February 8, 2022

To: HRC
From: Karen Mortimer, HRC President
Re: Monthly Update/ MOA and Executive committee

In an effort to increase efficiency and allow for questions and discussion at the monthly meeting, please find the president’s report below. 
Please read before the meeting/bring questions and comments.

1. **SDCF Grant:**
The focus of this grant is to create and offer an experience for Rapid City called "Immersion in Place" (based on a similar project initiated in Omaha). A plan is being developed for approval by the HRC. The plan is to develop a pilot event in the spring of 2022, another in fall of 2022 and another in the spring of 2023, with possible statewide exposure. This project will be described in greater detail at the upcoming meeting.
We need a minimum of 2 HRC members for this committee. Please volunteer for this exciting project!

2. **Finances:**
   - A fundraising goal has been set to raise a total of $140,000 by December 31st. This goal was not met.
   - We will be developing a revised budget, a balance sheet (Actual vs. Budgeted) going forward.
   - Donor recognition and thank you communications are in progress. We will continue to connect and keep them informed and engaged.

3. **An HRC-MOA retreat** will be planned as a recommendation from the Executive committee. **Date: March 4th – 5th.** Details TBD. We will discuss and plan for the retreat together at the 2-8-22 meeting.

4. **City Council collaboration**
   - National League of Cities Diversity Recognition Award- application
   - Council “Rez-Tour” requested / Planning for trip in early March

5. **RCIBSL project:**
The project is moving forward with negotiations related to the land issue with the City (there is a developed plan to build an Indian Center with an economic development plan to support the Center).
The Vision fund rated this project as their #1 Priority. The Council made a decision on January 10th to award $9 million with a contingency. This makes the award unusable and the project and City are still in negotiations. The RCIBSL memorial has received $2.2 million to create the memorial from the Mellon Foundation. The project has been designed and will be in progress with a 2 year long time frame.
6. **Elevate**:
   - We continue to meet every two weeks with Elevate leadership to begin the planning process of the co-creation of a training process for the business community as well as employees and potential employees on awareness, cultural proficiency and poverty issues.
   - We are working with support from the National Humanities Alliance (NHA) to develop evaluation strategies. The focus groups of business owners (large medium and small businesses and Native owned businesses) have been completed.
   - Focus groups of employees or potential employees from One Heart, Cornerstone Mission and the Career Learning Center are complete.
   - A pilot project is under discussion.
   - Please ask us for more details if you have questions. There will potentially be ways for the HRC to collaborate and support.

7. **Marketing agency next steps**:
   Evergreen (owner/ Rick Den Herder and team) is directing and will execute a plan for our marketing/branding and outreach. The budget investment of $24,800 includes photography, video, TV and radio consulting, website development and management, brand campaign materials and social platforms. Progress has commenced and this will take approximately 4 months to complete. The Marketing committee is actively working with EMG and will report back to all of us as next steps unfold. Cody Maynus is the new chair.
   We will present an updated report at the February HRC-MOA meeting.