

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fargo Human Relations Commission

FROM: Willard Yellow Bird, Cultural Planner, Community Development

DATE: August 11, 2017

RE: Human Relations Commission Meeting

The next meeting of the Fargo Human Relations Commission will be held on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. in the City Commission Room at Fargo City Hall. If you are not able to attend, please contact staff at 701.241.1474 or planning@FargoND.gov.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION Thursday, August 17, 2017 12:00 p.m. City Commission Room AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda & Minutes
3. Welcoming Week Update – Kevin Brooks
4. Black History Month Proposal – Jared Pigeon
5. Public Comment
6. Budget Requests
7. Work Prioritization and Next Steps
8. MLK Committee
9. Strategic Planning – Schedule for Fall

Human Relations Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel TV Fargo 56 and can be seen live by video stream on www.FargoND.gov/streaming. They are rebroadcast each Thursday at 12:00 p.m.

People with disabilities who plan to attend the meeting and need special accommodations should contact the Planning Office at 701.241.1474 or TDD at 701.241.8258. Please contact us at least 48 hours before the meeting to give our staff adequate time to make arrangements.

Minutes are available on the City of Fargo Web site at www.FargoND.gov/humanrelations.

xBOARD OF HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Thursday

July 20, 2017

A regular meeting of the Board of Human Relations Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held at the City Commission Room at City Hall at 12:00 o'clock p.m., Thursday, July 20, 2017.

The Human Relations Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Rachel Hoffman, Dave Lanpher, Paul Jensen, Cheryl Schaeffle, Barry Nelson, Abdiwali Sharif-Abdinasir

Absent: Hassan Lamba, Tanya RedRoad, Timothy Stone

Also Present: Willard Yellow Bird, Kara Gloe, Safia Gele, John Strand (City Commissioner), Vince Kempf (Cultural Liaison Police Officer),

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions

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

Item 2. Welcome New Member - Cheryl Schaeffle

Chair Hoffman introduced and welcomed new HRC member, Cheryl Schaeffle. Ms. Schaeffle stated that she is interested in serving on the Fargo Human Relations Commission because she has lived abroad and knows what it's like to be the "other."

Item 3. Approve Order of Agenda & Minutes: Regular Meeting June 15, 2017

Mr. Nelson moved to approve the Order of Agenda and the minutes of the June 15, 2017 Human Relations Commission meeting be approved. Second by Mr. Lanpher. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 4. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Item 5. Budget Requests

No budget requests were presented.

Item 6. Hate Crime Statement

Mr. Nelson delivered an update on the recent hate crime. Mr. Nelson informed the group that North Dakotans United Against Hate will be holding a rally on August 2, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. on the mall in front of Fargo City Hall, and they are considering setting up a Go Fund Me account to help the survivor defray medical costs.

Mr. Yellow Bird informed the group that the Department of Justice contacted him to get more information regarding the incident. Mr. Nelson said that CAIR has also been involved.

Chair Hoffman asked if advocating for Hate Crime Legislation is would be only on the state level or if it could also happen on the city level. Mr. Nelson responded by saying they are certainly advocating for state level, but it could also be considered at the city level.

Mr. Jensen asked how the fund will be set up and whom it will serve. Mr. Nelson said that perhaps the fund could be set up to serve survivors in the future, as well as the current situation.

Mr. Strand asked what policies the City of Fargo has in regards to hate crime. Mr. Nelson stated that HRC does have a Hate Crime response plan. Mr. Strand suggested HRC explore what role the City of Fargo might have in developing citywide ordinances on hate crime.

Mr. Strand asked if there is a link between Fargo PD to ensure that HRC knows about all hate crimes. Mr. Nelson stated that we do have a partnership with PD, but we need to be more intentional about it.

Ms. Schaeffle suggested that HRC should consider developing an educational program for judges. She further inquired about whether or not there's a victim's advocacy program. Mr. Nelson stated that he feels as though it's pretty limited.

Mr. Sharif-Abdinasir stated that without hate crime legislation, there's not much the local justice system can do. He further stated that there's a need for stronger advocacy for survivors.

Mr. Jensen asked if restraining orders are filed in these types of situations. Mr. Nelson stated that it is not automatic. Mr. Sharif-Abdinasir stated that the restraining order is a good idea, because the survivor feels very unsafe.

