



**NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, May 5, 2022 | 12:00PM**  
**City Commission Chambers**  
**AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda & Minutes.....Action Item
3. Public Comment
4. Honoring of Sonya Donahue
5. Honoring of Outgoing Members
6. Induction of New Members
7. Indigenous Association Report
8. Subcommittee Reports
9. Staff Report
10. Announcements
11. 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](http://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, December 2, 2021**

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, December 2, 2021.

The Native American Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Lenore King, Whitney Fear, Sonya Donahue, Emily Sargent, Rebecca Knutson, Ashley Littlewolf

Absent: Sharon White Bear, Chalsey Snyder, John Strand

**Item 1. Welcome and Introductions**

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

**Item 2. Approve Order of Agenda & Minutes**

Member Fear moved the Order of Agenda and the minutes of the October 7, 2021 Native American Commission meeting be approved. Second by Member Knutson. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

**Item 3: Public Comment**

Tracey Wilkie spoke on behalf of the North Dakota Federations of Families for Children's Mental Health. She noted the organization is looking for more families to serve in this part of the state.

Ms. Wilkie additionally noted, on December 7, there will be a Wisdom of Trauma event at the Fargo Theatre at 7 p.m. She provided an overview of a 12-week healing program being offered through HeartSprings Community Healing Center.

**Item 4: Elections**

Chair King provided an overview of the bylaws regarding officer elections and spoke on behalf of the nominating committee. She noted Member Fear will transition to the Native American Commission Chair position in January and the nominating is recommending Member Emily Sargent for Vice Chair.

Member Knutson moved to appoint Emily Sargent as Vice Chair of the Native American Commission. Second by Member Fear. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

**Item 5. 2022 Meeting Schedule**

Chair King noted the 2022 meeting schedule is included in the packet.

**Item 6. Indigenous Association Report**

Member Fear shared that many events were held for Indigenous Peoples Day and Native American Heritage Month, adding that an overview of the events was provided at the October Native American Commission meeting. She noted that things are going well and the Indigenous Association board has developed subcommittees.

**Item 7. Subcommittee Reports**

Member Knutson noted that the education subcommittee recently met and they are planning to meet in January with representatives of the Indian Education Program.

No updates were provided from the housing or health subcommittees.

**Item 8. Announcements**

Member Fear shared that Tuesday, December 21 is Homeless Memorial Day and a gathering event will be held. She encouraged residents to check shelters websites to see what needs they have.

Member Fear stated that COVID vaccines are available at Fargo Cass Public Health.

**Item 9. Staff Report**

Planning Coordinator Tia Braseth additionally shared that COVID vaccines are available at many local pharmacies; if Members know of residents in need of rental assistance, they are encouraged to have them call 211; and proposals will be accepted for HOME and CDBG funds from December 8-31.

Sgt. Cristie Jacobsen, Fargo Police Department, stated that applications are being accepted for employment as well as the summer police academy.

**Item 10. Adjourn**

The time of adjournment was 12:19 p.m.

**BOARD OF NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting:**

**Thursday, March 3, 2022**

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, March 3, 2022.

**\*\*No Quorum in order to have official meeting – meeting will commence with informal presentations and discussion.**

The Native American Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Lenore King, Whitney Fear, Emily Sargent, John Strand (via conference call)

Absent: Sonya Donahue, Ashley Littlewolf, Rebecca Knutson, Sharon White Bear

**Item 1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Fear welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made. She noted this would be Member King's last meeting.

**Item 2. Approve Order of Agenda & Minutes**

Due to lack of a quorum, no action was taken.

**Item 3: Public Comment**

No public comment was provided.

**Item 4: Indigenous Association Report**

Chair Fear gave a brief update on programming and noted updates are available on the Indigenous Association website and Facebook.

**Item 5. Subcommittee reports**

Member Strand provided an update on the education subcommittee and their meeting with the Fargo Public Schools Indian Education Program.

No updates were provided from the housing or health subcommittees.

**Item 6. Announcements**

Chair Fear announced the Woodland and High Plains Powwow will be held on Saturday, April 2, and MSUM is hosting.

**Item 7. Staff report**

Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Dr. Terry Hogan shared he is in the process of meeting with community groups and asked for Board Members' assistance in connecting with the local tribes for a meet and greet.

Discussion was held on which tribes this meeting was planned for, and Dr. Hogan stated all of them.

**Item 8. Adjourn**

The time of adjournment was 12:17 p.m.

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fargo Native American Commission  
**FROM:** Catlyn Christie, Assistant Planner  
**DATE:** February 25, 2022  
**RE:** Staff Report

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This agenda item is an effort to summarize and memorialize issues, concerns, or staff action related to the work of the Native American Commission since the last meeting. During the meeting, the Chair may open for discussion or questions concerning these items.

### **1. Fargo Cass Public Health**

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](tel: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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

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](https://download.fargond.gov/0/2019_fcph_community_health_assessment.pdf).

### **2. 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.

### **3. 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.