SENECA-CAYUGA NATION

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE	Monday August 17, 2026	**TIME** **PLACE**	6 pm CT Zoom	**FACILITATOR**	Carrie Kneeland

MEMBERS			
Roberta Smith	Absent	**Yvonne Perryman**	Present
Carrie Kneeland	Present	**Jo Lynn Gentry**	Present
Kristi Blansett	Present	Others Present: Raylene Hackler, Election Committee Davey Blansett, Election Committee Cynthia Rios, Election Committee Leah Tarrant, Election Committee Tommie Ray, Election Committee	**Curt Lawrence – Present via Zoom** **3 members of the General Council**

TIME	ITEM	OWNER
–	**I. Call to Order** **II. Roll Call** **III. Reading and approval of minutes** • Approval of Minutes July 19, 2026 • Ensure approved June 22, 2026 Minutes are on the website. **IV Unfinished Business:** A. Confirm the Constitution Committee email account is functioning and all members have log-in credentials. B. Follow up regarding outstanding requests to the Secretary/Treasurer Melissa Morrison: 1. Itemized expense report for June 7, 2025-May 31, 2026 2. CC Budget inclusion and Process 3. Zoom subscription reimbursement process	Carrie Jo Lynn Carrie

	4. Request for resolution regarding election ordinance amendment. C. Follow up on email correspondence to April Gonzalez regarding the request for itemized Constitution Committee expense report for June 7, 2025 to May 31, 2026. **V** Collaboration with the Election Committee A. Discussion of potential solutions for resolving Resolution No. 01-060708. **VI** • Open Forum **VII** Announcements • • Next Constitution meeting 08/31/2026 @ 6 pm (CT) • Adjournment	

Approval of Previous Minutes – postponed until Aug. 31, 2026. Minutes pending approval are April 29, 2026, May 11, 2026 and May 25, 2026.

Minutes from July 19, 2026 approved as amended.

CERTIFICATION

On August 17, 2026 the minutes of July 19, 2026 were approved by unanimous committee consent. Copy emailed to BC Secretary on Aug. 24, 2026.

Attest: ______________________

, Secretary

	Minutes Begin	
6:01 p.m. (CT)	Roll Call. All Committee members present except Roberta Smith. Discussion and agreement to approve outstanding minutes on Aug. 31, 2026. Outstanding Minutes are from meetings held on April 29, May 11 and May 25, 2026. Minutes from July 19, 2026 approved as amended. Jo Lynn to send receipt for the ZOOM subscription to Secretary/Treasurer for reimbursement. The Committee began discussing with the Elections Committee to address Resolution R-01 060708. A copy of the Resolution was mailed to both the Constitution and Elections Committee prior to the meeting so all had a chance to review it. Minutes from the meetings held June 7,2008 and June 21, 2008 were also located and available for review. The committees discussed why R-01-060708 needs to be rescinded. The effect of rescinding means the 2005 Election Ordinance is the last remaining and effective election ordinance. Absentee voting is an issue that needs to be addressed in general elections as well as in the Grievance process. The Committees discussed nominations from the floor in filling vacant positions but such nominations are apparently not authorized in any resolution or ordinance. Tommie Ray leaves the meeting at 7:52 p.m. (CT) The committees discussed the need for a revised election ordinance. In the last election, electronic ballots were used for the first time and while there were some issues, overall, it was a very positive experience. It simplified and expedited ballot counting and was a lot less expensive than printing and mailing ballots and reflected a cost savings of over $23,000.00. If electronic ballots are to be used again, the Elections committee recognizes that the WiFi capacity will need	Jo Lynn Carrie

	to be expanded and dedicated iPads for voters should allay fears of electioneering. While discussing the clauses in R-01-060708, the Committees recognized that some of the concepts contained in the clauses are important. The Committees began reading each clause aloud before discussing. In the course of reading each clause, it became clear that there are two versions of the same-numbered resolution as what was being read did not match what some members were reading. (See attached) The committees were able to compare the two versions to the Minutes that summarized the June 7, 2008 meeting and determined that one version is more consistent with the Minutes so that version was determined to be the actual Resolution. Once it was determined that there were two versions of the same Resolution, Chief Diebold joined the call to assist in determining how best to proceed. Chief agreed a Special Meeting in November or December is needed but a date was not set. The three members of the Business Committee who were in attendance at the meeting agreed to discuss the need for a Special Meeting at the August 18, 2026 Business Committee meeting. The consensus of the Constitution and Election Committees was that Resolution 01-060708 should be rescinded but that then would give rise to the issue of what to do about absentee voting and how to retain some of the concepts contained in the clauses of R-01-060708. Confirmation of next meeting on August 31, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m. (CT)	

TIME	ITEM	OWNER
8:20 pm (CT)	**Motion (Jo Lynn/Yvonne)** – to adjourn meeting - **unanimous committee vote to adjourn**	