

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS II
Office of the City Clerk

City Council of the City of Napa
Regular Meeting
June 23, 2020

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPA:

AFTERNOON SESSION:

4. CONSENT CALENDAR:

4.C. Polvora Card Room.

- Email from Keri Akemi-Hernandez received on June 23, 2020.*

****EMAIL OR HANDWRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE READ INTO THE RECORD BY CITY STAFF
DURING THE MEETING.***

Paulette Cooper

From: Keri Akemi-Bezayiff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 3:54 PM
To: Clerk; Jill Techel; Jill Techel; Doris Gentry; Liz Alessio; Mary Luros; Scott Sedgley
Subject: "COMMENT TO COUNCIL FOR JUNE 23, 2020 MEETING – PLEASE READ" June 23, 2020
City Council Meeting Agenda Item 4 C: Polvora Card Room

Categories: Unverified Contact

[EXTERNAL]

Good afternoon Jill and Napa City Council Members,
Although the card room has passed initial approval, I am requesting that there be collaboration with the Mishewal Wappo Tribe, the indigenous people of the Napa Valley, aka Talahalusi, who were forcibly relocated to Alexander Valley. I would like to see a portion of all earnings to be given to the tribe, who are legally able to provide gaming in California as an official Native American Tribe. Because these areas have **tribal** sovereignty, states have limited ability to forbid **gambling** there, as codified by the **Indian Gaming** Regulatory Act of 1988. The property Owner could donate a portion of their land to the Mishewal Wappo to put it in a Federal Trust.

An example of how this was done in the San Francisco Bay Area can be looked to model after the **Sogorea Te Land Trust** which is an [urban land trust](#) founded in 2012 with the goals of returning traditionally [Chochenyo](#) and [Karkin](#) lands in the [San Francisco Bay Area](#) to [indigenous](#) stewardship and cultivating more active, reciprocal relationships with the land.
<https://www.liveinpractice.com/sogorea-te-land-trust>

Shuumi Land Tax^[edit]

In order to financially support their goals, the Sogorea Te Land Trust has begun a project that it calls the Shuumi Land Tax (*shuumi* means "gift" in [Ohlone languages](#)^[3]), which asks non-indigenous people living on Ohlone land to pay dues for the land that they live on.^[1] The tax has no legal ramifications and no connection with the United States government or [Internal Revenue Service](#), but the organization prefers this term (as opposed to merely calling contributions [donations](#)) as it asserts indigenous [sovereignty](#).^[5] The suggested tax amount is calculated based on the would-be taxpayer's usage of the land: renters are asked to pay a small percentage of their rent, homeowners are expected to pay based on the number of rooms (for an estimated total between \$65 and \$500).^[6] Those who use the land for commercial purposes are expected to make a contribution based on the size and scale of their business.^[6]

https://napavalleyregister.com/news/local/mishewal-wappo-tribe-loses-court-appeal-case-opposed-by-napa-officials/article_a3583365-bb68-5280-8f8c-96e1a34df42d.html

<https://legacy.pressdemocrat.com/news/2306559-181/battle-over-wappo-tribes-future#:~:text=The%20Mishewal%20Wappo%20Indians%20of,privatizing%20California's%20small%20Indian%20reservations.>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sogorea_Te_Land_Trust

Regards,

Keri Akemi-Hernandez
[REDACTED]