Connecting generations of Georgetown tribal members to the roots of their traditional community.

Fall 2022



Annual Meeting



3 Council Meeting



5 TEK Gathering



# **Annual Meeting 2022**



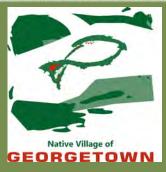
It has been a while since we last had an in-person annual meeting — 2019 to be exact. After several years of hosting the annual meeting as a virtual event, we were glad to be in-person again. We were hoping to see more members at the Long House Hotel in Bethel in August but we were glad to those that were able to make it. We set up the teleconference line as well, but without a proper teleconference setup, it was spotty at best.

We would like to congratulate this year's election winners David "Buddy" Kutch (Seat A) and Jonathan Samuelson (Seat D). Charlene from Great North CPA's, was there to accept any last-minute in-person ballots and to certify that quorum was made along with announcing the winners.

After the election results came updates from the TA and staff members. Barbara, the Environmental Coordinator, gave an update on water quality testing done this summer and the TEK gathering that was held at the end of July. Eric, the Program Director, gave an update on transportation, the current assistance programs, and the ARP funds. Both staff members fielded questions from those in attendance. The staff also presented nominations for Tribal Member of the Year and that honor went to Helen Vanderpool. Congratulation Helen!

As the evening came to a close, we held a drawing for door prizes with YKHC and Donlin Gold donating items along with the drawing for the four \$50 early bird prizes. Betty Evans, Kattie Wilmarth, Traci Maczynski, and Irene Venes were this year's winners. Afterward, it was time to clean up and get ready for the evening flight back to Anchorage.

At the last quarterly meeting held in September, the Council mentioned that many of you were unaware of the date, time, and location of the Annual meeting. We did post the information on our website, facebook page, and the letter included with the ballot. We will work at doing a better job of keeping you informed for next year's meeting. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact the office. See you at the 2023 Annual meeting.



5313 Arctic Blvd. Ste 104 Anchorage, Alaska 99518 www.georgetowntc.com

T: (907) 274-2195 1-888-274-2195 toll-free F: (907) 274-2196 E: info@georgetowntc.com

## COUNCIL

Chairperson Traci Maczynski Seat C/ Term expires: 2023

Vice Chairperson David Kutch Seat A/ Term expires: 2025

Treasurer/Secretary
Valerie Dudley
Seat B/ Term expires: 2023

Member Jonathan Samuelson Seat D/ Term expires: 2025

Member Gary Fredericks Seat E/Term expires: 2024

#### **STAFF**

**Tribal Administrator**Dan Decker

Environmental Coordinator Barbara Johnson

**Program Director** Eric Dietrich

Tribal Liaison Genevieve Ioane

# Announcements

### New Tribal Member Liaison/Environmental Assistant



I am Genevieve Ioane. I am the new Tribal Member Liaison for the Native Village of Georgetown. I hailed from one of the territories of the United States of America, which is American Samoa. I am the seventh child out of ten children. Before I moved to Anchorage, AK from home (American Samoa), I was serving and protecting the people of my country as a Police Officer. I served my country as a Police Officer for twelve years (2006-2018). I hate to brag that I was one of the good ones. I was awarded twice in two years as Police Officer of the quarter;

and once as Police Officer of the year. I missed being an Officer of the law; but we all have our reasons. So, here I am a single mother raising my four beautiful children in Anchorage, AK. My children and I moved here to Anchorage in July 2018.

I started as a security at Walmart in three different locations (DeBarr, Midtown, Dimond). In 2019 I found another job with Rural Cap (Homeless transitional housing) I was hired as a monitor there. I monitored residents from a camera. It was a great experience; I got to interact with people. Help them with their paperwork and much more that they needed help with. In December 2020 I got hired from Geogroup Inc. (Halfway House) with the Federal Bureau. I was a monitor II (Supervisor). This program is a re-entry program for federal inmates from Bureau of Prison to prepared inmates before they get released to the community. I loved what I did, but at the same time I wanted to try something different. I still work for Geogroup Inc. as a part time monitor.

