Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #19-10
FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Whereas, the Pawnee Business Council is the supreme governing body of the Pawnee Nation and is authorized to conduct business on behalf of the Pawnee Nation in accordance with Article IV, Sections 1 and 2 of the Pawnee Nation Constitution and By-Laws; and

Whereas, the Pawnee Business Council met in special session on February 28, 2019, at the Pawnee Nation Resource Center, duly authorized, with a quorum present; and

Whereas, the Pawnee Business Council of the Pawnee Nation adopts this resolution to endorse a plan for the development of a Museum and Cultural Center; and

Whereas, the Board of Directors of the Museum of the Pawnee Nation are in support of having a modern, professional Museum and Cultural Center in Pawnee that would house, among other offices, exhibit space, artifact storage, cultural classrooms, language program & classrooms, conference rooms, ethnobotany/horticultural gardens, offices, break areas, shipping/receiving/packing/quarantine area, sound recording studio, exterior classroom space, research library, and gift shop; and

Whereas, the Pawnee Nation increased the rate for tribal Section 106 research/revision fees to $1,000 per cell tower (ground disturbance) and $750 for all collocations as of September 29, 2015 and has seen a considerable increase in the revenue from these tribal consultation fees; and

Whereas, those fees collected by the Pawnee Nation Office of Historic Preservation were intended to fund cultural preservation activities, language preservation and retention, historical preservation activities, the Museum of the Pawnee Nation, and tribal operations; and

Whereas, a decision handed down by the Federal Communication Commission in contradiction to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, absolved private businesses from paying fees requested for research and review by American Indian Tribes, among them the Pawnee Nation, resulting in our efforts toward cultural preservation activities, language preservation and retention, historical preservation activities, the Museum of the Pawnee Nation, and tribal operations being threatened; and

Whereas, the Pawnee Nation has provided leadership and assistance to the Indigenous peoples of the United States regarding repatriation and reburial of ancestors which evolved into the writing and implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act; and

Whereas, the people of the Pawnee Nation hold our unique and ancient culture, language, customs, traditions, and cultural landscape of paramount importance to the continued healthy survival of our community; and

Whereas, the Association of Tribal Archives Libraries and Museums is proposing to enter a project with the Pawnee Nation to help our community design a prototype Museum and Cultural Center that can be used as a model for
other small to mid-sized Indigenous communities with the help of graduate students of the architectural department of Oklahoma State University.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Pawnee Business Council does hereby approve the partnership between the Pawnee Nation, the Board of Directors of the Museum of the Pawnee Nation, the Pawnee Nation Cultural Committee, and the Association of Tribal Archives Libraries and Museums to develop a plan for the creation of a Museum and Cultural Center.

CERTIFICATION

I, Patricia McCray, Secretary of the Pawnee Business Council, certify that a Special Meeting of the Pawnee Business Council was held on the 28th day of February 2019 and that the Pawnee Business Council is composed of eight members, of whom 5 were present, 3 absent, compromising a quorum, and the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 1 not voting.

Signed this 28th day of February 2019

ATTEST:

Patricia McCray, Secretary
Pawnee Nation Business Council

W. Bruce Pratt, President
Pawnee Nation Business Council