

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team met in the second floor conference at City Hall on Wednesday, January 10, 2007. Those in attendance were: Hal Minear, Mary Hamiel, Lahoma Counts, Amy Kern, Ron Wagenaar, Jamie Nagel, Tammy Hove, John Gannett, Scott Pardoe, Matt Marquardt, Dan Gapinski, Jane Ginapp and Dixie Lamoreux.

Matt came to talk about taking over as our web site manager. He has worked with Kevin Suhr in the past and feels the transition will be quite easy for us. He and Jane will be in contact with Kevin and get that taken care of as soon as possible. His fee is \$25 per month which would include him posting our meeting minutes and events and that cost is cheaper than what we were paying. With Matt being local it should all work out better for us. He does suggest that we sit down with him and redesign the site as some of the graphics do not show. That would be a one-time cost of about \$400.

Mary talked about the Main Street Iowa award that NIDAT is being nominated for and the work that has been done so far on that. Much of the information has been gathered and they have some pictures from the September "Lunch by Central Park" event. She is looking for more pictures if there are some available. Lahoma thought she could help out with that.

Jane spoke briefly about a possible fund raising match that is available through Thrivent. They match one third of the money raised up to \$1600. She is going to be meeting with someone to discuss it further. The thought was that if we are able to produce a calendar to sell at the September event this year we could use that and possibly get some money from Thrivent. We would use the artwork from the Black History contest for the calendar. We will need to check out different options available to us for having the printing of the calendars done including local printers as well as NIACC and Hamilton students who may be willing to assist us as part of a class assignment.

The entries for the Black History Essay/Art contests are in and number of entries is down quite a bit from last year. Judging for the contests will take place on Monday, February 15th and there will be an invitation letter sent to all winners congratulating them and inviting them to the event in the mall on February 1st. Dixie will do the letter and mail it out.

Flyers and programs will be printed and distributed. Jane is handling this. Dixie will be making certificates for all participants.

Prizes for the winners will be cash for first place winners in both art and essays and the Post Office is providing 2nd place prizes for essays and there will be Hobby Lobby gift cards given for 2nd place prizes for art.

Marshall Huffman was not at the meeting so we assumed since no one heard from him that the group of singers Regan Banks heads will not be at the mall event. That will still work out because we have the young harpist from Swea City that will be there.

Jane is going to email Lionel Foster with something to try and get on local television Channel 4 for the event. Dan and Jane will be attending the City Council meeting on the 16th (Tuesday) and receiving the Mayor's Proclamation to be read at the event.

Jamie will work on a Black History Informational display to have at the mall displaying different events pertaining to Black History. Julie Birkedahl will be covering the event for the Globe Gazette.

This event came together quite well thanks to the ideas and execution of those ideas that came from both old and new attendees at our diversity meetings. We are looking forward to it and hope attendance will be good.

Our next meeting will be on ***Wednesday February 14, 2007 at 4 pm*** in the second floor conference room at City Hall. All are welcome.

Respectfully submitted by Dixie Lamoreux