Mr. Yellow Bird stated that the Federal Justice Department offered to send someone as a resource to help with this process. Several HRC members agreed that would be a good idea.

Mr. Nelson suggested that HRC, NDHRC, and High Plains Fair housing should get together and do some strategic planning on how to best serve survivors of hate crimes. Mr. Strand suggested the HRC reach out to the State's Attorney office to discuss how to handle crimes of bias.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to add language to the statement to affirm the three points the NDHRC made in their statement. Second by Abdiwali Sharif-Abdinasir. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Chair Hoffman agreed to be HRC's spokesperson at the Rally Against Hate.

Mr. Jensen requested that there be better communication with the entire HRC when incidents happen. Mr. Lanpher cautioned that the communications need to respect survivors privacy. Mr. Strand cautioned against conducting commission business via email, so as not to violate open meeting laws. Mr. Jensen suggested that if people go to assist hate crime survivors they do so in a personal capacity and not as a representative of the HRC. Mr. Lanpher pointed out that Mr. Nelson's role in assisting the survivor of the most recent incident was through the work he's doing with NDHRC.

Item 7. Gateways for Growth Site Visit

Ms. Gloe stated that Susan Downs-Karos from Welcoming America and Kate Brick from New American Economy will be in Fargo July 25th to help start planning for the inclusion planning process.

Item 8. MLK Committee

Ms. Gloe stated that Ms. Hellerud will be sending out an email to the planning committee to schedule the first meeting. She further stated that the nomination forms have been updated and the Fargo Theatre is booked.

Mr. Lanpher noted that the most difficult nomination to find is the youth nomination and asked the HRC to start thinking about who to nominate.

Item 9. Public Concern Policy

Chair Hoffman noted that in when someone in the community has a concern they would like HRC should address, they should be generally be referred to the public comment period at monthly events, unless there is a privacy concern. She also stated that in most cases it would also be appropriate to refer people to other organizations that their needs.

Item 10. Strategic Planning

Chair Hoffman suggested that we schedule a strategic planning meeting outside of our monthly meeting in the Fall. Mr. Lanpher requested that we get the date nailed down as soon as possible.

Ms. Gloe will send out a Doodle for after Welcoming Week.

Item 11. PRIDE in the Park

Ms. Gloe stated that PRIDE in the Park will be held August 12th. Set up is at 10 a.m. and the event runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our booth will be on the north side of Island Park. She further stated that she will send a schedule request.

Mr. Nelson asked if we have anything to hand out. Mr. Yellow Bird stated we do have brochures, but they need to be updated.

Item 12. Night to Unite

Chair Hoffman stated that Night to Unite is August 1. She further stated that historically the HRC partners with CHARISM to hold an ice cream social in McCormick Park. Ms. Gloe stated that she has contacted CHARISM to see if they want to collaborate again this year.

Mr. Strand stated that he believes the situation with hate crimes is going to escalate and he thinks the HRC can be play an important role in the community's eyes. He further stated that he encourages and supports any work the HRC does in that capacity.

Mr. Strand asked if hate crime survivors can take a HRC member with them to report the crime. Mr. Lanpher said we do not have that capacity. He stated our role is to refer them to the people who can advocate for them. Mr. Nelson stated that through ND United Against Hate, they have identified people who can advocate for the survivors. Ms. Hoffman stated that we can get a good conduit to get folks to the right resources.

Mr. Stone asked if there are opportunities to make people more aware of the work HRC does. He further stated that he'd be willing to assist with that outreach. Mr. Lanpher suggested that a good place to go would be Woodrow Wilson School, where there is lots of opportunity for the HRC to come to New Americans. Ms. Gloe suggested that this could be a topic for strategic planning. Mr. Nelson suggested we invite Ruth Buffalo to our meeting, as she is contracted through Honor the Earth to do similar education and advocacy around Native American issues.

Human Relations Commission
June 15, 2017

Mr. Nelson stated that anyone interested in being on the rapid response team should contact him.

Announcements:

Mr. Nelson reminded the group that the All Nations Celebration is August 6th. He further announced that NDHRC would be having their fundraiser August 15th at the HoDo from 5-7pm.

Item 13. Adjourn

The time at adjournment was 1:10 p.m.

CITY OF FARGO HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Sponsorship Application

Please complete this application to apply for City of Fargo Human Relations Commission sponsorship funds. You may be contacted by City staff if additional information is required.

