GARLAND

COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jennifer Nguyen, Chair
Chekeitha Gray
Dassa Giles
Deo Sookdeo
Hubert Hartin
Martha Melaku
Minerva Moreno
Ricardo Rocha

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Sunbola Ashimi, Vice Chair
Henry Hammons, II
Kaushalya Siriwardana

STAFF PRESENT:
Priscilla Wilson
Cheryl Ziriax

GUESTS:
Rosie Perez

Call To Order:
The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Chair Jennifer Nguyen.

Ricardo Rocha, new CMC member, was welcomed by all. He is representing District 6, Council Person Lori Barnett Dodson's area.

Approval of Minutes:
Motion made by Hubert Hartin; second by Dassa Giles to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2011 meeting; approved unanimously.

Guest Comments:
None.

Chair's Briefing:
Jennifer Nguyen thanked Deo and Priscilla for attending the Council Meeting on September 6 to receive the Senior Awareness Day Resolution from Angie Chen-Button.

Jennifer and Mayor Ronald Jones attended Sunbola Ashimi's wedding on Saturday, September 10.

The Mosaic Festival committee meeting including several City departments took place on Thursday, September 15th at City Hall. City services were coordinated through Bonny Patrick in Community Relations.

Staff Briefing:
The thank you letter was sent to Mr. Vu with Greater Dallas Press for printing the CMC brochures.

The CMC/Council Map board was shown and the last two pictures were taken of the CMC members at the meeting.

Kausha and Deo will attend the NAACP Brunch Saturday, September 17th. Garland's Police Chief, Mitch Bates, is the speaker.

The Healthy Living Expo will take place on Saturday, September 24th in the morning at the Special Events Center. CMC will be responsible for giving event items (water bottle/lunch bag) to attendees that present a ticket. We will have the CMC Brochures and the Mosaic Festival flyers available. Members are encouraged to wear their CMC shirts.

The DFW AACC Banquet will be held Saturday, September 24th beginning at 6:00 p.m. with a special VIP Reception, Dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m. Martha, Dassa, and Chekeitha will be able to attend. Hubert, Deo, and Ricardo will be unable to attend.

The Neighborhood Summit will be held on **Saturday, October 22 from 8:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.** This event is sponsored by the City of Garland's Department of Neighborhood Services. The $25 fee includes lunch; but the fee will be waived if you let Cheryl know that you will be attending.

For the We The People 2012 Conference, please send your talking points regarding what we should cover. Beth Dattomo will be the Mayor's Liaison and will help with engaging citizens to assist in putting the program together. Annie Dickson, former CMC Chairperson, would be a great resource of information.

The Ad Hoc Committee needs to resume looking at the community calendars and recommend events that would enhance the CMC's goals to the community.

The Mayor proposed to assign the Senior Awareness Day 2012 to the Garland Senior Citizen Group and we would co-chair the event due to the closeness of the We The People Conference – Mosaic Festival 2012. Motion made by Dassa; second by Hubert for the CMC to serve as co-chair and/or liaisons to assist the Garland Senior Citizen Council for the Senior Awareness Day 2012 in Garland; approved unanimously.

Budget currently left is approximately $1400. The budget for 2012 that is proposed is $5000. Motion made by Martha; second by Chekeitha to accept the 2011-2012 proposed budget; approved unanimously.

Committee Reports/Discussion:

Jennifer Nguyen appointed Dassa, Martha, and Minerva to be on the Nominating Committee.

Ad hoc Committee

- No report

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Communication, Learning, Understanding & Education (CLUE)

- CMC Letter of Introduction:
  - Motion by Chekeitha; second by Deo to accept the letter with corrections; approved unanimously.
  - Jennifer suggested to send your contacts to Cheryl by October 7.
    - The letter will be sent to the Neighborhood Associations as well.
  - Martha will make changes to the letter and a mockup will be sent to members for a final look.
- Website
  - It will undergo a major update around December/January.
  - Suggestion to include pictures of the CMC members on the site.

Community Services

- No report.
- Jennifer will get with Kausha regarding "Topic of the Month".

Multicultural Affairs

- **Event Updates**
  - Mosaic Festival – October 1, 2011
    - Dassa apologized for her absenteeism – she has been working on PR for the event as well as auxiliary items.
    - Dorothy White sent the information to over 1000 media contacts using the updated media release from last year.
    - 3,000 flyers will be printed, free of charge, by Greater Dallas Press (Mr. Vu). He is also willing to print 500 programs.
    - Dassa will pick up the brochures and will deliver them to City Hall. The CMC members may pick up the flyers to distribute to the neighborhood.
    - During the meeting with the City departments, the low wattage concerns at the pavilion were addressed. She spoke with Tom from Baylor regarding the usage of a generator. They will let us use one.
    - An Emcee has not been contacted yet.
    - It was decided not to have a raised stage.
    - Minerva is working with the police department.
    - Minerva has made contact with the two elementary schools in the area (Bradfield and Bullock) for event parking; we will need a vehicle from Parks for transportation. Priscilla will contact the parks department.
    - We have 8 performers and 13 vendors; performers from last year were contacted, Minerva will follow up.
    - Martha spoke with Bruce Jones several months ago and he was willing to Emcee. She will contact him again for his availability.
    - Martha will also contact the radio station that was present last year and invite them to this year's event.

- Boy Scouts will help with setup and cleanup as well as the flag ceremony.
- The National Anthem will be sung by a 14 year old.
- The firefighter event contact person is Chris Balanciere.
- Minerva will contact Military and Police for recruiters to attend the event. Cindy Hale would be the contact for NPO.
- Dassa will pickup coffee from Starbucks for volunteers on the day of the event.
- Dassa will send Cheryl the shopping list of items to purchase.
- Volunteers are needed to help (3 volunteers each).

- **Review Calendar of Events**
  - No report.

CMC Meeting Dates and Future Agenda Items

- NAACP Banquet – September 17
- Healthy Living Expo – September 24
- DFW AACC Banquet – September 24
- Mosaic Festival – October 1
- Deadline for sending your contacts to Cheryl – October 7
- **CMC Meeting – October 20**
- **Boards & Commissions Appreciation Dinner – November 3**
- **CMC Meeting – November 17**
- **Hispanic Heritage Banquet – November 19**
- CMC Meeting – December 15

Motion made by Martha; second by Minerva to cancel the CMC Meeting on December 15th and to have the **November 17th** meeting as a potluck; approved unanimously.

Announcements

The DFW AACC Banquet's table seats 10 people. It is located near the front and needs to be filled. Everyone needs to be onstage to accept the award and be in the picture.

The NAACP Brunch has 5 tables from Garland organizations.
Martha shared a flyer from "Kegna Legna". They will be having a charity dinner on October 8th for refugees from East Africa.

The Vietnamese Media newspaper printed the article regarding the Resolution received at the City of Garland's City Council meeting in September without the picture. Only three people were in the picture from the CMC.

Chekeitha completed the two storyboards. They will be kept at City Hall. Priscilla will take them to the Healthy Living Expo as well as the DFW AACC Banquet along with the brochures and flyers.

Adjourn

Motion made by Martha, second by Chekeitha to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by: **Cheryl Ziriax, CMC Secretary**

Approved by Committee: **October 20, 2011**

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