

Minutes September 13, 2023
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 13, 2023. Those in attendance were Bill Orozco, Diane Murphy, Laura Frey, and April Concepcion. We were joined via Zoom by Erica McBride and Rev. LeAnne Clausen de Montes.

Bill called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm. It was determined that we had a quorum.

August 9 minutes: Diane made the motion to accept the August minutes. Laura seconded, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The balance as of August 9th started at \$6,715.66. There were deductions from the winner of the Art and Writing Contest and ethnic lunch expense totaling 200.32. The balance ended at 6,515.34.

Website and Facebook update Website is seeing agenda and minutes uploaded. FB has mentioned the Ethnic Lunch and is coming up soon.

Old Business

Art and Writing –

Erica updated the group that she met with the Performing Arts Director of NIACC, and the idea of merging formats of the contest was well received. There is excitement to having an in-person gathering to award winners in campus.

The plan is still on track –

- Get materials to academic advisors sooner. The goal was for September. Erica will continue to work with Mara and hopes to set time next week.
- Goal is to have a soft date to set a deadline for February.

Immigration – No firm update. LeAnne will share information via e-mail to the group. The Black Joy celebration and multicultural event will happen on September 16th at Central Park. Vendors were invited, and a draft program planned to kick off the event.

St. John Church is progressing with the structural inspection being good. There is a second meeting happening soon.

Synagogue will have Rosh Hoshana soon. There are visits for Friday and Saturday. There will be services for Yom Kippur.

Inter-faith program at the mosque – demonstration of Muslim prayer and informal discussion to follow.

Ethnic Lunch –

September 15 is on countdown to two days. Punch list items are:

- We have six alternative school volunteers to help set up and tear down. The group put to a vote to increase the token allowance given for the volunteers from 10 to 12. Diane made the motion and seconded by Laura. The motion passed and each student will have \$12 value for tokens to spend at the park.

- Volunteers have been contacted and have volunteers from the members.
- Check with Lindsay James with Mainstreet to inform businesses of the road closure.
- Electrical is OK.
- Greek Orthodox Church checked on advertising at their tent. The group deemed it to be OK.
- Bill will check that there is an available conference room to count out the tokens.

New Business –

There is a need to organize the paper files that date back to the formation of NIDAT. The city recommended that for optimal record-keeping needs to be digital; and the city will retain these records.

Plan –

- Need to meet in a bigger room with tables to stack files.
- As a group, will have to discuss how to sort and decide what records to keep.
- Once there is a consensus on the type of record to keep, divide up the paper for scanning to finish the task quickly.

Bill called the meeting to adjourn with a motion from Diane, this was seconded by Laura. The motion passed. The meeting ended at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Concepcion