THE CITY OF Fargo FAR MORE

Planning & Development
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FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE
Sunday, May 8, 2022 | 1:00PM
Fargo City Hall | Meadowlark Room
AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda & Minutes…….....Action Item
3. Recruitment
4. Island Park Master Plan
5. Staff Report
6. Announcements
7. Subcommittee Work
8. Adjourn

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.

FARGO YOUTH INITIATIVE
MINUTES

Regular Meeting: **Sunday, March 13, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Fargo Youth Initiative Members of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the Meadowlark Room of Fargo City Hall at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, March 13, 2022.

The Fargo Youth Initiative Members present or absent were as follows:

Present: Aarya Panwalkar, Fatima Attia, Samuel Swenson, Natalie Evensen, Madeline Abbott, Jadyn Chakua, Fatima Attia, Abhijna Kavasseri

Absent: Anna French, Kha (Andy) Tao, Erika Spanjer

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions
Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie welcomed Members to the meeting.

Item 2. Review Application Questions
Discussion was had regarding simplifying application questions to encourage more applications. Members agreed by consensus to change wording of one question and allow it to be optional.

Item 3. Subcommittee Updates
Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie encouraged members to review meeting notes from recent discussions with Fargo Public Schools staff related to racial equity and mental health.

Members discussed Black History Month efforts at their schools and will provide feedback to Dr. Uselman.

Members discussed challenges unique to their schools related to mental health as well as school culture in general. Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie said Melissa Markegard is the new Fargo Cass Public Health Mental Health Coordinator and is interested in collaborating with Fargo Youth Initiative.

Item 4. Spring Event
Chair Kavasseri shared an idea for a plant sale or giveaway to raise awareness about Fargo Youth Initiative. It was suggested to offer a plant in exchange for youth feedback to provide the City.

Assistant Planner Catlyn Christie provided an update that the Fargo Youth Initiative will not be able to host a panel of mayoral or commission candidates.

Item 5. Adjourn
The time of adjournment was 1:45 p.m.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Fargo Native American Commission

FROM: Catlyn Christie, Assistant Planner

DATE: May 5, 2022

RE: Staff Report

This agenda item is an effort to summarize and memorialize issues, concerns, or staff action related to the work of the Fargo Youth Initiative since the last meeting.

1. Mental Health Awareness Month
Fargo Mayor Mahoney has joined West Fargo Mayor Bernie Dardis, Moorhead Mayor Shelly Carlson and Dilworth Mayor Chad Olson in signing a joint proclamation recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month. The proclamation encourages communities to increase awareness and understanding of mental health. Also for the past few days, the lights outside of Fargo City Hall have been illuminated in green to bring awareness to this important topic.

2. North Dakota Department of Health Youth Advisory Board
The NDDoH Youth Advisory Board is seeking members and encourages anyone interest from the Fargo Youth Initiative to contact their advisors directly: Ruth Nwatu, rnwatu@nd.gov and Krissie Guerard, kguerard@nd.gov. In upcoming weeks, they may also be seeking FYI's input on their Parents' Lead Project. The primary goal of Parents Lead is to provide parents and caregivers with tools and resources to support them in promoting the behavioral health and well-being of their children.

3. Break Free Youth Action Summit
On March 29, Fargo Cass Public Health held its third Annual 'Break Free Youth Action Summit' in partnership with Tobacco Free North Dakota. National speaker Kim Homer-Vagadori, California Youth Advocacy Network, provided education to students about how the tobacco industry uses flavors to hook kids, flavored tobacco policy and how youth can become successful advocates to make change in their communities. According to the 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey data, current vaping use among North Dakota high school students is 21.2%, remaining higher than ND adult e-cigarette use rates of 17.9%. In the weeks and months following the summit, students will work with their peers to create activities for Take Down Tobacco: National Day of Action (April 1, 2022), and World No Tobacco Day (May 31, 2022).

4. Carbon Reduction, Sustainability and Resiliency Plan and Carbon Dashboard
On April 4, City Commission approved an addendum to Master Services Agreement with Innowatts, Inc. for the Development and Operation of an Infrastructure Carbon Reduction, Sustainability and Resiliency (ICRSR) Plan and Carbon Dashboards for City Facilities. The dashboards and ICRSR Plan will show ICRSR progress to-date, help guide the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee on next steps, and obtain Federal and State funding for future ICRSR projects.

5. Community Health Assessment
Fargo Cass Public Health staff are underway completing their community health assessment (CHA) with an end goal of early summer. This assessment is typically conducted once every three years. View the 2019 CHA here: https://download.fargond.gov/0/2019_fcph_community_health_assessment.pdf.

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6. Covid-19 Testing and Vaccinations

Fargo Cass Public Health (FCPH) continues to provide COVID-19 vaccine *by appointment only* in the Immunization Clinic. Appointments can be made by calling 701.241.1383. Free at-home COVID-19 test kits are also available at the Main FCPH building and the COVID-19 test site below.

COVID-19 PCR testing and BinaxNOW Rapid Screening are provided Sunday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 3051 25th Street South, Fargo, Suite K. Pre-registration is required and can be completed at https://testreg.nd.gov/. There is no cost for testing and screening.

7. Fargo Greenway Study

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Government is teaming with the city of Fargo and the Fargo Park District to gather public input for the Red River Greenway Study through mid-June. The study will look at enhancing the existing greenway and the feasibility of extending the greenway along the North Dakota side of the Red River in areas where it is not publicly accessible. The study area extends along the Red River from the north edge of Fargo city limits to the south edge of Fargo city limits, and along Drains 53 and 27.

Public engagement opportunities will include online surveys, an online comment mapping activity, and in-person public engagement opportunities. The in-person opportunities will include the following events:

- Starting at 7 a.m., Saturday, May 14, Birding Festival at Forest River Park, Fargo.
- Starting at 6:30 a.m., Monday, June 6, Race the Red at Dike East Park, Fargo.
- Starting at 6 p.m., Thursday, June 23, June Night Bazaar at Broadway Square, Fargo.

For information regarding all public engagement opportunities, please visit the project website at: www.fmmetrocog.org/RedRiverGreenway.

8. Rental Assistance & Eviction Prevention

Anyone struggling to pay rent is encouraged to call 2-1-1 (FirstLink) to be connected to rental assistance and other eviction prevention programs currently available. They will direct individuals to the best-fit assistance, such as the North Dakota Rent Help program, https://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/covid-19/rent-help.html, or other assistance available through SENDCAA and Presentation Partners in Housing.

The High Plains Fair Housing Center also continues to offer an eviction prevention program to income-qualified residents living in Fargo (as well as Grand Forks and Bismarck). If eligible, potential eviction prevention services offered include referral to and help applying for rental assistance programs and/or connection to a lawyer at no cost for assistance in eviction court. Call the intake line at 701-203-1077 or toll free at 1-866-380-2738.

9. Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Programs

The City of Fargo has prepared its 2022 Annual Action Plan, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, and amendments to the 2021 Annual Action Plan for review (see below 2022 summary). The public comment period ran through March 31 to April 29. After final consideration by the City Commission on May 2 at 5:15 p.m., a recommendation regarding these actions will be forwarded to HUD for their consideration and approval. For more information, view the full public notice that was published in The Forum newspaper on March 30, 2022. Staff are also currently drafting the City's HOME-ARP homeless assistance allocation plan, with a draft and public comment period expected in May.

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