

The North Iowa Diversity Appreciation Team (NIDAT) met on Wednesday, July 14, 2010 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room at City Hall in Mason City. Those in attendance were: Joy Drennen, Dan Gapinski, and Jane Ginapp, Jason Semprini, Olena Schmitz, Lahoma Counts, Libby Lembke, Melissa Weiner, Merle Brockhaus, Diane Murphy and Dixie Lamoreux.

Jane called the meeting to order at 4 pm.

Joy reported that NIDAT has a balance of \$1854.24 in our bank account.

Jane asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions that needed to be made to the June minutes. With no response, Dan made a motion to accept those minutes as written; Joy seconded the motion and after a vote the motion carried.

Jane reported that she has been in contact with David Vikturek regarding NIDAT using Music Man Square for our annual Art/Essay contest awards next March and he told her to call and reserve the room. She did and the date of that event will be March 3, 2011.

Jane and Dan met with Mason City Chamber members Robin Anderson and Sue Armour. Dan highlighted the meeting saying that it was productive and that the Chamber is very willing to provide NIDAT with coverage on their web site as well as a link to the NIDAT site from theirs. They also will help us promote events via their newsletters. There is a small grant available thru the Chamber for advertising events outside a 90 mile radius. This will need to be considered.

Jane told everyone that our web site now has current (2010) pictures on it of the Art/Essay Contest Awards event.

The Annual Night Out Against Crime will be held in East Park again this year on August 3 from 5 to 8 PM. Jane said she thought we should have a table set up with NIDAT information and said she would be willing to work the table. Dixie agreed to help with this also. Brochures and bookmarks will be available at the table.

Jane received an email from a gentleman in Des Moines regarding the recent billboard that was put up in Mason City by the Tea Party. It was a racially motivated type of billboard aimed at President Obama and this gentleman stated that he felt NIDAT should respond to it. Since our meeting and the timing of the billboard were so close, it was brought up for discussion and the consensus was that a reply should be written in the form of a letter to the editor and sent to the local newspaper. Dan has agreed to write the response and it will be sent out to members for comments, additions, etc. After national coverage on the television as well as on the world wide web, the billboard has since been taken down which was definitely a good move.

Dan made copies of the logo work that Jason has been working on and after viewing what he has done and offering a few suggestions from those present, Jason said he will present a logo to vote on as the official logo for NIDAT at our August meeting.

Dan gave a brief grant update, stating that the Principal Foundation hasn't made any decisions yet. He will keep us informed and we are hopeful that we will be approved for the grant money we requested and that the award of that money will be before the upcoming Luncheon that NIDAT sponsors.

Brochures need to be gone over and inspected for any additions, changes, etc. so we can make a final commitment and have some printed up. Jane got a quote from PSI and is submitting a grant to First Citizen's National Bank and including the cost of the brochures and the cost of printing the books that we purchase for the Art/Essay Contest. This is a new grant that we have not applied for before so we are hopeful that we will be approved for some additional funding.

The final topic up for discussion was the Luncheon that will be held on the west side of City Hall on September 17, 2010. Jane reported that vendors that have been lined up include:

Holy Family Men's Club (Mexican Food)  
Susie Q (Tenderloins)  
Backyard Deli (Gyros) – not definitely confirmed until next week  
Greek Orthodox Church Women (Greek Deserts) (not yet confirmed)  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church (German Food)  
Olena Schmitz (Ukrainian Food and Uzbekistan desserts)  
Gilbert, a Principal employee (Tanzanian Food)  
Arlin Beemer from the Kiwanis's Club – not yet confirmed

So this makes for many new and different vendors for the event which is great for NIDAT. We also have a number of new ethnic exhibits that will be on display.

Publicity will be covered on the city water bills during the month of August; thru radio advertising and hopefully with an insert in the Globe Gazette. Jason also mentioned that he could set up a Face Book page for us and that would be a great advertising tool with no cost involved.

Aimee has written an article for the Globe Gazette that will hopefully help us get some nominations for the Individual, Corporation and the Service Organization awards that will be presented at the Luncheon Event.

Time ran out so with no further time for discussion, Dan moved that the meeting be adjourned; Diane seconded the motion and after a vote, the motion carried.

Next meeting will be on August 11, 2010 at 4 P<

Respectfully submitted by Dixie Lamoreux