The Fargo Human Relations Commission (FHRC) assists in funding events that fit within its mission to encourage acceptance, respect for diversity and eliminate discrimination. If the FHRC commits funds to an event, it should be listed as a sponsor in all publicity. The FHRC will consider written funding requests monthly, with a deadline of the 28th of each month. Applications must include an event budget or detailed description of how funds will be used. While, on average, funding is provided in the amount of \$500 or less, all appropriate funding requests will be reviewed with consideration of FHRC budget constraints and established line items. If you would like more information about the FHRC sponsorships, please contact Willard Yellow Bird Jr., Cultural Planner, at 701-476-4116 or wyellowbird@cityoffargo.com.

ORGANIZATION NAME: TodeaKO group

PROGRAM/PROJECT NAME: Back to school

DATE SUBMITTED: 7/26/17

AMOUNT REQUESTED \$ 550

PLEASE ATTACH A PROJECT SUMMARY, INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION OF WHAT THE FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR (on the back of this page or on another sheet)

BASIC INFORMATION:

Address: 15 21st South #103 FARGO ND 58103

Contact Name: Gadi Edward Phone: 701-200-8264

Fax: _____ E-mail: gadiedward@yahoo.com

Legal structure of organization (ex. non-profit or for-profit, 501(c)(3), etc.) 80-0588933

Mission and Actions (What are you planning to do? Please attach additional information if applicable)

TodeaKO recognizes that youth programming and education are particularly important to escape a potential cycle of poverty

Rental Fee: \$250.00 Lindenwood Park
Awards, prizes and small gifts for students \$300.00

August 26, 2017
Total: \$ 550.00



T'UDEAKO COMMUNITY GROUP ORGANIZATION (TCGO)

New American Community

15 21st Street S, #103
Fargo, ND 58103

Tel: 701-850-0512

www.tudeakogroup.org

Email: tudeakogroup@gmail.com

June 9, 2017

Re: Back-to-School event for New American Children

Dear Sir or Madam, *City of Fargo*

Tu'Deako is an African term for a person who helps other people.

On behalf of the Tu'Deako Community Group, I ask for your help in making possible Tu'Deako's 2017 Back-To-School event on August 26, 2017. This event in Lindenwood Park is the concluding highlight of our summer program for new American children through K-8. On that day the children and their parents come together to celebrate their native cultures as well as their new American culture with song, dance, music, story telling, games, and conversation. We would welcome your support of this summer program and the Back-To-School event through a donation of, for instance, gift cards, school supplies, or bottled water. Cash is welcome too!

About our organization: Tu'Deako Community Group is a 503 (c)(3) organization, incorporated in 2010, which serves new Americans in the Fargo-Moorhead area, regardless of their faith, nationality, ethnicity, or culture. Many of these new Americans were refugees fleeing decades of war, violence, and internal dislocation in their countries of origin. Tu'Deako's mission is to build a community in which the basic education and other needs of these new American families are met. To this end, Tu-Deako runs a small food bank and organizes an after-school summer program for children.

It is important to mention that once the essential refugee resettlement services have been provided, these new Americans are on their own to find their way, which is to a great degree the reason for some of the difficulties they encounter, which impact the well-being of the children. Tu'Deako recognizes that youth programming and education are particularly important to escape a potential cycle of poverty.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our request for assistance in making the summer program and Back-To-School event a success.

