GARLAND

COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Martha Melaku, Vice-Chair
Deo Sookdeo
Dorothy Brooks
Henry Hammons, II
Hubert Hartin
Minerva Moreno
Ricardo Rocha
Susie Rutherford

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Jennifer Nguyen, Chair
Dassa Giles
Kaushalya Siriwardana

STAFF PRESENT:
Priscilla Wilson
Cheryl Ziriax

GUESTS:
Beth Dattomo

Call To Order:
The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Vice-Chair Martha Melaku.

Approval of Minutes:
Motion made by Henry; second by Hubert to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2012 meeting; approved unanimously.

Guest Comments:
None.

Chair's Briefing:
Martha has had communication with Jennifer; she is in Vietnam and sends her greetings.

Staff Briefing:
Priscilla stressed the importance of submitting any organization and/or individual contact information you have to Cheryl, in order to send the We The People Conference (WTPC) information to them.

Priscilla read a Thank You card from Cheryl for the flower arrangement that was sent following her surgery.

Priscilla turned the time over to Beth Dattomo, the Mayor's Assistant, and Minerva to update the committee regarding the WTPC planning meetings. The Steering Committee consists of Linda Griffin, Jennifer Nguyen, Minerva Moreno, Dorothy White, Priscilla Wilson, and Beth Dattomo. Mary Whitt, GISD Community Liaison, was added to the Education Subcommittee. Contact lists for the Task Force and Subcommittees were provided. If your name is not listed on a subcommittee, please let us know and we will be happy to add it.

The Steering Committee visited the GISD Special Events Center on Monday April 16th. After viewing the Center, the committee was able to assign locations to the different activities that will take place at the WTPC, Naturalization Ceremony, and Mosaic Festival. The Leadership Breakfast (approximately 200 expected) and the Breakout Sessions will take place on the conference side of the center. The Naturalization Ceremony and the Mosaic Festival will take

place in the Arena, and the Reception for the Naturalization Ceremony will take place in the Ballroom.

Priscilla shared the tentative schedule for the WTPC:

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. – Leadership Breakfast
9:00 – 11:45 a.m. – Breakout Sessions
2:00 – 3:00 (3:30) p.m. – Naturalization Ceremony (up to 500 expected)
3:00 (3:30) – 5:00? p.m. – Reception and Mosaic Festival (same time)

There may be several acts/performances during the Leadership Breakfast and several during the Breakout Sessions in different locations. It is anticipated that additional acts/performances will take place before and after the Naturalization Ceremony.

Minerva shared with the committee that the chairs for the subcommittees are very excited about the WTPC event. Gladys Hanley with Immigration Naturalization Services (INS) will visit the GISD Special Events Center soon.

The subcommittees will present a budget within 2 weeks in order to help with sponsors. Minerva will invite several scout groups to attend the Naturalization Ceremony.

Priscilla would like the committee to consider restricting the CMC Funds for CMC. It would be well to consider purchasing a nice tablecloth with the CMC logo. Motion made by Hubert; second by Deo to consider purchasing a table cover not to exceed $800; approved unanimously. The committee would like to pursue several different options and seek bids prior to the final decision. Several suggestions made were a table runner, a wooden plaque with logo to sit on the table, a laminated sign to attach to a cloth, as well as the traditional table cloth.

Minerva, on behalf of the CMC, accepted the Cultural Education Award that was presented at the 15th Annual Fair Housing Month Celebration on April 10th. The plaque and program were shown at the meeting.

Committee Reports/Discussion:

Ad hoc Committee

- No Report.

Communication, Learning, Understanding & Education (CLUE)

- No Report.

Community Services

- Minerva reported on Kausha's behalf. The committee suggested for CMC to participate by involvement in 3 no-cost events this year, they are: The Baylor Diversity Fair (June), Senior Awareness Day (August), and the NAACP Back to School Fair (August). We will keep the dates on the ongoing calendar and will make a decision as the event approaches.

Multicultural Affairs

- **Event Updates**
  - We The People Conference – **September 22, 2012**
    - Already discussed during the Staff Briefing.

- **Review Calendar of Events**
  - Dates of the upcoming meetings were mentioned as well as the 3 events under Community Services.

CMC Meeting Dates and Future Agenda Items

- **CMC Meeting – May 17, 2012**
- **CMC Meeting – June 21, 2012**
- **Baylor Diversity Fair – June 2012**
- **CMC Meeting – July 19, 2012**
- **Sr. Awareness Day – August 4, 2012**
- **NAACP Back to School Fair – August 25, 2012**
- **CMC Meeting – August 16, 2012**

Announcements

Each WTPC Subcommittee Chairperson will submit a report to the Steering Committee. The reports from each subcommittee will be presented at the next CMC meeting by one of the CMC members on the subcommittee.

Henry Hammons volunteered to serve on the Leadership Breakfast Subcommittee and is willing to serve on another committee as/if needed.

Election Day is May 12th, with early voting taking place the week prior (beginning April 30th – May 8th).

National Day of Prayer will be at The Atrium on May 3rd from noon – 1:00 p.m., no RSVP is required.

Adjourn

Motion made by Susie; second by Henry to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

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

Approved by Committee: **May 17, 2012**

Approved by: **Martha Melaku, CMC Vice-Chair**