When I received the phone call from this job (Tribal Member Liaison) for an interview. I prayed about it because I wanted to try something different. I am happy and blessed to work with very amazing people. I have learned lots of new things, and much more from these three awesome people that I work with at the Native Village of Georgetown Office. My first Annual Meeting 8/27/2022 (Bethel, AK) I got to meet council members and enjoyed my first time in Bethel. Pleased to meet you all.

If you need help with anything don't hesitate to call or stop by at our office in Anchorage. If I can't help you, I will guide or transfer you to our Administrator Director Mr. Daniel, Decker, our Program Director Mr. Eric, Dietrich, or our Environmental Coordinator Ms. Barbara, Johnson.

# Council Meetings

# Georgetown Tribal Council September 17, 2022 Quarterly Meeting

The Georgetown Tribal Council, the governing body of the Native Village of Georgetown, met Saturday September 17, 2022, for its quarterly meeting. Council Members that attended the meeting in person were Buddy Kutch, Traci Maczynski, Gary Fredericks, Valerie Dudley, and Jonathan Samuelson. Tribal Member Shirley Vanderpool attended by phone.

There were no people to be heard.

# During the meeting the Council:

- Approved the agenda after adding Pre-Audit Committee to committee reports, adding AVCP convention to old business, KITFC report as # 12 to new business, and moving Tribal Admininstrator report and ARP to before agenda item.
- Approved the minutes from the last quarterly meeting on June 25, 2022
- Swore in Jonathan Samuelson and Buddy Kutch as council members
- Elected officers with Traci Maczynski as Chairperson, Buddy Kutch as Vice Chairperson, and Valerie Dudley as Secretary/Treasurer.
- Assigned Council members to chair committees
- Created a new ARP funding committee that will have 5 member of which as least 2 should be council members.
- Entered into Executive session
- Reviewed Administrative reports from the staff and the Tribal Administrator along with financial reports
- Received updates from the Environmental, Policy, Enrollment, Land, Community building, and preaudit committees.
- Motioned to table the update of the TEK Gathering in Georgetown as the Environmental Coordinator was not in attendance.
- Ordinance 22-01 was moved to the Policy committee
- Buddy is the delegate for the AVCP convention and Traci is the alternate.
- Reviewed the applications for M.F. and K.B. and approved both application for enrollment
- Update on updating the bank documents. Bank will not take digital signature but will take scan of signed document. Traci will talk to Bethel branch and send out new documents if needed.
- Gary mentioned the audit company that his job works with is working on compiling a list of approved ARP expenditures but will not be completed until late November
- Approved applying for the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund

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Council Meeting continued from page 3

- Discussed who they should vote for the YKHC Unit 3 Representative. Although it is an individual vote they agreed to vote for Mary Willis.
- Discussed the storage of the NVG boat. Currently stored at Henry Hill's in Sleetmute with an agreement till June. It is noted that there is not a lot of options and council asked staff to follow up to see it it can be renewed again for next year. Staff noted that the boat was using Mid Kusko Marine's trailer and will need to purchase a trailer for Sleetmute to make it easier to get it to and from the river and storage.
- Asked staff to (1) find a place to store the old boat motor in Bethel, and (2) place the old motor for sale by sealed bid for a minimum of \$3,000
- Approved the EPA Tribal Environmental Plan (ETEP) as presented
- Received an update on the Kuskokwim Inter Tribal Fish Commission from Jonathan Samuelson that
  include the change in the director to replace Mary Pektola and that there is a new consortium forming
  that will include the Kuskokwim, Yukon, and other areas in Western Alaska in regards to salmon management.
- Discussed ways to use the ARP funds, job training, other assistance types. Decided that these ideas can be followed up more with the ARP funding committee. Asked the Tribal Administrator to have some programs ready to review at the October meeting.
- Gave the actions from the Executive session as Gary motioned that the chairperson review and approve all non-reoccurring expenses over \$500 for the next 90 days.
- Set the next quarterly meeting date to December 10, 2022 at 11 AM

### **Motions**

Motion to change the agenda

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 25 quarterly meeting

Motion to start an ARP funding committee that would have 5 members with at least 2 Council members Motion to enter into Executive session

Motion to table Ordinance 22-01 and send it to the Policy committee

Motion to table TEK gathering until next meeting

Motion to approve enrollment applications for M.F. and K.B.

