

Native American Commission

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

Thursday

February 12, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Native American Commission of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was called to order in the City of Commission Room at City Hall at 5:41 PM, Thursday, February 12, 2015.

Willard Yellow Bird Jr. started the Commission meeting with a prayer.

The Native American Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: David Donahue, Sharon White Bear, Clinton Alexander, Guy Fox, Scott Satermo
Fargo City Staff member: Willard Yellow Bird Jr.

Absent: Crystal Gonzales, Melissa Sobolik, John Strand

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Alexander welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

2. **Presentation:** Sing Our Rivers Red **“Murdered & Missing Indigenous Women”** presenters: **Hannabah Blue** –Navajo, Public Health Services Project Manager at NDSU, **Tanaya Winder** – Southern Ute/Shoshone/ Paiute Nations, Director of the Boulder Upward Bound at University of Colorado, **Patty Stonefish**, Descended of Lakota Nation, Director of the Arming Sisters

Sing Our Rivers Red (SORR) event is to bring awareness to the epidemic of “Murdered & Missing Indigenous Women” and the colonial gender based violence in the United States and Canada to the indigenous women. SORR also planned with solidarity and with the collaborative spirit, meant to support these efforts that were built in Canada, to highlight the need for awareness and action to the United States. SORR is to recognize the strength of those voices to sing for our healing and to show support through the land and waters that across the borders.

Proclamation: The Cities of Moorhead and Dilworth, Minnesota and Fargo and West Fargo, North Dakota and call upon the citizens to observe this day and proclaim February 14, 2015 to be **“THE MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN AWARENESS DAY”** with appropriate programs and activities.

3. Approve Order of Agenda

Scott Satermo moved the Order of Agenda be approved as presented and second by Guy Fox. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Scott Satermo moved to approve the Minutes and was second by Guy Fox. All members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

5. Unfinished Business

- a. Strategic Planning Committee members: Guy, Crystal and Clinton met to review the standing committee list and combine the Executive committee and Finance committee

into one committee. Maylynn Warne will help with the committees strategic planning and to review their goals and objective. Each committee should be made up of 3 to 4 commissioners and should elect a leader and to meet with Maylynn with their committee and hope to have their first report in March meeting.

- b. On Friday, January 23 2015 the Native American Commission met in a strategic meeting at the Fargo Public Library as a strategic working meeting. Present for the meeting were Sharon White Bear, Clinton Alexander, Guy Fox, John Strand, Crystal Gonzales and David Donahue which made a quorum. The first order of business was the election of officers: Guy made a motion to have Clinton stay on as Chair for this coming year; the motion was second by Crystal. Clinton made a motion for Guy Fox to serve as Vice Chair the motion was second David. Guy Fox made a motion for Crystal to serve as treasure and the motion was second by David. All members present voted yes and the motions were declared carried.
- c. Executive committee presented the 2015 NAC budget during the strategic meeting in January and Guy Fox made a motion to approve the budget and Crystal second and all who were present voted yes and the motion to approve the budget was declared carried. The Fargo City Commission also approved \$30,000thousand to the NAC for their Social Service fund.
- d. Financial Requests will now go to Willard desk the Cultural Planner to review to see if the requests follow the NAC mission. If the requests are following the mission of the NAC Willard will forward the request on the Executive committee with recommendations and the Exec committee will bring it to the full board for approval and discussing. This should help will the financial requests to flow better.

6. New Business

- a. The NAC allocate \$1000 dollars to Woodland and High Plains Pow Wow to help with sponsorship and ad for the commission public relation advertising. There is a need to update the ad, flyers and pamphlets of the Native American Commission and also update the City's web page with the new officers. David and Sharon will help the updates. Commissioners also need to coordinate a time to sit at the NA commission to greet and talk about the mission and vision of the NAC.
- b. Fargo Marathon is coming up soon and we need to look at the new routes and coordinate a place for the drum groups. Willard will check with the Marathon organization and follow up at the next meeting. Last year we setup where the streets were block off which was a great place.

7. Native American Programs Announcements

The Three Affiliate Tribes from Fort Berthold are offering the Tribal-Care Insurance for the members who live off the reservation. You must call your segment where you vote to get the application to enroll this is just for the Three Affiliate Tribal members. Email address is info@tribal-care.com and they will offer an open enrollment again in October.

Sacred Spirits program has also been awarded funding to work with Native American communities to help with the Affordable Care Act and the Sacred Spirits will have application at their table during the Woodland and High Plains Pow Wow.

The Native American Commission would like to give a big thanks to the Cities of Moorhead and Dilworth, Minnesota and the Cities of Fargo and West Fargo for being the first Cities to provide an Proclamation on the "The Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women Awareness Day" in the United States.

Indian Taco and Fry Bread fundraiser at the Native American Center for the New Women group that been working arts and crafts and traditional sweat dresses for their empowerment of self awareness and spiritual needs.

8. Adjourn

Scott Satermo made motion to adjourn and was second by Guy Fox.

Next meeting: March 12, 2015 at 5:30 pm Fargo City Commission Room, City Hall