Not in Our Town Minutes
10-15-2015
BGSU Bowen-Thompson Student Union Room 315

Attendance: Lynn Kerr, Tobias Spears, Paul Valdez, Monica Moll, Leslie Galan, Gary Saunders, Sandra Johnson, Amanda Dortch, Breanna Jones, Mary Beth Zachary, Julie Broadwell, Heather Sayler, Jane Myers, Vaughn Thorton, Alexis Johnson, Nancy Down, Dan Mancuso, LaTasha Sullivan, Roger Grant, Susana Pena

Co-Chairs Update

Retreat

1. Get to know each other – new leadership and chairs
2. Set goals and expectations for the year
    a. Plan a discussion series for the upcoming year

Working Group Updates

Outreach

NIOT is signed up for Holiday Parade on November 21st and will walk with the HRC. Volunteers are needed to walk in the parade. The HRC will have bags of candy to hand out at the parade. Idea is to pass out the NIOT flyers with the candy. Candy donations and parade walkers will be recruited through NIOT update. Mary Beth Zachary volunteered to serve as a collection location in the Jerome Library, along with Heather Sayler on the city side.

20 letters were sent to local organizations asking if the organizations would like to know more about NIOT. Only one group has followed up, Exchange Club and Heather Sayler presented there. The conversation included doing more personal follow up.

Marketing

No report

Education and Programming

Tobias & Lynn would like to have a program for NIOT Week at the library. Similar format to Black Lives Matters as a 5:30-7:30 pm program. Working Title "Not In Our Town: The Changing Landscape of Inclusion." Discussion about definition of things such as gender identity expression, sexual orientation, race, social media, and bystander intervention. Idea is to have people write their own personal pledge of diversity that they could take home. Something personal for them to commit to, rather than using the standard banner pledge. Moving from culture of visibility to a culture of action. How do we get others to buy into it? Another way to get the message out there. Small group work and icebreaker to increase interaction. Looking into dates, food, and budget.

Old Business

A reminder was shared about the bullying incident that was brought up in the September meeting. Gary wants to get members from NIOT and HRC together to do follow up on this bullying issue. If there are any NIOT members that want to be involved with this work connect with Gary Saunders. Leslie Galan suggested that the NIOT members that met with the superintendent when he first arrived could be the follow up group. In the retreat the leadership clearly articulated that NIOTs role is to share resources and information and try to connect people and resources.

- Heather Sayler volunteered to help.
- Lynn Kerr expressed that she was interested in train the trainers.

A really big thank you for all the volunteers that participated during the Farmer's Market.

New Business

There is the new NIOT email address. The email address is reactivated and it is being used. niot@bgsu.edu

Homecoming Parade - need people 5:30-6:30 pm, Meet at South Grove and Wooster if you want to walk. Wear your t-shirt and NIOT button.

NIOT Week - November 15th-21st, 2015

The event is very similar to how it has been the past couple of years. The goal is action. Not just know about NIOT, but to live NIOT

- Kickoff 11/15, Union Theater, Why NIOT came to BGSU and why it developed nationally. There will be a video shown at this event with video footage collected during Homecoming.
- Unity Day, 11/16, Olscamp 101 - Wear a shirt that best represents their identity, and then engage in conversations at booths/tables. Similar to Campus Fest format with lots of different booths.
- Tuesday 11/17 still open for programming. Perhaps the "Not In Our Town: The Changing Landscape of Inclusion" program.
- Tunnel of Oppression 11/18 and 11/19, Bowen-Thompson Student Union, Skybank Room 201, which will focus on #translivesmatter and #blacklivesmatter
- iSTAND on 11/16 and 11/18, working with Student Leadership Assistants to create a take away from that event.
- International Panel on 11/19 from 6:30 -9:00, Business Administration, sponsored by World Student Association. Main topic for the panel is to share the lives of international students. Panelists will share their experiences with a variety of class standing.
- 11/21 is the Holiday Parade

Additional Notes

- *There will be multiple athletic events to feature NIOT announcements and opportunities.*
- *November 8-14, 2015 is the "It's On Us" week to raise awareness about sexual assault and bystander intervention. A specific schedule is not yet out to review and avoid conflicts if NIOT week is extended.*
- *NIOT week planning folks will be working with this other group.*
- *More programs to be added as they continue to connect with other groups.*
- *November 1 target to solidify schedule*

Needs

- Buttons and pledge cards needed – Leslie working to get more ordered
- NIOT shirts will be at the front of the store during NIOT week for purchase

Planning Group for Interfaith Breakfast
First organizational meeting for the group occurred. The single largest decision will be the location because they anticipate they will outgrow. No date or time set for event as of yet. 125 – 140 in attendance last year.

NIOT Digest
Limitation on list serve for attachments – Leslie looking into revising the digest process for submitting and for sending out attachments. A reminder to send your text copy to Leslie Galan.

Current Events Discussion
Important to discuss current events to process as a group and share information in the spirit of NIOT.

Upcoming Events
Just Us: An Open Dialogue with the Police
Featuring BGSU and BG Chiefs of Police
6-7:30 pm
BGSU Student Union Theater

Good of the Order
World Student Association – International Dinner November 14th, pre-saling tickets, $12.00 – Look for email for more information.
Mayoral Debate – October 22nd, 2015 8 – 9 pm

Meeting Adjourned – 5:00 pm