



# SENECA-CAYUGA NATION

## CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE MEETING

<b>DATE</b>	Monday, March 25, 2024	<b>TIME PLACE</b>	6pm CT Tribal HQ + Zoom	<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Carrie Kneeland
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### MEMBERS

<b>Roberta Smith</b>	Present later - Zoom	<b>Scott B Goode</b>	Not Present
<b>Carrie Kneeland</b>	Present – Zoom	<b>Angela Anglen Kelley</b>	Present – Zoom
<b>Natalie Dixon</b>	Present – Zoom	<b>Earlyne Gentry</b>	Present
<b>Kristi Birdsong Blansett</b>	Present	<b>Jo Lynn Gentry</b>	Present later - Zoom
<b>Yvonne Perryman-Matthews</b>	Present - Zoom	Others Present	<b>Davey Blansett</b>

TIME	ITEM	OWNER
6:03pm	<b>Called to Order</b> - Quorum established at the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's regular Constitution Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting.	
	<p><b>Approval of Previous Minutes</b> – March 18, 2024 minutes reviewed as a group, several corrections to the record made as a group for ease of understanding – <b>minutes APPROVED</b></p> <p><b>Motion #20 (Roberta/Earlyne)</b> - to approve the minutes as corrected - <b>unanimous committee vote – motion carried</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>CERTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>On <u>03/25/2024</u> the minutes of <u>03/18/2024</u> were approved by unanimous committee consent. Copy emailed to BC Secretary on <u>3/18/2024</u>.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attest:</b> <u>Natalie Dixon</u> <b>Natalie Dixon, Secretary</b></p>	Natalie

TIME	ITEM	OWNER
	<p><b>Housekeeping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Roll Call</li> <li>ii. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes – MAR 18, 2024</li> <li>iii. Confirmation of next meeting – APR 01, 2024</li> </ul>	Natalie
--	<p><b>Planned Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housekeeping</li> <li>• Davey Blansett – Tech Talk for May Town Hall</li> <li>• Regular and Special Meetings</li> <li>• Meeting procedure</li> <li>• Any Other Business</li> <li>• Next Constitution meeting 04/01/2024 @ 6pm</li> </ul>	
<b>Minutes Begin</b>		
	<p><b>Discussion during minutes regarding the powers of the Business Committee (BC) and Grievance and Election Committees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BC powers include carrying out the will of the General Council and its Resolutions</li> <li>• Election and Grievance Committees must have the power to obtain counsel with their own independent attorney</li> </ul>	
6:55pm	<p><b>All CAC members listed present were present by the motion and vote to approve minutes as amended</b></p>	
	<p><b>Discussion regarding May 4, 2024 Town Hall and help from Davey Blansett with technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roberta to contact Joanna Hadley regarding use of the AOA for the Town Hall instead of the Community Building</li> <li>• Davey Blansett to help at the AOA with technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will have a wireless microphone and a static microphone station for questions, a visual component trained on the microphone</li> <li>○ CAC and Davey Blansett agree on fee of \$300 for the tech set-up, breakdown, and help for the Town Hall at 1pm-4pm on May 4, 2024</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Discussion regarding By-Laws Article III - Regular and Special Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addition of more Regular Meetings of the General Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Making a Semi-Annual Meeting by adding one meeting to December</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



