

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team (NIDAT) met on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 in the 2nd floor conference room at City Hall in Mason City. Those in attendance included: Elida Valdez Campos, Aimee Kern, Linda Woodcock, Lahoma Counts, Dan Gapinski, Jane Ginapp, Darcy Skellenger, April Concepcion and Dixie Lamoreux.

There was no treasurer's report as Joy was absent.

Dan reported that the Steering Committee had made some progress and that the by-laws are coming along nicely and will be ready for a vote earlier than September as originally thought. We will be using the basic Roberts Rules of Order. There may be some changes to make later but it looks like it will be done for the most part by July. When it is finished it will be emailed out so everyone can look it over before it comes to a vote at a meeting. One of the changes made will be who can vote and who cannot vote on certain items. The secretary will keep an attendance record to assist with this.

The Resource Directory for Cerro Gordo County is on the NIDAT website and we will be starting to add more counties. The order for them to be added was discussed and with Barry's input we decided that the counties will be added one at a time and in the following order: Franklin, Floyd, Worth, Hancock. Barry will get the format document for this and begin the process of getting information together.

The biggest item on the agenda is the preparation being done for the September event – Lunch by Central Park. We have only a few vendors confirmed as yet and others will be followed up and reported on at the June meeting. If we end up needing to have some type of dessert that isn't provided by a vendor, we may just ask NIDAT members to provide items for this. We are also still hoping that some new vendors will commit.

We do have some displays confirmed but are hoping to get more.

Before the June meeting we need to have everyone thinking about criteria we can use for awards that will be presented this year honoring an individual, a corporate award and a service award. This will be discussed at the June meeting and a committee formed to complete the process. We also need to have everyone thinking about nominations for each category.

Someone came up with the idea of having a presentation on a laptop highlighting NIDAT for the September event. If anyone knows of someone who could assist with this and has a laptop with the capabilities we would need, please let us know.

Jane will update the power point presentation she used on Mediacom Channel 4 last year and get it on again this year. We will also be checking with CL Tel in Clear Lake to have it put on their channel also.

Hopefully in June we will be able to have a pretty complete list of vendor and exhibitors for September 18th and finalize more plans. Dixie will be contacting Dennis Higgins regarding the electrical assistance we will need from him. The meeting adjourned at 5 PM. The next meeting will be June 10th at 4 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dixie Lamoreux