

Middle Village Community Meeting
March 10, 2004 - 5:00 p.m.
Maehnowesekiyah

Legislators Present: Gary Besaw, Joan Delabreau and Ann Marie Johnson.

Community Members Present: Yvonne Lyons, Brian Tepiew Sr., Debra Pocan, Michael Reiter, Brianne Tepiew and Warren Wilber Jr.

Gary Besaw called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

George Howlett from Environmental Services was present and gave a presentation on Eurasia water milfoil. George informed the committee that the plant is infesting some of the lakes on the reservation and a plan is in place to spread an herbicide over 52 acres of lake to kill the plants. George explained that the plant is a nuisance because it is a fast growing plant and can form a canopy over the lakes which could kill other species in the water. The plant is also causing a problem for summer recreation such as, boating, fishing and swimming because you get caught up in the plant.

Community members wanted to know the dangers of the herbicide to people and to other plants and fish that are in the water. George stated that the herbicide does not pose a threat to humans or the fish and because there is no threat, no warnings will be in affect when the herbicide is applied. George stated that the herbicide will dissipate in about a week's time and if you would go fishing, there might be a funny taste to the fish caught during that time.

The herbicide will be spread in late May or Early June. Community members would like to be informed as to the official date when the herbicide will be spread.

Chairperson Gary Besaw stated that there is no set agenda and if any of the community members present have issues/concerns they would like to bring up, now is the time.

- Community members are concerned that with the snow melting there is so much water, peoples yards are flooding and a lot of the water is leaking into basements. Can't Housing do something about it? Joan Delabreau stated that houses are not the responsibility of Housing. The houses are the responsibility of Raymond James. Last year Housing did pay for some repairs on the houses but did that only because they felt really bad because of the condition of some of the houses.
- Can't Land Use/Community Development do some landscaping to alleviate the problem? Legislators will look into it.
- Who takes care of dogs? Legislators stated that there is a dog catcher.
- Community members are very concerned about the dog problems in Middle Village and people not keeping their dogs on chains. The dogs are big and mean and have went into some yards and killed peoples pets. Community members stated that they can't even take walks around the block because they will get chased by these dogs. Legislators stated that at the next Community Meeting we will have the dog catcher present and Gary Besaw and Ann Marie Johnson will take the issue to the Law Enforcement Ad Hoc Committee.
- Why doesn't the tribe help with out of town people with a place to stay that come up here for funerals? Joan stated that the Casino has a policy for funerals and offers a discount to enrolled members traveling here to attend funerals.
- Sidewalks in Keshena are terrible.

- Why are there not more streetlights by Warrington Addition? Streetlights are a County issue.
- Can something be done with the intersection of Hwy G & 47? Community members stated that the intersection is very dangerous.
- Who owns the house that burned down in Middle Village? The tribe owns the house.
- What is the tribe going to do with it because right now it still hasn't been cleaned up and is becoming a safety issue with children playing around it?
- Can someone lease the land? Have to check with Land use because all the land may not be in trust.
- Why aren't the Middle Village firefighters responding when called and who do you go to with concerns about the fire department? Nick Uttech is in charge of the Middle Village fire department and if you don't want to go to him, you can talk to his supervisor Doug Duquain.
- How many Counties are dumping their garbage in our dump? Community members concerned because they always see non enrolled members taking truck loads of garbage to the dump. Joan Delabreau stated that Legend Lake was advised that they can't be using the dump and are to use the curbside pickup.
- Can't community service people monitor the dump area?
- Who do you call if you find garbage in the woods? Call Conservation. Community members concerned that the woods in Middle Village has a lot of garbage.
- When is the jurisdiction issue going to be resolved?
- Is it right that Tribal Police can stop you in Middle Village and detain you until Shawano Police arrive? Yes they can do that because it is Shawano County but it's also Menominee Reservation.
- Can speed bumps be put in? Community members stated that people go dangerously fast through the neighborhood and especially the MISD and Tribal School buses. Speed bumps can be put in but when it comes time to plow, the plows will destroy them anyway.
- What else can be done to slow drivers down? Ann Marie stated that she will take the issue to the School Board about the speeding buses.
- Can something be done about the 4 wheelers in the area? Right now the 4 wheelers are speeding all over the roads, sidewalks and through peoples yards. Gary will bring the issue to Law Enforcement Ad Hoc Committee.
- Is there anyway to get dumpsters in Middle Village for spring cleaning like Keshena & Neopit do?
- Is there anyway the tribe can volume buy outdoor woodstoves and sell them to tribal members?
- What rights do children have when police question them?
- Why can't individuals take non-Menominee's into the woods? Many tribal members have sister in laws, brother in laws or other family members that aren't Menominee but would like to see the reservation and we as tribal members aren't allowed to take them into the woods.

Gary Besaw thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and for bringing up all their concerns. Gary would like to have a follow up meeting on April 5, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. at Maehnowesekiyah and to have members of Law Enforcement present especially the dog catcher.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
 Respectfully Submitted by
 Legislative Staff Services