TIME	ITEM	OWNER
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Meeting calling powers need to be outlined specifically in the General Council, Business Committee, Grievance Committee, and Election Committee powers</li> <li>• Semi-Annual Meetings would be on the first Saturdays of June and December respectively               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There is a historical General Council Resolution, #15-111007, that calls for Quarterly Meetings of the General Council on the first Saturdays of March, June, September, and December, Resolution dates back to November 10, 2007 and was in effect for one year by the will of the General Council</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Special Meetings will be for the purposes as defined in the Grievance and Election Committee powers, with no other business being transacted except for those powers</li> <li>• Article Sections Review               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Section 1 – can be for Regular Meetings, including the Semi-Annual distinctions, first Saturdays, regular elections, etc</li> <li>○ Section 2 – can be for Special Meetings, how they are called and who can call them, including the Grievance and the Election Committees</li> <li>○ Section 3 – current language refers to business stated in the notice of a Special Meeting of the General Council – not necessary in this case since Grievance and Election Committees will have narrow requirements when calling a Special Meeting, removal of officers or interim vacancies                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CAC debates the necessity of the current language in By-Laws Article III Section 3</li> <li>▪ General Council petitions for Special Meetings will state the purpose of the meeting</li> <li>▪ Business Committee-called Special Meetings of the General Council will be for the purposes stated in their call-out</li> <li>▪ Open Forum/Old Business for tribal members could be specifically noted in any Business Committee-called Special Meetings</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Section 4 – can be for Regular Meetings of the Business Committee, including setting the date for public meetings as the first Tuesday of the month</li> <li>○ Section 5 – can be for Special Meetings of the Business Committee, including if three (3) members of the Business Committee call for a special</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

TIME	ITEM	OWNER
	<p><b>Discussion regarding powers of Chief</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To call to order and preside over a Special Meeting of the Business Committee when either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (1) as needed at the discretion of Chief or</li> <li>○ (2) at the written request of three (3) members of the Business Committee</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Further discussion regarding By-Laws Article III – Regular and Special Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 6 – refers to meeting procedure, current language is Robert's Rule of Order</li> </ul>	
7:57pm	<p><b>Discussion on recommended meeting procedure to replace current By-Laws Article III – Regular and Special Meetings Section 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting procedure to be used by all Business Committees, Standing Committees, and Subcommittees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meeting Leadership – includes the Chief or Committee Chair, agenda, making sure everyone is able to respectfully participate, impartiality, majority vote of the group has final decision making authority</li> <li>○ Main Motion – way to begin a discussion during meeting, must be made before any given discussion can begin, has a mover and seconder who support the discussion as a group</li> <li>○ Order – the order of speakers is the mover, seconder, and all other participants, first-time speakers will have the first chance to speak</li> <li>○ Amendments – changes the motion under discussion, must be moved and seconded</li> <li>○ Point of Order – used to return to meeting procedure, not for commentary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is Point of Order acceptable language? Does the language in this work mirror Robert's Rules of Order too closely?</li> <li>▪ Point of Procedure proposed as an alternate title, for ease of understanding</li> <li>▪ 2 CAC members voice that Point of Order is what it's always been, so everyone will be able to understand Point of Order</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Point of Privilege – used to guarantee the rights of meeting participants, includes accessibility, or correcting mis-quotes or misinterpretations, or personal insults, the Chair determines point validity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Challenge the Chair – if a point of order or privilege is unfairly ruled upon by the chair, there can be a challenge and the chair will ask for a motion from the floor to uphold the decision</li> <li>○ Point of Information – a question raised when another has the floor, can be refused by the speaker</li> <li>○ Table – if a motion needs to be delayed and there is more urgent matter to discuss then a motion can be tabled for a specific time limit by majority vote</li> <li>○ Calling the Previous Question – can end debate if no objection, otherwise goes to vote with 2/3 majority</li> <li>○ Rescind – for Motions passed at another meeting or on another day with a 2/3 majority vote</li> <li>○ Reconsider – for Motions passed at the same meeting with a 2/3 majority required</li> <li>○ Motion to Suspend Meeting Procedure – must have 2/3 vote to succeed, no debate allowed, cannot be amended or reconsidered at the same meeting</li> <li>○ Refer or Commit – used to send a particular question to a Committee for further investigation of questions raised, the motion requires a second and debate is only on the committing of the Motion</li> <li>○ Adjourn – takes precedence over all other motions but cannot be made when a speaker has the floor or during a vote, cannot be debated or amended or reconsidered</li> </ul>	
8:38pm	<p><b>Open Forum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● April 1, 2024 agenda to include Code of Ethics and tribal member sanctioning</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Confirmation of next meeting on April 01, 2024 @ 6pm</b></p>	
8:40pm	<p><b>Meeting Adjourned by Group Consensus</b></p>	