

Fargo Native American Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2015

Regular meeting

Item 1: Call to order

Chair Clinton Alexander called the regular meeting on the Native American Commission to order at 5:37 pm on March 12, 2015 in the City Commission Room, Fargo City Hall.

Item 2: Opening and Introductions

Members present: John Strand, David Donahue, Sharon Whitebear, Clinton Alexander, Guy Fox, and Crystal Gonzales

City Staff: Willard Yellow Bird

Item: 3 Standing Committee updates

Clinton Alexander would like to amend the agenda and the 2015 budget requests from Daughters of the Earth for the event being hosted at the Great Plains Museum for the Native Women's history.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Guy Fox, Sharon Whitebear

Item: 4 Approval of Minutes

John Strand had a correction to the next meeting date on the minutes March 12<sup>th</sup> not April 9<sup>th</sup>

Motion: Guy Fox, Second David Donahue

Item 5: Native American Center

Amanda Vivier, Volunteer work at Native American Center

- A. Drum group every Monday time from 6pm to 7pm
- B. March 27<sup>th</sup> family event JT Shining One-Sided will be doing storytelling and family activities. Held at community room at the Fargo library from 3:30pm to 6pm. Parents can enjoy quill dyeing and peyote stitch.
- C. March 29<sup>th</sup> contemporary sweat and a potluck at 2pm at the Native American Center following with a woman's group with craft activities.
- D. March 24<sup>th</sup> taco sale from 11am to 3pm at the Wesley Center 906 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. South to support the woman's group
- E. Near future they would like to do bead work and trade or barter for the woman at the Native American Center.

- F. Clinton Alexander commented on well group involvement for further description. Amanda Vivier explains they smudge, pray, elders reading, talks about personal daily life. It is a group that meets on Fridays to encourage one another.
- G. Crystal Gonzales asks Amanda Vivier if they would like assistance with additional publicizing for taco sale. Amanda Vivier says they would and Crystal Gonzales asks Amanda Vivier to stay after the meeting to discuss the issue further.
- H. Sharon Whitebear mentioned pow wow date March 28<sup>th</sup> held at Concordia college 2 grand entries 1pm and 7pm

Item 6: Mayors project

Willard Yellow Bird explains Mayor Tim Mahoney's Everybody Matters Day. April 2<sup>nd</sup> 7am public library.

Item 7: Woman's History Month

Friday Match 20<sup>th</sup> Daughters of the Earth is working with the Great Plains museum to bring Ladonna Brave Bull from Standing Rock to talk about the 500 year history of the Native American woman history. Held at Great Plains museum from 2pm to 4pm.

Item 8: Unfinished Business

Clinton Alexander updates on strategic planning and committee involvement. Guy Fox elaborates on sweat lodge committee meeting; the sweat lodge committee discussed future goals and priorities for the upcoming year. Short term goals for sweat lodge committee obtain proper garbage bins, chairs, picnic tables and arrange community wood chopping days. Clinton Alexander offers encouragement. John Strand offers to help with publicizing of public sweats. Guy Fox asks for advice on how to move forward with sweat lodge plans. Clinton Alexander also asks for advice on sweat lodge plans. Willard Yellow Bird and John Strand suggest working with the city of Fargo and the Park District on securing a more permanent location and resources for the sweat lodge. Crystal Gonzales, Clinton Alexander, John Strand, and Shrron Whitebear discuss additional suggestions for the sweat lodge committee. Guy Fox asks how to get sweat lodge items covered under the budget. Crystal Gonzales and Willard Yellow bird explain committee recommendations and request letters for money spent.

Clinton Alexander asks if there are any more committee updates. David Donahue says he will contact Pearl from NDSU about the anti-racism issues.

Item 9: Requests

Daughters of the Earth requests \$225 for their program  
Motion: Crystal Gonzales second David Donahue

Item 10: New Business

John Strand suggests that we encourage more Native American people to apply for Habitat for Humanity home applications. He also suggests we support Native American commission involvement in Bananzaville board.

Item 11: Adjourn

Motion: Crystal Gonzales second Guy Fox

Next meeting April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 5:30 pm