With gratitude,

Gadi Edward

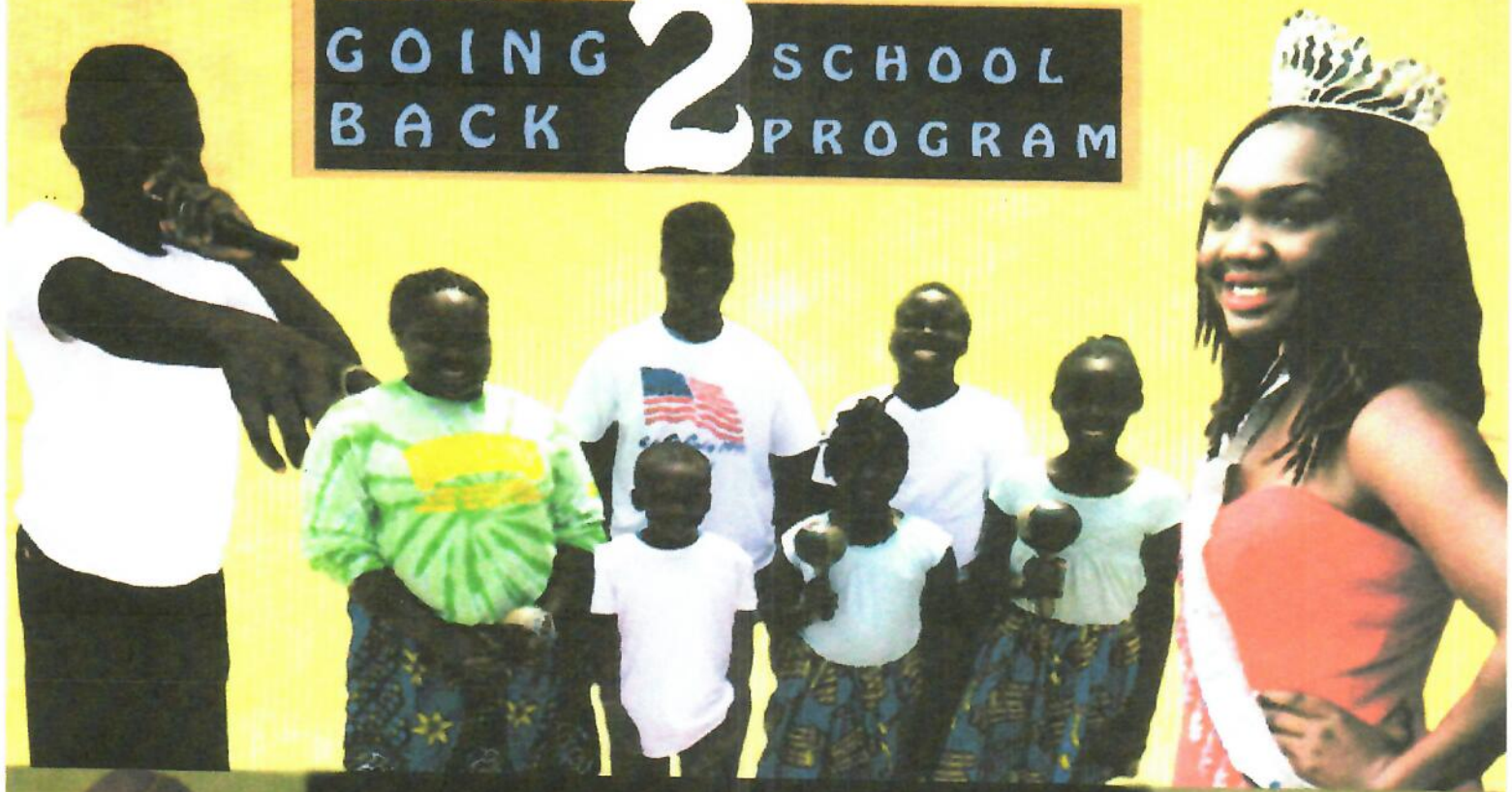
Executive Director, Tu'Deako Group

Tel. 701-200-8264

Non-Profit id# 80-0588933

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GOING **2** SCHOOL BACK PROGRAM



Food Games Prizes
Encouragement Cultural Dance
Singing

LINDENWOOD PARK

Main shelter Fargo, ND

Program Budget: "Ready? Get Set! Go-Back-To-School Day"

Income:

Members (goodwill offering	
Donations	100.00
Fundraising (in-kind support)	300.00
FM Area Foundation	250.00
	1,800.00

2,450.00

Expenditure:

Food (hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, buns, salad)	570.00
Condiments	50.00
Fruit	90.00
Ice cream	40.00
Refreshments (water, tea, juice)	250.00
Snacks	80.00
Sombsia (African bean or meat "spring roll")	90.00
Supplies (napkins, bowls, charcoal)	90.00
Awards, prizes, and small gifts ¹	300.00
Lindenwood Park rental	250.00
Music System and DJ	100.00
Activities leader	100.00
T-shirts volunteers 20 x 9.00	180.00
Flyers, cards, postage	75.00
Decorations	25.00
Mileage ²	160.00

Total

2,450.00

0.00

31 March 2017

¹ Awards and prizes for activities plus small gift bags for the young children.

² 300 miles @ 0.535, rounded to the nearest 10, for solicitation of donations, delivery of supplies and transportation of families without a car to Lindenwood.