Motion to approve the application for the LATCF

Motion to sell/ put out to bid the 2004 125 Mercury two-stroke outboard motor for a minimum price or \$3000 and to end the bidding process 2 weeks after posted

Motion to approve the ETEP as presented

Motion to suspend the rules to move the Tribal Administrator's report, financials, and ARP to be the next items

Motion to have the Chairperson or his or her designee approve financial transactions, for the next 90, over \$500 unless it is a reoccurring payment.

Motion to set the next meeting date for December 10, 2022 at 11 AM Motion to adjourn

Council Meeting continued on page 6

# Environmental

# **Georgetown First Nations TEK Community Gathering**

We would do it all over again in the blink of an eye if we had the chance. That is what I am willing to bet if I interviewed every one that went on the Georgetown Traditional Ecological Knowledge Gathering. Or what simply became known as The Gathering.

Its been almost two months since we went on the three day trip to Georgetown during that last weekend of July and finished on the 1st of August. The thoughts and memories are still fresh and I was given the opportunity to write about them. Someday for this newsletter or otherwise I would like to interview people that attended with hopes to share their thoughts of what was learned and/or valued by them. So heads up to those that made it to the gathering. I will be reaching out. I hope we can all do it again with more people and special memories.

There were 29 people that attended ranging from 5 to 80 years old. We also had some visitors and guests that shared the great time and food with us. The weather was very nice overall and we were very lucky to have such great spaces to keep dry when it did rain.

Looking back on the trip I definitely remember the deep emotions before arriving and actually being up there on the river. The two emotions the stood out the most for me were excitement and peace. All of the errands, preparation and planning that was done by so many people to make the gathering work, really built up the excitement. I want to say thank you very much to everyone that made it possible. We had a lot of work to do once we arrived. Loading and unloading the boats, cutting grass, clearing driftwood and paths, arranging and rearranging our visiting areas, food preparation and many other projects . Everyone worked very well together, helping and laughing a lot. More excitement was felt as different groups arrived at different times.

The peace came between breaks in those chores and during our formal agenda for activities. Us tribal members and our guests had fun talking and learning during each one. The young kids and elders were busy interacting with one another all day and into the evenings. My favorite parts about the gathering were many and impossible to pick just one. Like sharing stories around the fire. When we all took turns sharing our memories of Glen (Tiny) and Jan Fredericks. Many laughs and even a few tears were shed. We also talked about culture and language. Went berry picking and fishing. Around our camp were signs hanging in Yupik, arts and crafts, and beautiful beading classes. Contests in making agutak and flying toy airplanes with fun prizes.

Last but definitely not least was just being in that environment with friends and family. Early mornings and late nights looking at the land, being on the water and breathing that fresh clean air. We all know what that does for the soul and our peace. I hope all that are reading this are brought back to special places and times in their lives that are close to their hearts and minds.

Quyana and good day Jeff Venes



# Annual Meeting Photos/Updates











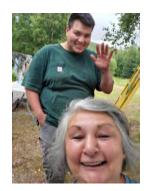


# **Committee Members Needed**

The Land Committee is looking to fill two positions. If you would be interested in serving on the committee, contact Buddy Kutch at david.kutch@georgetowntc.com or contact our office and we will pass on the information.

The Environmental Committee is still looking for someone to fill a vacant position on the committee. If you are interested or know someone that may be interested contact the Environmental Coordinator, Barbara Johnson at barbara.johnson@georgetowntc.com.

# TEK Gathering Photos

















5313 Arctic Blvd. Suite 104 Anchorage, AK 99518

# Upcoming Events



Check us out on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/Georgetowntribalcouncil

### October

10 Indigenous People's Day (office open)

18 Alaska Day

31 Halloween

### November

11 Veteran's Day (office closed)

24-25 Thanksgiving holiday (office closed)

29-30 BIA Providers Conference

## December

**1 BIA Providers Conference** 

**10 Quarterly Council Meeting** 

23 Christmas Eve observed (office closed)

24-25 Christmas holiday

26 Christmas Day observed (office closed)

30 New Year's Eve observed (office closed

31 New Year's Eve

## **January**

1 New Year's Day

2 New Year's Day observed (office closed)