

To the Friends of the North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team:

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team met virtually using Zoom on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. Those in attendance were Bill Orozco, Jane Ginapp, Diane Murphy, Pastor LeAnne Clausen de Montes, Jack Gannett and April Concepcion.

Bill called the meeting to order at 4:37 pm. It was determined that we had a quorum.

July 8 minutes: Pastor LeAnne made the motion to accept and approve the minutes. Jane made the second motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: No change from last month's balance of \$9,161.89.

Website and Facebook update: Agenda and minutes are being posted in the NIDAT website to update members who aren't present in the virtual meetings.

Neighborhood Historical Facts:

Pastor LeAnne has a Facebook page. It will be shared around, will have a link for photos. It will need to get contacts and additional information for content. The best way to organize is to centralize information to Pastor LeAnne.

An idea to form a 2-person committee to gather information or through social media – build oral histories, a “living” project because it's based on memories and people's recollection. Build into acquaintances and stories of residents of Lehigh Row. Bill has stories and pictures that can start off from the group being a resident with stories to share.

Pictures that could be shared would help the visual pull of the project, this will give an idea of what the area looked like before, what has changed, and what has stayed the same.

Jack recalls of a resident who was a railroad worker who shared of a conflict with a group that was out of Manly maintenance workers.

The group expressed that it would have been an opportunity to get clarification from members, especially Terry, who attended and shared last month and could have repeated key items that was not recorded due to audio issues due the meeting.

Art/Writing Contest

Katie was not in attendance but she has contacted NIACC to reboot the Art and Writing Contest. With all the changes with the pandemic, there is an opportunity to make use of the virtual leaning to tap into more participation/entries with the invitation/advertising using digital media.

Social media will also push the contest further now that there is higher digital footprint for school work.

The group believes that this will drive a newer platform of highlighting submitted work and easier display of these vs. hardcopy content of the book. Parents can share their child's work and carry more attention vs. paid advertising. It might shift costs allocated/budgeted for the contest.

Jane will contact Katie if she is available to attend the next meeting.

Old Business

Hispanic Group with Angelina Perez – has a Facebook group page ready to advertise/ introduce/ launch to get their number of members up. Open to all for an opportunity to connect.

Letter of Support drafted by Jane for St. John's Baptist Church Restoration – the letter was reviewed by the Mayor's office and was given an OK. She will get it signed and give to Pastor LeAnne.

There is a window sponsorship program going on to get more people involved with the restoration project.

New Business

An Eat-week is being proposed in an effort to revive recall of Ethnic Lunch at the Park that was canceled due to the pandemic. Some ideas were to make an announcement on September 18th to support local restaurants. May also use the previous year's posters to highlight the vendors and see if a Facebook event can also drive the interest to eat local and support different restaurants in the area. April's food group is not a business, so it was suggested to mention the Filipino store in Willowbrook Mall and to anticipate a new Hispanic store, a Tienda, being opened at the north-side of Mason City. Bill will reach out to Emily to see what she can push out from the group's Facebook page.

The meeting was called to adjourn by Bill and motion was made by Jack and seconded by Jane. Motion passed and meeting ended at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
April Concepcion