

# MINUTES

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

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**Sioux Falls  
Diversity Council**

1:30—3 p.m.  
Diversity Council Office—Human Relations  
Conference Room  
224 West Ninth Street

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Attendees: Chief Doug Barthel, Peg Canter, Ryan Green, Dr. Pam Homan, Clara Jacob, Jodi Schwan for Mayor Dave Munson, Carol Twedt, and Pastor Dwayne Williams.  
**Absent:** Qadir Aware, Teresa Frederick, Evan Nolte, and Betty Oldenkamp

Public Present/Guests: No public was present.

Staff: Dr. Bill Smith, Sioux Falls School District, Gary Colwill, Assistant City Attorney/Human Relations Manager, and Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant.

1. Welcome

- Vice Chairperson Jacob called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Barthel moved to approve the October 7, 2008, minutes; Williams seconded. The October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
- Green moved to approve the November 25, 2008, minutes; Twedt seconded. The November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

3. Public Input

- No public present to provide input.

4. Election of Officers:

- Twedt nominated Jacob for Chairperson; Barthel seconded.
- Homan nominated Williams for Vice Chairperson; Green seconded.
- The slate of officers was elected by unanimous vote.

5. On-Going Business

- A. Resource Directory** – (input from Oldenkamp via email) A review of the Helpline website found the 211 search feature has several drop down topics that provide for searching diversity related services e.g. Hispanic, languages,

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Chair: Betty Oldenkamp

Vice Chair: Clara Jacob

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE  
Betty Oldenkamp  
Clara Jacob  
Carol Twedt

DIVERSITY CONF. COMMITTEE  
Clara Jacob—Co-chair  
Tracy Vik—Co-chair

CHAMBER PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
Evan Nolte  
Jodi Schwan  
Qadir Aware  
Carol Twedt

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immigration, interpreting, minorities, refugees, Native American, etc. There is also a language translation feature to their website (which might be good to add to the Diversity Council website). For service directory, it may be adequate to link from the Diversity Council website to the Helpline 211 search page. This is just services, so the activities calendar would still be important to keep on the DC page.

Twedt moved to have the Media Committee look into what to do with the resource directory and bring options to the Council on how to disseminate the information. Green seconded; the motion passed with unanimous vote.

### 6. Committee Reports

#### A. Diversity Conference – Budget update.

- All of the sponsorships haven't been received yet. There is one, large sponsorship still outstanding. Colwill will work on getting that collected. Once all of the money has been received, the Council should have \$3,500 in the budget.
- The next Diversity Conference planning committee meeting is scheduled for February.
- The evaluations showed the overall approval of the conference. Twedt wanted to know if the information gathered by the surveys will help guide the planning for the next conference.

**B. Chamber Program** – This will be renamed to Resource Center program per email from Nolte – “The concept, as you know, is to develop a Resource Center for small business etc. at the Multi-Cultural Center...I would request that the Agenda item be changed from Chamber Report to Resource Center project for purposes of reporting.” He also stated “nothing has changed since our last report”.

### 7. New Business

#### A. Approve action plan and establish work groups/committees for the new priorities.

- The action plan was approved at the last meeting.
- Work groups would be: Education Committee; Media Committee and the Resource Center Committee.
- The education committee would like to pull in other members from the local colleges/universities. There are a number of higher education venues that could be interested in being part of the planning. Tracy Vik from the school district will remain involved. Jacob suggested that Frederick be the liaison between the Council and the education committee.

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- Jacob volunteered to chair a media committee. DeAnn Konrad from the school district would work well on this committee. Schwan would like to get someone from the City to be a representative. Green and Colwill volunteered to be on this committee. The media committee can help design marketing materials for the Council e.g. table skirt, display board layout, give aways, etc for the Council's community events booth.
- At the last meeting the Council discussed having a booth at various cultural events to connect with the diverse community. At the November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting the Council discussed four events, but may decide on more to attend. Martin Luther King Day, Inclusion Expo (disabilities), Cinco de Mayo, Festival of Cultures, Juneteenth, Gay Pride, and Native American Day were suggested. The Council wants to put together a survey for participants to fill out when attending the cultural event. The Diversity Council staff will find out the dates of these events and can coordinate who will be willing to be at the booth.
- Homan made a motion for the Council to have a booth at the Martin Luther King Celebration, BLN's Inclusion Expo, Cinco de Mayo, Festival of Cultures, and Native American Day. Williams seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
- The first event will be the Martin Luther King Day celebration. Homan will cover the booth at 7am; Twedt, Jacob, and Canter will cover the evening hours. Colwill will work out the survey and email it to the Council. The survey should have contact information for people to send in if they don't want to fill it out on the booth.

### **B. Future meeting places – decide on community center locations for meetings.**

- At the November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting the Council discussed scheduling meetings at various community centers in order to be more available to the community. After that discussion the idea to have a booth at the cultural events made more sense; at least to try it to see how successful it would be.
- If the Council has public input on the agenda, they should make sure the place they have meetings should be inviting.
- The Council should publish via press release the dates of their scheduled meetings.

### 8. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: April 7, 2009.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Gary Colwill*