

Council Member Of Over 10 Years Looks At The Last 12



Dolly Fisher

By Ted Werth

Dolly Fisher first served on council in 1973. During the 10½ years she served, she missed only 5 meetings. She was elected to serve on the first council since termination. Prior to February 16, 1985 she was also the last person from that original council still serving. However, she has decided that she needed a break and decided not to seek re-election this year. She does expect that her name will be on the candidates list next year.

Being from the younger generation, (I was still in Junior High in 1973), I thought it would be interesting to try to get a perspective on the changes that have occurred in this tribe, and particularly the tribal council, since the time of our initial reorganization. I asked Dolly if she would give me her view, based on several questions I had given her. Her response to those questions follow.

Q: When did you first serve on the Tribal Council (including any breaks during that time)?

A: I was elected to the first Tribal Council (after termination) in 1973. We did not have a cent so we took up collections among us and consequently paid many dollars out of our pockets to hold meetings, correspond and to meet with various public officials. We also used our own telephones and some of those monthly bills were tremendous. I declined re-election to the Council in 1975 and worked for the Urban Indian Center of Portland, as Counselor for their C.E.T.A. program that served Lincoln, Tillamook, and Benton Counties. I was again elected to the Council in 1977 and was hired to work for the Tribe as Enrollment Clerk, the first tribal employee. I held this position for 15 months then had to choose between the job and the Council

because of Personnel Procedures. The untimely and shabby notice of a violation of the rules came after I worked and served on the Council at the same time. We should have had a Tribal Court system then. After some thought and a cooling off period I decided to resign as an employee and have been on the Council continuously until February 16, 1985, 10½ years all together.

Q: How has the Council changed during those years?

A: The major change in the Council has been the change of priorities. During the Restoration struggle, Health, Education and Welfare were the priorities and in that order. If you're not healthy the other two don't matter. Now education is the #2 priority and health is #5 from a total of 8. My personal feeling is, if your job depends on it you will push it or in other words, any recommendation will get a yes vote. The community meetings minutes were never fully tabulated because they were either too lengthy or inaudible. To me this is not a true conclusion to arrive at priorities.

Q: What are your feelings on the committee system? Its strengths and weaknesses?

A: I feel that we have too many committees. We could survive with two committees — Human resources and Natural resources — with 9 or 11 members on each. Input would be a variety and strength comes from numbers. Under the present system if all volunteers attend to business it will work. The guidelines are well written but the Council has to wear many hats, and I am sure participation will dwindle.

Q: What do you feel was the biggest decision you had to make while on Council?

A: I believe the biggest decision I had to make was to approve or reject start-up construction of our Community Center Building. If I remember correctly we had 45 days and I believe all 9 of us waited until the 45th day to approve.

Q: What was the hardest decision you had to make, and why?

A: In my opinion the hardest decision I've had to make was to not throw my hat in the ring by December 19, 1984. In early August I was approached by several Tribal members and asked two things. One, Does the Tribal council consider our concerns? Too much of our input is falling through the cracks and all reports sound real rosy when we know they are not. Two, We are all Tribal members, the Tribal Council and the General Council. The Tribal Council's purpose is to listen to the General Council and act accordingly. The projection that the two councils are two separate functions has become very apparent. My reply to them was that I understood their concerns and would see that their grievances or question be discussed and they would receive the courtesy of a reply. I then decided to sit on the other side of the table and to be the same advocate for them that I've always been.

Q: What type of participation do you expect to take during the next year?

A: I plan to attend all meetings and to participate as an interested tribal member. I also plan to be an active volunteer on the Housing Committee and to fulfill any other assignment that I may receive.

Committee Appointments

On February 16, 1985 the Tribal Council made appointments to the following committees.

TRIBAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

HEALTH COMMITTEE: Alta Courville, Mary Alice Muncey, Delores Pigsley, Gloria Werth, Wilma Strong.

