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NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSION
Thursday, November 2, 2023 | 12:00PM
City Commission Chambers
AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda & Minutes……..Action Item
3. Public Comment
4. 2024 Meeting Schedule
5. Indigenous Association Report
6. Subcommittee Reports
7. Staff Reports
8. Announcements
9. Adjourn

Native American 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 Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. and Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Minutes are available on the City of Fargo Web site at http://fargond.gov/city-government/boards-commissions/native-american-commission.

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

BOARD OF NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES

Regular Meeting: **Thursday, September 7, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Native American Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the Commission Chambers at City Hall at 12:00 p.m., Thursday, September 7, 2023.

The Native American Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Whitney Johnson (via conference call), Emily Sargent (via conference call), Ashley Littlewolf, Amanda Strauss, Dale Sayers (via conference call)

Absent: Suzanne Senske

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions
Chair Johnson welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

Item 2. Approve Order of Agenda & Minutes
Member Littlewolf moved the Order of Agenda and the minutes of the July 7, 2023 Native American Commission meeting be approved. Second by Member Sargent. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 3: Public Comment
Reverend Karen Van Fossan, Justice for Shane, requested a copy of the letter that is to be sent from the Native American Commission to the Fargo City Commission regarding an independent investigation in the police involved shooting of Shane Netterville. She also asked the Board when the Fargo Police would be coming to a Native American Commission meeting to speak with the Board and community.

Chair Johnson stated the letter to the Fargo City Commission is being finalized and a copy will be provided to Justice for Shane when it is available. Ms. Johnson shared that a date has not been set for the Fargo Police to speak with the Board and the community.

Item 4: Presentation: Savanna Greywind Day
Ruth Buffalo and Mia Buffalo gave a presentation on creating a day of recognition for Savanna Greywind.

Discussion was held regarding expectations of Savanna's family for the proposal, and how the Board would be able to assist with the request.

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie stated that a navigating team could be created to help work with the Mayor's office to define a path forward for the request.

Members Littlewolf and Sayers shared that they would like to be involved.

Item 5. Indigenous Peoples' Day – October 9

a. Gladys Ray Award Nominations Due September 22

Chair Johnson stated that there will be a breakfast kickoff at the Indigenous Association and encouraged the Native American Commission Members to attend. She also shared that the Gladys Ray Award will be presented at the breakfast and nomination forms are available online and in paper. Ms. Johnson noted more details are to come regarding a Lunch and Learn for community members and professionals at the Hjemkomst Center.

Item 6. Truth & Reconciliation Day – September 30

Chair Johnson noted the Native American Commission would be submitting a request for a city-wide proclamation to recognize September 30 as Truth & Reconciliation Day. Ms. Johnson shared that she and Member Sargent created an educational video regarding Truth & Reconciliation Day that can be viewed on the Native American Commission's webpage.

Item 7. Indigenous Association Report

Chair Johnson directed those who wanted to know what events were upcoming to visit the Indigenous Association's webpage.

Item 8. Subcommittee Reports

Chair Johnson shared that she and Member Sargent met with the States Attorney's office back in May and the visit went well.

Member Littlewolf stated since school is back in session she is hoping to set up a time to meet with West Fargo Indian Education to discuss goals for this year.

Ms. Johnson noted that no one is on the Housing Subcommittee and asked if any Members would like to volunteer.

Item 9. Staff Reports

Dr. Terry Hogan, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, shared that his department has instituted a development and training plan for the City Cabinet Members in which they will be taking IDI (Intercultural Development Inventory) assessments and learning about biases.

Item 10. Announcements

Member Littlewolf stated she would be interested in being part of the Housing Subcommittee.

Discussion was held regarding Member Littlewolf joining the Housing Subcommittee.

Member Strauss commented that she would like to be involved with assisting with the creation of Savanna Greywind Day.

Chair Johnson shared that there is one vacancy for the Native American Commission and the application process will be open until September 18, 2023 with the application and information available on the City of Fargo website.

She also shared that the Fargo Moorhead Indian Education Back to School Bash is tonight from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Fargo Public School District Office and the Native American Education Program Back to School Night is September 22 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Item 11. Adjourn

The time of adjournment was 12:33 p.m.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: **ALL DEPARTMENTS**

FROM: **ALBERT GIBSON, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

DATE: **OCTOBER 30, 2023**

SUBJECT: **2024 NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE**

Listed below are the Native American Commission meeting dates for the calendar year 2024.

2024 Meeting Schedule

Native American Commission Meetings
January 4
March 7
May 2
September 5
November 7
Native American Commission meetings will be held the 1st Thursday of each month, on a bi-monthly basis, at 12:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall.

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL SOCIETY OF CLAY COUNTY

202 1st Avenue North
P.O. Box 157
Moorhead, MN 56560-0157
Phone: (218) 299-5511
www.hcscconline.org

October 20, 2023

Dear Fargo Native American Commission,

I am writing to you to let you know about a unique educational opportunity coming to our museum: *Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories* is a dramatic NEH traveling exhibit that tells the painstaking stories of Native children suffering the trauma of the Indian boarding school movement.

Please note: *Away from Home* contains stories of resilience and revitalization, agency and honor. Please be aware that it also contains descriptions of human indignities and hardships and terms that reflect historically racist perspectives and language from past eras. In speaking the truth about acts of seemingly unfathomable violence and suffering in the lives of Native peoples, this exhibition is advised for more mature audiences, grades 8 to adult.

