



## Diné Nizhóní Incorporated

### Strategic Planning | Project Updates Zoom Meeting

Present- Andrew, Clayton, Diane, Reagan, and Micah

- 1) Welcome and Prayer- Clayton Long
  - a) 6:21pm- Clayton officially opening meeting with beginning prayer
  
- 2) Business-
  - a) Podcast Updates:
    - i) Completed the 10th episode- next there will be a break and will start back up in June
    - ii) Send Andrew and Clayton suggestions for people to interview
    - iii) Resident of Pennsylvania- would like to come out and work with students here to incorporate STEM and culture/language
      - (1) Ariel Platero (interviewee) is an intern that previously talked on the episode. We were able to connect her with PA resident to give a talk
    - iv) If a podcast gets more than 1,000 listens in a month, it is in the top 10%- We are getting that!!
    - v) A listener suggestion- one episode every so often can be a language lesson
      - (1) Clayton- having a patron status can give listeners
      - (2) Diane- Maybe we can interview the county commissioners
        - (a) Clayton- Sharing information; what avenues are there available for a bilingual constituency?
          - (i) We can tell people to go vote, but we cannot tell them who to vote for- however we can ask

them about things we are interested in promoting

(b) Diane- We can ask them questions about what inspires them and talk about their respective journeys to their current standings

(3) Reagan- The history of education in San Juan County

(a) Residents and Clayton talking about the unique year-round schooling endeavor from when Clayton was Principal at Montezuma Creek Elementary

(i) Clayton- there are MANY Navajo Language teachers that have been in the profession for a long time.

1. We can have a group of interviewees- they can describe ways they have worked to preserve culture and language. What advice/ suggestions do they have for children?

(4) Micah- Guest hosts and others involved to use the Hozho Speaks Podcast as a platform for their own projects

(a) Andrew- we are doing that a little with Hozho365 from UNHS to talk about their own projects

(b) Clayton- Stanley Nez (Tribal Law and Courts) could be a really cool person to have in that place

(5) Diane- A person we can give time to is Rory Atcitty

vi) Kraig- we have not had a chance to talk with him because he is extremely busy at the moment

(1) He knows we are interested, but we have not had a moment to

b) DNI Updates:

i) Gained 5 patrons

(1) 2- are at \$5 and 3- are at \$3

(2) One time donation of \$100 and will eventually join as a \$20 patron

ii) We are NOT a 501(c)3 corporation- Andrew is speaking with IRS

- (1) Paperwork (10- page paper written by Andrew) will take about a month to process
- (2) We will know final decision from IRS by the end of May

c) Board Project Updates-

i) Reagan- Master Gardener Project

- (1) The Farm to \_\_\_ (Table??) is taking off
- (2) Wanting to create greater opportunity for Native Students,
- (3) Setting up planting and irrigation space in Bluff- this project will start now in May
  - (a) Finding a manager has been difficult- we are now offering families to sign up for boxes and can help stock a community food pantry.
- (4) There is funding to create a culturally relevant Master Gardener curriculum- Reagan now has the ability to implement own thoughts and knowledge structures from her experience into practice
  - (a) Goal: create a culturally relevant curriculum in Agriculture for our youth
- (5) Clayton- Wheel Philosophy of Planning (Is that an okay name?)
  - (a) There is a wheel with spokes- represents different aspects of a product and a person is assigned to think and plan for a specific aspect
  - (b) Maintaining a circle of people to supplement and develop different aspects of a “product” - from there, people can create a collective story to embody the “product”
  - (c) This can be an ongoing process, and this can be a way to share ideas and products with people.
- (6) Garden donation of \$300 can be used for fresh produce bins

ii) Micah- School Garden Updates

- (1) Things are going well, we have purchased the lumber for the raised beds and it will be delivered this week. There is a lot of support for the garden from the staff and students.

One thing we will need to address in the near future is a garden manager. Micah will not be available to watch the garden over the summer.

(2) Clayton- Let's start asking the "why?" questions. Why did we want these things to grow? The more we can talk about the "why" and motivations, people will be more likely to come and help

(a) Maybe you can appoint a manager (such as the custodian) to be in charge. We can set up a schedule to allow parents/ volunteers to be in charge of certain aspects of the garden.

(b) From there, we can have community events such as traditional food prep

(c) Meet with SCC to ask for help and volunteers to help.

(3) Diane- can incentivize participation by entering fruits/veggies to the county fair. We can have some kind of contest for the things that students produce

iii) Diane- No updates at the moment

(1) Diane attended Master Gardener course over the winter and has been involved with Reagan in the Bluff project

(a) Clayton- we can also explore and look at educating others about indigenous plants and their traditional uses. Things start small, but once we practice k'é many things can be accomplished

iv) Clayton- we can create t-shirts that forward positive messaging

3) Action Steps-

a) Editing and revising a version of the bylaws for approval (will complete over the summer when there is more time away from school)- Micah

4) Next Meeting- June 9, 2022 @6:00pm

a) 7:24pm- Meeting closure