

To the Friends of the North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team:

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team met in the big room of the Mason City Public Library and also Zoomed virtually on Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Those in attendance were Erica McBride, Dede Maloy, LeAnne Clausen de Montes and April Concepcion. Bill Orozco joined via Zoom.

Erica called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. It was determined that we had a quorum.

August 11 minutes: The previous month's minutes should have read that the meeting was held on August 11 and approving minutes from July 14th. Diane made the motion to accept the corrections and approve the minutes and seconded by LeAnne. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The end of August balance is \$8,488.12. There will be an expense for ad for canceling the Ethnic Lunch. Diane will update the group once the check clears and bank fee is computed for new balance.

Website and Facebook update: Will mention the Ethnic Lunch canceling.

Art/Writing Contest

The group viewed the NIACC media content. The link will be added to the website/FB. The participants and their families will get a link. Erica will check with Mara Ouerson on where NIACC website might add the link.

Old Business -

Events NIDAT Should attend next year:

- National Night Out - Diane got a Thank You card for participating. A good venue for NIDAT to hand out brochures and give-aways.
- Block Party
- Comic Book Day

NIDAT materials turn-over – Diane plans to digitize the documents turned over from Dan Gapinski to minimize the storage of materials and make the transferring from one member to the next manageable. She has taken possession of these documents as well as the give-away prizes and ended up with totes to keep in storage. Digitizing will help with space.

New Business -

New food truck in town – El Sabor Latino is seeing traffic of customers in a better location by the old K-Mart lot. There might be two more food trucks that Mason City will have soon.

Grant funds – After checking with Dan, the fund for Ethnic Lunch is OK to be unspent at this time of cancellation. There was no established time-frame to spend the money allotted for the event. The documentation to request funding is also part of the paperwork that Diane received from him. It contains the contacts and previous copies of the applications for:

- Fahrer - due by April; funds used for Art and Writing Contest
- Principal – due by July/August; funds used for printing brochures, Ethnic Lunch and other expenses. The format may be changing from grant writing/application to a sponsorship.

Immigrant Population – A Welcome Group is being formed to do something special to acknowledge, welcome and help socialize with key community partners for new immigrants in the area. With the pandemic the actual socializing may not happen very soon, but the planning needs to get started.

LeAnne will take the lead and would like to invite 4-5 more volunteers to start planning a gathering and informal potluck when Covid-19 is not an a surge and it is safe to gather a lot of community members in a setting meant for socializing and information exchange to benefit newcomers in the area.

If you are interested to or would know someone who would like to be in the planning group, please contact Leanne at: revleannecdm@gmail.com. The group will brainstorm the kind of gathering

(Breakfast/Lunch), securing a venue, and what kind of program or speaker to have and the frequency the gathering once it hits the ground.

Iowa Council of Native American Affairs – movement to stop using Native American names in mascots and school/business branding. NIDAT will talk more of this topic in the October 13th meeting.

New member – Hillary with Crisis Intervention reached out to Bill and e-mail information has been corrected.

Erica called the meeting to adjourn. Motion was made by Diane and seconded by April. The motion passed. The meeting ended at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

April Concepcion