**Census 2020 Task Force Executive Committee**

**October 3, 2019 – 10:30 am (CDT)**

**Peace Garden Room - North Dakota State Capitol – Bismarck**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present at the meeting:** Scott Davis, Louise Dardis, Linda Svihovec, Stephanie Dassinger, Jamie Azure, Kenneth Davis, Anita Blue, Ira Taken Alive, Peggy Cavanaugh, Cheryl Abe, Gabrielle Wilkinson, Duane Jackson, Allan Dumaray, Marshall Kell, Shauna Long, Joel Redfox, Myra Pearson, Kim ThreeIrons, Waynita Chaske, Lorraine Davis and Leandor McDonald.

**Commerce Staff:** Kevin Iverson and Gabrielle Proffitt

**Introductions – Scott Davis:**

The meeting kicked off with introductions of the newly formed Tribal Subcommittee and the role each member will play with the local Complete Count Committees (CCCs) moving forward for ensuring a complete count in North Dakota for the 2020 Census.

**Federal Partners Overview – Louise Dardis and Linda Svihovec:**

The North Dakota Census 2020 Task Force Co-chairs provided updates on where we are at as a team and spoke of the relationship between the Native American Tribes and the State Task Force. The newly founded Social Media Campaign has been launched in expectation of contracting a marketing team. The $1,000,000 appropriation allocated by the Legislature was discussed with $500,000 being dedicated to the new agency to ensure hard-to-count populations are reached.

**Marketing - Scott Davis:**

Co-chair Svihovec updated the committee on the timeline for the RFP. Svihovec informed the committee that the deadline for submission of proposals closed October 2, evaluations begin October 4, Interviews will take place on October 14, with a plan to have the agency hired by November 1.

**Chairman Jaime Azure:**

**Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Chairman, Jamie Azure, discussed** the partnership between the Tribal Subcommittee and the Task Force. Chairman Azure expressed the need for both traditional communication forms and social media to be used with the new marketing agency and expressed a desire to build a relationship with the contracted firm .

**Procurement – Scott Davis:**

Chairman Davis reported that a consultant would be hired to determine how much of the federal money is allocated toward tribes in major areas with a concentration on housing. Davis also proposed allocating separate funding for items the state cannot provide, such as food, as well as assisting marketing teams with messages to capture those urban Indian populations. Ideas were proposed to outsource PSAs from local elders and youths at Tribal colleges to increase awareness.

**Recruitment – Kenneth Davis:**

Huge recruitment efforts are being made at the Tribal level; 40-50 enumerators are allocated to each tribe. A tribal census manager position was announced, with applications closing yesterday. The CCCs have been established with points of contacts being made. Issues were addressed relating to filling out the Census via paper versus online and over the phone. Possible solutions were proposed, and the team is dedicated to getting as many tribal members counted as possible.

**Complete Count Committee – Tribal CCC’s:**

US Census Bureau Partnership Tribal Specialist, Kenneth Davis, reported that committees and points of contacts have been formed for all North Dakota tribes. Chairman Davis asked for reports from each of the CCCs as follows:

**Spirit Lake Nation:** Peggy Cavanaugh and Myra Pearson are leading the efforts.

Committee is formed, training has begun and they have had their first meeting.

**Standing Rock Sioux Tribe:** Ira Taken Alive heads the committee.

The CCC was named in July and have had meetings. They have combined efforts with South Dakota.

Municipals partook in CCC meetings, establishing connections. Have made great strides in gaining awareness. Some of these efforts include: partnerships at both college and elementary levels, radio stations and newspapers.

Next meeting will be October 17th and 3:00 p.m. at Fort Yates.

**Turtle Mountain Tribe:** Anita Blue leads committee.

Established a 30-person CCC and has had meetings with members.

Has also established a strong awareness amongst tribe. Some examples of the work they are doing: PSAs with high schools and colleges, pamphlets in children’s backpacks at elementary school conferences, partnerships with radio and newspapers, youth group leaders, social media and education.

Next meeting will be October 16th at the casino from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**MHA Nation:** Gabrielle Wilkonson, Mark Fox and Cheryl Abe have formed the committee.

The committee has formed and had their first meeting.

Have started to form partnerships with radio and newspaper, have intentions to create and make t-Shirts to have canvassers and committee members wear, as well as form communication with other tribes to expand reach and awareness.

Next meeting will be November 6th at the Northern Lights.

**Next Steps:** The subcommittee decided to hold another meeting in November.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.