quality of Life began discussion on the COVID-19 situation and its affects on the Nation at the March 12th meeting.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Motion to accept the Quality of Life Committee FY2020 2nd Quarter Report.