

# COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: <u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>: <u>GUESTS/CITIZENS</u>:

Jennifer Nguyen, Chair Deo Sookdeo Kim Wells Martha Melaku, Vice-Chair Henry Hammons, II Loc Thai

Dorothy Brooks

Hubert Hartin

Janet L. Bridges

STAFF PRESENT:

John Nguyen

Mitch Bates

Charles Rene

Kaushalya Siriwardana Priscilla Wilson

Minerva Moreno Cheryl Ziriax Ricardo Rocha

#### **Call To Order:**

Susie Rutherford

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chair Jennifer Nguyen.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Minerva; second by Martha to approve the January 17, 2013 meeting minutes; approved unanimously.

#### **Citizen Comments:**

Kim Wells and her husband John Nguyen are Real Estate Brokers in Texas, and have been Garland residents for over 30 years. They attended the *We The People* Conference, Thanksgiving Dinner, Open Dialogue Dinner, as well as the Ngoc Nhien Tempe Lunar New Year Celebration and felt all of the events were wonderful and successful and showed how well the Asian American community is cared for. They are asking the City of Garland to be part of the "Heroes of South Vietnam Memorial Foundation" fundraising event on Sunday, July 14, 2013. They are seeking support from the City and its departments; directed them to the Garland Chamber of Commerce for support, as well as assistance from GISD. The CMC will discuss and get back with Ms. Wells.

City of Garland's Police Chief Mitch Bates and Assistant Chief Charles Rene addressed those in attendance regarding racial profiling in Garland, the make-up of the police force, and community involvement. Chief Bates provided a report that was presented to council for the 2012 calendar year regarding the policy and police contact statistics. He also provided information from the City's website regarding: Neighborhood Police Officers, Demographics, Citizen Police Academy Application and Course Schedule, and Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association.

Appreciation was expressed by several CMC members for the improvements the Police department has made.

#### **Chairs Briefing:**

Jennifer provided a handout with her activities listed for the past month.

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### Staff Briefing:

The Mayor's State of the City address will take place at the Garland Chamber's luncheon on February 25<sup>th</sup> at The Atrium. The cost of the event for CMC members is \$25; CMC will pay for 2 people to attend, Jennifer and Martha; other attendees will need to pay at the door.

The fiscal year 2008-2009 and 2010-2011 proposed budgets were distributed to help the members with this year's fiscal budget (2012-2013). Next meeting the budget will be discussed.

### **Committee Reports and Discussion**

- o Ad hoc Committee
  - Nominations
    - Jennifer informed the committee that Dassa has resigned as of this date but would like to help in a volunteer capacity.
    - Minerva Moreno presented the Election of Officers Ballot to the members as follows:
      - o Office of Chairperson: Jennifer Nguyen
      - Office of Vice Chairperson: Martha Melaku
        - 1st Election Office of Chairperson
          - 9 members cast their votes for Jennifer Nguyen
        - 1st Election Office of Vice Chairperson
          - 9 members cast their votes for Martha Melaku
  - The new (continuing) Chairperson will be Jennifer Nguyen and the new (continuing) Vice Chairperson will be Martha Melaku.
  - Both Jennifer and Martha expressed their appreciation for the members' vote of confidence.
- o Communication, Learning, Understanding & Education (CLUE)
  - No report.
- Community Services
  - No report.
- Multicultural Affairs
  - Event Updates
    - MLK Parade
      - Jennifer, Dorothy, Kausha, and Kausha's daughter participated in the parade.
      - o Tom Nguyen, Jennifer's husband, was the driver for the truck.
      - o Thank you to Priscilla for providing the new truck for the parade.
      - Jennifer would like 100% CMC participation next year.
  - Calendar of Community Events
    - Recommendations: No report.
    - Mosaic Festival
      - Hiep Thai Mall would like to host on Memorial Day weekend.
      - Minerva will consider chairing the Mosaic Festival Committee.
      - Ricardo, Minerva, and Jennifer will meet with Hiep Thai Mall and report back to the CMC members via email. They will try to meet within the next week.

#### **CMC Monthly Meeting Dates:**

March 21, 2013 April 18, 2013 May 16, 2013

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#### **Future Events:**

Mayor's 'State of the City' Address – February 25<sup>th</sup>.

NAACP Education Forum & College Preparation Day – March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Dorothy will be presenting at the forum; this would be a great opportunity to wear the CMC's name badge.

## **Future Agenda Items:**

Committee Assignments
Budget Fiscal Year 2012-2013
Request from Kim Wells
Process for future support requests

## Adjourn

Motion made by Hubert; second by Kausha to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by: Cheryl Ziriax, CMC Secretary

Approved by Committee: March 21, 2013

Approved by: Jennifer Nguyen, CMC Chair