

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team (NIDAT) met on Wednesday, July 12, 2006 in the second floor conference room of City Hall. Those present included: Jane Ginapp, Dan Gapinski, Mary Lopez, Elaine Olson, Joy Drennen, Mary Hamiel, Stella Ortez, Lahoma Counts, Jim Spencer and Dixie Lamoreux.

Introductions were made at the start of the meeting.

Dan gave an update on the grant NIDAT is applying for from Principal to assist in covering costs for "Food By The Park 2006" and also the "Hispanic/Latino Cultural Festival". Both events will be held mid September. Dan gave draft materials to Spenc and Jane to get the information he needs to complete the application. His target date is August 15th to have it completed. It is due September 1st with decisions made about two weeks later. Since NIDAT is working in partnership for the Hispanic/Latino Cultural Festival, an additional \$500 is being requested. That makes the amount \$1500 that we are asking for from Principal.

Jane updated us on the situation in Central Park. She attended the Park Board Meeting on Tuesday evening where she was told that they are excited to have events held downtown, and met with Mark Suby at 8:00 am on Wednesday. He explained all of the dos and don'ts to her and showed her the electrical hookups, etc. in the park. We will need some 50-foot, heavy-duty extension cords, but should have no problems with the amount of electricity available to us. She also got the application to request having the street blocked off for the event. There is a \$50 deposit that goes with the application, but it will be returned to us. We will be requesting that Federal Avenue be closed off between State Street and First Street North. This should allow ample room for vendors and also for seating. Elaine is going to contact Mark Suby and ask if we can have about 12 picnic tables brought up from East Park for seating. Spenc will be getting the drop cords and tables for the vendors. Spenc is going to ask Joey at Northern Lights to check into getting tablecloths for the picnic tables donated.

There had been some talk of changing the name of the event since we will not be in the park this year. It was decided that we would call it "Lunch By Central Park 2006".

We have decided to sell tickets for fifty cents each for purchases from the vendors. This will eliminate the vendors having to have money. NIDAT will sell the tickets (Mary and Lahoma will do this.) Purchases will then be made with the tickets and vendors will turn those tickets in to get reimbursed. Joy will pay them at the end of the day. Mary stated that this is how things are handled at Thursday Night Live events and it works well. She will be getting the tickets for us. It was decided that we should have \$100 to start with and Joy will get that.

Spenc contacted Coca Cola and they will provide the drink and will just charge us a service fee. Jane is also going to check with Culligan about having some water available to drink. There is a fountain in the park, but someone mentioned that Culligan does this at no cost so she will check it out.

Lahoma will contact Ron at the Health Department regarding the necessary inspections for the event.

We will be doing four spots with 3Eagles radio in August and September to promote the events, but will also be contacting Radio Park and KCMR. Jane will also talk to Julie Birkedahl at the Globe Gazette about some coverage. Elaine told us that we can advertise free of charge on city water bills. They allow up to three lines of print. Jane is going to work something up and Elaine will get it turned in for that. Dixie is going to work something up for church bulletins and will bring it to the next meeting so we can get it in the bulletins and all use the same wording. Dixie will also be contacting the Chamber to get the word out in their newsletter and their "Blitz" they do to members of the Chamber. Mary will get it on the Downtown Association website also.

Spenc is going to contact Eric Branson from the HR Association and see if they are interested in having an exhibit this year. We will need to have all exhibits confirmed so the brochures can be printed right after the August meeting. We are presently thinking there will be exhibits from UNI, the Hispanic community, possibly an Asian display and maybe information from Northern Lights. We will be printing up 300 brochures to be distributed to businesses in the mall and downtown. Mary, Elaine and Jane will do this.

Jane will make signs listing vendor prices. She is also printing up a list for the vendors that tells what they need to have and/or do. This should be very helpful and eliminate confusion.

Things are going well and each year we seem to get a little better and more organized.

The meeting adjourned about 5:10. The next meeting will be on August 9th at 4 PM.

Respectfully submitted –
Dixie Lamoreux