

## **Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors**

### **June 8, 2010 Meeting Minutes**

Minneapolis American Indian Center  
1530 E. Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404

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**Attendees:** Michael Goze, Aida Strom, Danielle Grant, Kassia Jourdain, Justin Huenemann, Jo Haberman, Derwin Ellis, William Carter, Lynn Braveheart, Nancy Smith, Diana Buckanaga, Nick Boswell, Richard LaFortune, Tony Looking Elk, Gerry Auginash, Dawn Paro, Martha Fast Horse

#### **Introductions:**

**Wisdom/Reflection:** Mike Goze

**Approval of April 14, 2009 Minutes:** Justin Huenemann moved to approve. Aida Strom seconded. Minutes approved by way of unanimous voice vote.

**Indian–Neighborhood Revitalization Program (I-NRP) Update:** The Co-Chairs recalled recent AI-NRP developments beginning with a document titled: *Outcomes: AI-NRP Meeting held at Indian Center 6.7.2010*. Two Indian-serving agencies were cited as consistent bidders of Phase II funds – those being Women of Nations and Division of Indian Work (DIW.) Mike Goze interjected that non-Indian entities have made monetary contributions to the *Bii Di Gain Dash Anwebi* elder housing initiative being spearheaded by AICDC; but, that AI entities have not done so (until this juncture.) He added how the federal funding process provides for additional points based on direct community support for such a project. He went on to describe a sequence of steps that the American Indian Community Development Corporation (AICDC) has followed in order to manifest this facility such as: area marketing, land acquisition & assembly, environmental aspects, etc. The MUID Co-Chairs moved that the three motions contained in the above-mentioned document be advanced. Dawn Paro seconded. The motion passed by way of a unanimous voice vote in promotion of the following:

1. To approve the additional \$26,861.40 be contracted to DIW from the existing approved allocation for further development of housing serving youth.
2. A modification of the I-NRP plan to include Goal 2: Work within the American Indian community and surrounding neighborhoods to address the housing needs of elders. Objective 1: Develop and build facilities to house Elders in South Minneapolis community where they are close to programs and services. Strategy 1: Build a housing facility to serve elders who are capable of independent living, with a supportive atmosphere.
3. To allocate the balance of \$67,431.00 to AICDC based on prevailing community needs in terms of elder housing, as well as a series of collaborative steps in partnership with CommonBond Communities for a successful & sustainable elder housing complex.

**NACDI Community Blueprint:** Justin Huenemann recalled past bodies of community work drawn upon, and coupled with more recent community sessions resulting in the current *American Indian Community Blueprint: Building a 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Indian Community*. He distributed a fact sheet with headings such as **3** primary sections:

- Long-Range Community Vision
- Community Engagement
- The American Indian Cultural Corridor

As well as **11** guiding vision statements grouped in three categories:

- Community Wholeness
- Community Economic Vitality
- Community Prosperity

Plus, over 100 **implementation** strategies identified by community members – and so on. He added that NACDI is entering a promotional stage in the interest of building awareness throughout the broader community of this visionary compilation. Discussion ensued which touched on aspects such as capital, fundraising strategies, potential partners, the AI-Memorandum of Understanding (AI-MOU) with the City, etc.

**HCMC-AI Patient Advocate Update:** Aida Strom reported that as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, new changes to General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC) have the potential to thoroughly confuse and panic current recipients. She reminded listeners that these individuals represent some of the most vulnerable among us; and, cited a recent letter to them informing them that they must now choose a Coordinated Care Delivery System (CCDS) site. She passed out a fact sheet containing important information about these changes such as the fact that there are only 4 CCDS sites for the entire state of Minnesota – all major hospitals located in the Twin City metro area. Discussion followed which led to a consensus agreement that a train-the-trainer community forum is needed; as well as a larger setting to accommodate the broader AI community to address their concerns. It was decided that this training should be fast-tracked immediately in league with the MN Department of Human Services.

**MUID Elder's Circle Update:** Nancy Smith reported that the Elder's Circle recently celebrated its one-year anniversary with an Indian Month event featuring traditional foods, vision statements, and good cheer. She added that the elders have decided to partner with the AI Safety Council to address youth violence – perhaps of a youth gang nature. She also touched on the valuable contribution that elders bring to such restorative justice matters.

**MPD 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Update:** Inspector Lucy Gerold reported that area crime is up 15%, but that enforcement efforts have also been increased to combat the trend. She added that additional community policing efforts are underway such as block clubs, active Safe Officers, impact statements introduced in local courts, close alignment with Hennepin

County probation officers, anti-sex trafficking efforts, as well as the Franklin Avenue Safety Center itself.

**Community Announcements:**

- ***We Want You Back Initiative:*** Ms. Jo Haberman announced this new Minneapolis Public Schools initiative as an effort to focus public attention on the drop-out crisis and graduation gap in hopes of reversing these chronic trends. She passed out a fact sheet outlining efforts that include 1,000 school & community volunteers receiving training to connect with young people by door knocking, phone, or text messaging. Ultimately, an immediate goal is to see 200 students re-enroll in school that puts them on a path to graduation. FMI contact her at (612) 600-7483 or [wwy@ycb.org](mailto:wwy@ycb.org)
- **Hennepin County Sheriff Outreach:** Deputy Derwin Ellis announced his position as an Outreach Liaison for the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. He indicated further that he will return again to share more details about scholarships, etc. FMI contact him at (612) 348-3717 or [derwin.ellis@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:derwin.ellis@co.hennepin.mn.us)

**MUID Structure:** Tony Looking Elk indicated that future MUID Meetings will feature community themes such as Indian Education, health, arts & culture, etc. He added that the MUID listserv will be utilized to share more about these additions soon.

**KQRS Update:** Martha Fast Horse announced that May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010 was the date that DJ Tom Bernard made racist, anti-Indian remarks on the air – and, that afterward she pursued a meeting with the Citadel Broadcasting President. Bernard contacted her right after the Citadel meeting, and apologized profusely. June 13 marks the return of her show on the air. It was suggested that there may be an opportunity for area AI thought-leaders to educate Mr. Bernard if such a meeting (or series of meetings) can be arranged.

Adjourn: 1:30 p.m.