

Minutes December 13, 2023

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team met in the big room of the Mason City Public Library and also Zoomed virtually on Wednesday, December 13, 2023. Those in attendance were Bill Orozco, Diane Murphy, Laura Frey, Krista Ditsworth, and April Concepcion. Erica McBride and LeAnne Clausen de Montes joined via Zoom.

Bill called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm. It was determined that we have a quorum.

October 11 minutes: Diane motioned for the minutes to be approved and Laura seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: There was no activity and the current balance as of end of November remains at \$6,225.47.

Website and Facebook update: Website is seeing agenda and minutes uploaded. FB page updates from groups Diane has joined.

Old Business -

Art and Writing –

The ceremony for Common Read This I Believe event will take place at 7 p.m. on April 11th. This topic ties very well with Diversity. The submission date for entries is March 1st. The K-12 process will be the same process. By March 25th, the presenters will be identified.

NIACC Marketing will help get the advertising out for K-12. Erica will need examples from Diane on rubrics, flyers/ad and consent forms. The plan is to have language on the consent form asking if the student is willing to present their work.

For in-person ceremony, this creates an opportunity for photo-op with NIACC staff or local representatives. There is no admission fee, the plan is to make this a free event for anyone to attend. NIACC Common Read is meeting in January, and there will not be any update to give during the next NIDAT meeting.

Immigration –

January may be the target for community-based leaders to set a meeting together. The size of the student body can benefit from the influx of immigrants or refugees. There are pre-approved asylum seekers who can add vitality to the school system.

Ethnic Lunch –

Bill has sent out the Thank You cards with a Save the date for September 20, 2024. Bill has a new contact for Bethlehem-Lutheran church. He has made contact with Parks and Rec for the event. The City will be okay with a 6-8 week of reminder.

Election of officers –

Outgoing Secretary is April Concepcion, with incoming to the position, Krista Ditsworth.

Outgoing Treasurer is Diane Murphy, with incoming to the position, Bill Orozco. Bill already has access to the checking account.

Outgoing Co-Chair is Bill Orozco, no one was selected or has volunteered to the position.

Co-chair Erica McBride – in term.

The new officers will start their terms for 2024-2026. Diane and Bill are to remain in the checking account until a new co-chair is appointed.

We are still seeking a co-chair to fill the vacancy. Duties include sending out agenda and calling the meeting to order, every second Tuesday of the month. Bill will be the contact point for Ethnic Lunch and remaining co-chair Erica McBride is the contact point for Art and Writing Contest. The position is a two-year term and alternates to the other co-chair for another two-year. If anyone wishes to consider the vacant co-chair position, please contact Bill or Erica.

New Business –

There is a MLK celebration to be held on January 14, 2024, at First Congregation (FGUCC). They will honor individuals who are pioneers to their respective field of expertise as Living Historical Figures.

St. John's Church is getting wheels in motion to get their renovation started.

Micronesian Church located in the basement at 1801 S Wilson Street in Mason City had pipes bursts and water damage. Their community is in need of funding to get repairs done and make the building safe for use.

Bill called the adjournment of the meeting with a motion from Diane and seconded by Krista and it passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Concepcion