

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team (NIDAT) met in the second floor conference room at City Hall in Mason City. Those present were: Dan Gapinski, Jane Ginapp, Diane Murphy, Melissa Weiner, Jack Gannett, Elaine Olson, Aimee Kern and Dixie Lamoreux.

Jane called the meeting to order at 4 pm. A motion was made by Dan and seconded by Melissa to accept the minutes from the March meeting. After a vote the motion passed.

In Joy's absence Jane reported that our bank balance is \$1852.07.

Jane also made mention of some upcoming diversity conferences in case people are interested in attending. There will be one in Des Moines on August 21 and the Mosaic Conference will be held on October 18 in Ames. Dan will be attending the Mosaic conference thru Principal and NIDAT is looking to send someone also. If you are interested in going as a NIDAT representative, please contact Jane or Dan.

Jane shared the statistics from our website and the number of hits we have had. The pattern shows that typically after an event such as Lunch by Central Park, the number of hits goes up. With our two nig events being in September and March, the hits are higher in April and October than at other times during the year.

Dan shared information for the Steering Committee via a handout outlining recruitment strategies. He also mentioned that a nomination email will go out soon for the awards that will be given at the September event. Jane is going to check into having Jason (summer intern) put together information in a NIDAT brochure. These could hopefully be used in recruiting and as informational tools at events. Covered in the brochure will be a little history, meeting times, as well as what NIDAT is looking for and needs to find in prospective members and what NIDAT has to offer to individuals and to the community.

The first Tuesday in August (August 3) is the annual Police Night Out. This is a nationwide event and in the past NIDAT has set up a table with information on it. Hopefully the brochure will be done by then.

Dan updated everyone on the grant that was submitted to the Principal Group Foundation. It was submitted the end of April and if approved, we will have our money this year before the event in September. We should hear back by mid July. It was also suggested that we apply for funding for more than just the one event in 2011 when we apply.

Jane mentioned that Jason has already completed a lot of the Resource Directory and did a great job. We will now be looking to have it translated into Spanish. Jane will be following up with Matt Marquardt as he knows someone who might be able to do this for us. But before we go forward with this, we need to know what the cost will be. The biggest issue we will be facing with the Resource Directory is the monitoring and updating that will need to be done on a regular basis so it doesn't get out of date.

NIDAT is in need of having a couple of press releases done. Aimee agreed to do one on the Award Nominations that have an August 1 deadline for submitting a nomination form and Melissa will do one after the Resource Directory is finalized and ready to go. It is a good idea to do press releases whenever possible – the free publicity is always a plus.

The final topic of discussion was the Lunch by the Park event that will be held on September 17th. Because of the face lift being done in downtown Mason City; we will be holding the event in part of the parking lot and alley directly west and north of City Hall. Jane will be meeting with Randy Thomas, the city electrician to get

information on what options we have for supplying electricity to vendors the day of the event. Hilleri Jennings will also be at the meeting. There is a generator that city hall uses as a backup but we don't know if that is a possibility for us to use or not. There will be no street closings for the event although the north entrance to the alley (by the Elks club) will be blocked off. Folding tables and chairs will be rented the same as last year; some picnic tables and garbage receptacles will be brought up from East Park as in the past. Dixie is checking on a couple of cash boxes to use the day of the event. As always, the vendor line up needs to be organized and firmed up. If you have any ideas for new vendors, please let someone know. This year it may be a plus if they do not need to have electricity but we will be working on that issue.

Dan is checking into a Black History traveling display to use at the Sept. 17th event.

With no further business, Aimee made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Melissa seconded the motion and after a vote, Jane adjourned the meeting.

The next NIDAT meeting will be on Wednesday June 9th at 4 pm in the **BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM** at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by

Dixie Lamoreux, NIDAT Secretary