This exhibition is made possible by NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It was adapted from the permanent exhibition, *Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories*, organized by The Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Please help us to spread the word and consider a visit to the museum at the **Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave. N., Moorhead, MN**, while this exhibit is up. The dates are Nov. 10, 2023 through Jan. 7, 2024. School group visits arranged through Indian Education or a college Native American program will be admitted free of charge.

In addition to this amazing exhibit, we also have *Ihdago Manipi: Clay County at 150* that looks at our region 150 years ago. It includes the Dakota and Anishinaabe history of the region just prior to land dispossession and white settlement. We also have *At Last: Tenth Anniversary of Marriage Equality in MN*.

I am enclosing a brochure about the *Away from Home* exhibit. We also have teacher preparation materials for use by classroom teachers. Please contact Emily Kulzer at Emily.Kulzer@HCSmuseum.org to access these materials prior to your visit.

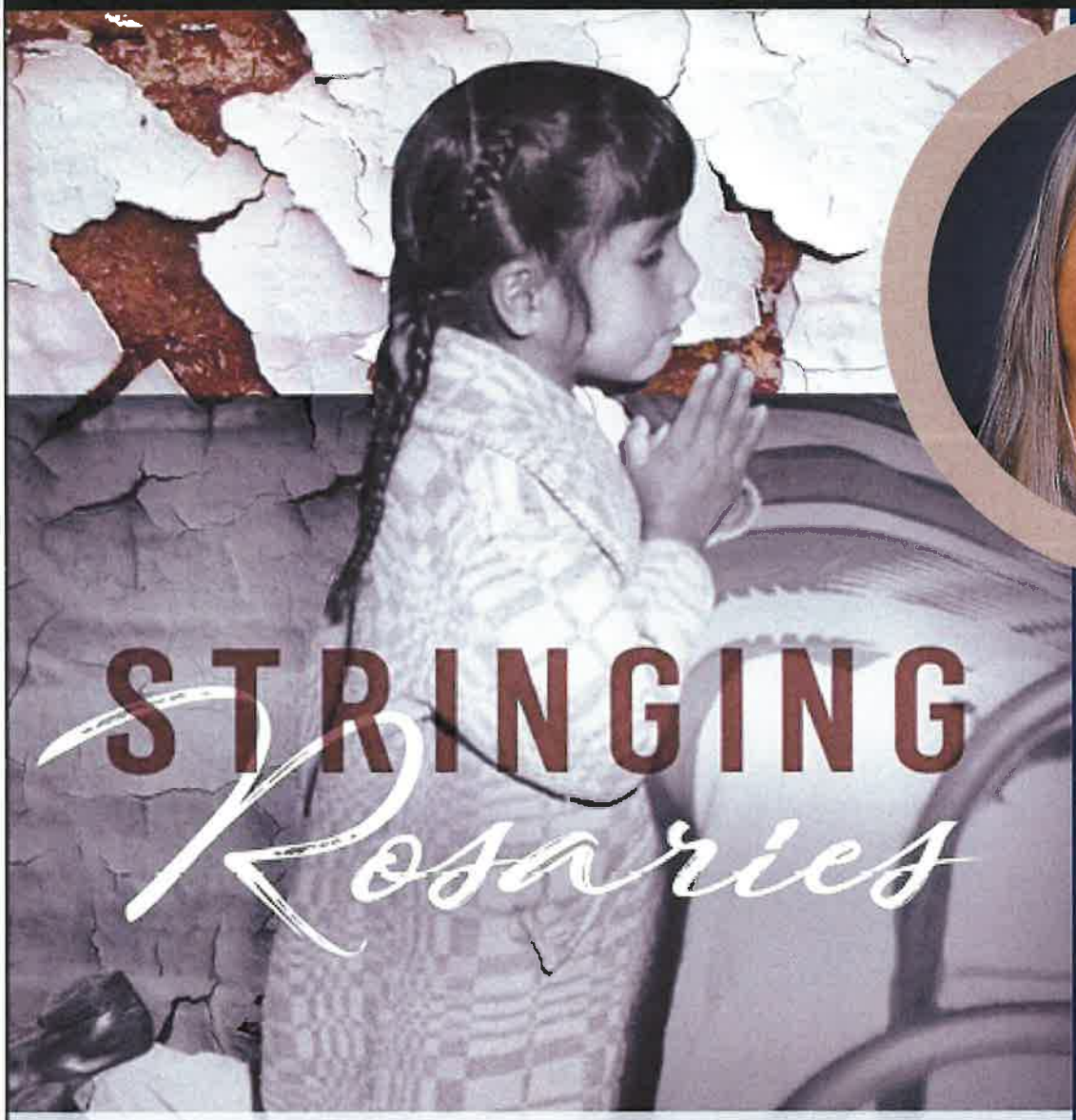
Please also note that **the opening reception on Tuesday, Nov. 14, will include a presentation by Dr. Denise Lajimodiere on her book *Stringing Rosaries: The History, the Unforgivable, and the Healing of Northern Plains American Indian Boarding School Survivors* at 6pm.** For people who may want to visit on their own, the museum is open free of charge every Tuesday evening 5-8pm.

We hope to make this amazing exhibit and Dr. Lajimodiere's talk available to as many people as possible and would appreciate it if you could help spread the word.

Many thanks,

Maureen Kelly Jonason
Executive Director, HCSCC

Dr. Denise Lajimodiere



November
14, 2023
6pm

Free
Admission

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL SOCIETY OF CLAY COUNTY

Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave N, Moorhead MN, 56560

Away From Home

AMERICAN INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOL STORIES

Nov. 10, 2023 - Jan. 7, 2024

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL SOCIETY OF CLAY COUNTY

Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave N, Moorhead MN, 56560