



# GARLAND

## COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2014

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jennifer Nguyen, Chair  
Martha Melaku, Vice-Chair  
Charles Pickitt  
Deo Sookdeo  
Ed Moore  
Jim Gallegos  
Lucian Giambasu  
Marcie Adame  
Minerva Moreno  
Ricardo Rocha

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Janet L. Bridges  
Jesse A. Sanchez  
Kaushalya Siriwardana

### **GUESTS/CITIZENS:**

None

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Beth Dattomo  
Cheryl Zirix

### **Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Jennifer, Chair.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Marcie; seconded by Charles to approve the April 17, 2014 meeting minutes; motion passed.

### **Citizen Comments:**

None.

### **Chair's Briefing:**

Jennifer, Deo, Marcie, and their spouses attended the Taste of Garland along with Councilmen Scott LeMay and BJ Williams. NBC5 spoke with Jennifer regarding a project to promote Garland. Jennifer shared that Heroes of the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial was awarded a large grant from a foundation.

### **Staff Briefing:**

Heritage Week will take place the last week of May. Saturday May 31 will be an all-day event. Details are being worked out on how CMC can help with the event(s). Motion made by Marcie; seconded by Charles to participate in the Heritage Week; motion passed.

District 5's new Councilman, Billy Mack Williams, will be sworn-in on May 20. He takes the place of John Willis. CMC members appointed by district 1, 2, 4, or 5 will need to reapply to be considered for their position on the commission. The application will be sent to you along with the deadline to turn in the application to the City Secretary's office.

The Summer Nutrition Program will start on June 9; anyone interested in volunteering will need to contact Pamela Harris.

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Members were reminded that The Marketplace in downtown Garland will take place on Saturday, May 17. They are expecting approximately 45 vendors.

**Committee Reports and Discussion:**

- **Ad hoc Committee**
  - Motion made by Marcie; seconded by Minerva to accept the amended Bylaws; motion passed unanimously with 9 voting members.
- **Communication, Learning, Understanding & Education (CLUE)**
  - Presented three items for consideration: partner with Hope Clinic, partner with Community Services subcommittee on a community garden, and continue pursuing the UN Project.
  - Motion by Martha; seconded by Marcie for CMC to work in partnership with Hope Clinic and community gardens partnership and to move forward to approach the Mayor and City Council; passed.
- **Community Services**
  - Committee will contact Neighborhood Services Management to try to build collaboration on an organic garden project.
  - The Restaurant Guide information is being expanded as well the Community Resources guide. The committee has agreed to contact at least 2 businesses/organizations per week until it is fully updated. The list will be expanded.
- **Multicultural Affairs**
  - Several dates were still open in October to hold the Mosaic Festival in the downtown square area. Motion by Martha; seconded by Deo to have October 4 as a tentative date for the Mosaic Festival and partner with Garland Downtown Business Association (GDBA); motion passed.

**Commission Item Review:**

The City event calendar was distributed to those present. CMC members are to send Cheryl information on upcoming events for inclusion.

**CMC Monthly Meeting Dates:**

**June 19, 2014**

**July 17, 2014**

**August 21, 2014**

**Future Agenda/Events Items:**

Items for agenda include:

- Personalized business cards
- Approval of yearly activities for CMC to attend
- Refocus on goals

**Adjourn:**

Motion made by Minerva; seconded by Jim to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.; unanimous.

**Submitted by:**

**Cheryl Ziriaux, CMC Secretary**

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**Approved by Committee:            June 19, 2014**

**Approved by:                            Jennifer Nguyen, CMC Chair**