

Minutes November 9, 2022  
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, November 9, 2022. Those in attendance were Bill Orozco, Diane Murphy, LeAnne Clausen de Montes, and April Concepcion. Erica McBride, Dede Maloy, Lindsey Jones and Jack Gannet joined via Zoom.

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

**October 12 minutes:** LeAnne made the motion to accept the minutes and seconded by Diane. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** The balance beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> was at \$7,721.03. Deposit and checks written were made. Ending balance is at \$7,505.51 on October 31<sup>st</sup>.  
LeAnne made the motion to accept the balance and April seconded. Motion passed.

**Website and Facebook update:** Website is seeing agenda and minutes uploaded.

**Old Business -**

**Art and Writing** - Good points were raised by Erica on a separate e-mail to core members. Start planning for the contest early!

Timeline to set: Information and materials ready to go out around mid-December. The submission is around mid-January. The goal is to get the students to have the contest information before Christmas or just before break.

For age-groups with a busier schedule – can work December 1<sup>st</sup> with a February 1<sup>st</sup> for a deadline.

Theme: Define the question to form a personal connection on the student. Brief and clear question will help with better scoring for judges too.

Advertising: Some PDF's can be re-used. NIACC's Diversity group has undergone a name change, the logos and marketing materials will be updated.

Early mention of virtual or in-person ceremony will help with the buzz of the contest.

Judging: The rubrics that came from NIDAT, there was comment that the judges were confused with the language. This is copy/paste format from year's past. The group has offered the option for NIACC to take over to revamp it. NIACC will be better equipped to tweak these vs. NIDAT members based on timeline to meet goals. NIDAT will get a follow-up and a preview to allow comments and concurrence.

E-mails: There are likely filters that blocks these e-mail introduction for the contest from NIACC to the teachers/administrators/etc. The group discussed that a letter to the different principals and superintendents might help with getting the word out to trickle down to teachers to their classes. The goal is to connect better to the teachers to watch out for additional details on their e-mail.

**Immigration** - LeAnne has written to Lutheran group and made mention assets and resources that there are refugee-ready groups in Iowa waiting for guidance.

There is a steady influx of Pacific Islanders, Hondurans, Micronesians into the community. Word-of-mouth about living in the area and opportunities have been happening on sports events like baseball games. These newcomers have immigrated in other states and end up moving in the area because they heard good things. Great additions to the school. There is also a downside where the opportunity is about the person/s who collect a referral bonus at work and do not take the time to mention the available services and resources.

Food banks: Food assistance in demand, would be good to identify specific items they are in need of. LeAnne will inquire. There is also a need to have a focus group since there are different levels of commitment to assist.

**New Business** – Time to plan a potluck to get an international club going. Hosts could be St. James or NIACC? Could be a once a month gathering sometime on an afternoon to start this up. Some places already doing a welcome potluck are the synagogue and the mosque. The public is welcome to attend these. Check their website for the schedule and add to your calendar! Bill called the meeting to adjourn. Motion was made by LeAnne and seconded by Jack. The motion passed. The meeting ended at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
April Concepcion