HOUSING COMMITTEE: Mary Fisher, Judy John, Kristi Martin, Vernon Brown.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Delores Pigsley, Tina Jones, Douglas Brown, Alfred Lane, Kristi Martin, Jessie Davis.

POW WOW COMMITTEE: Vernon Brown, William Towner, Jr., Joella Kline, Gilbert Towner, Douglas Brown.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: JOM Parent Committee Chairman, Arthur Bensell, Gloria Werth, Bev Owen.

FAMILY WELFARE COMMITTEE: Tina Jones, Joella Kline, Judy John, Gloria Werth, Jessie Davis.

HUNTING & FISHING COMMITTEE: Stan Werth, Keith Hatch, Walt Easter, Lillie Butler, Everett Butler, Douglas Brown.

CULTURE COMMITTEE: Jane John, Andy Viles, Cynthia Viles, Alta Courville, Bob Tom, John Roe.

TIMBER COMMITTEE: Arthur Bensell, Frank Simmons, Alfred Lane, Walt Easter, DeAnn Brown, Manual Rilatos, Ken Blacketer.

BINGO COMMISSION: Dan Rilatos, William Towner, Jr., Jane John, Alfred Lane, Kristi Martin.

Annual Available In April

Over the past decade, there has been a tremendous increase in the public's demand for information about American Indians and their heritage. In response to this demand, a publication entitled the NATIVE AMERICAN ANNUAL will be available in April, 1985. The publisher of this first such comprehensive ANNUAL is a Native American, Margaret A. Clark-Price, graphic designer, artist, editor and television show personality. The ANNUAL will have in excess of 100 pages of editorial material and will contain NO advertising, thereby not spoiling the flavor of this non-commercial venture. It is a publication aimed at showcasing and promoting the American Indians' point of view about their past and present.

The NATIVE AMERICAN ANNUAL, printed on glossy stock, is being designed by one of the leading graphic

designers of the U.S., Mr. Roy Walden, Professor at several universities and lecturer of graphic design throughout the U.S. The editorial content of the publication is being written by respected and knowledgeable authorities on American Indians. The Advisory Board is comprised in part, of members of the Native American Press Association and other experts on American Indian affairs.

This publication is designed as an ANNUAL to be kept for future generations and will be sold through a direct-mail campaign for \$8.95 (pre-publication price of \$6.95). It will also be distributed to educational institutions, libraries, museums and newsstands as well as Indian Reservations throughout the U.S. For further information, contact Margaret A. Clark-Price, Publisher, The Native American Publishing Company, inc., 760 Mays Blvd., No. 6, P.O. Box 6338, Incline Village, Nevada 89450 (702-831-7726).

Council Members Take Oath



Three Council members take oath of office February 16, 1985. The three were elected during the February 4, 1985 elections. Each term is for three years. The three are from left to right: Mary Alice Muncey; Vernon Brown; and Douglas Brown.

Artists Invited To Display Work At Fair

Dear Respected Artist:

This is an invitation to you to join with us in our FOURTH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN ART FAIR.

The Fourth Annual Native American Art Fair will be held on Saturday, March 9, 1985 from 10:00 - 8:00 P.M. at the Suquamish Tribal Center in Suquamish, Washington.

Free table space is available to all Indian artists for their displays or sales. All mediums of art are welcome in either a traditional or contemporary mode. For example: earrings, weavers, silver jewelry, paintings, drawings, pottery, etc.

For information call 598-3311.

Support Indian Owned Business

NEWPORT SHEET METAL

Heating — Venting — Air Conditioning

General Sheet Metal

Furnace Installation

Ducting — Electric — Gas — Wood

Chimney Installation

Chimney Tops — Stainless & Galvanized

— SHEET METAL —

Copper — Stainless — Galvanized

Pre-painted Aluminum

Free Estimates

265-5853

549 N.E. 1st

Newport, OR 97365

Jack Retasket

Keith Taylor