



GARLAND

COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Nguyen, Chair
Martha Melaku, Vice-Chair
Deo Sookdeo
Jesse A. Sanchez
Jim Gallegos
Kaushalya Siriwardana
Lucian Giambasu
Marcie Adame
Minerva Moreno

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Charles Pickitt
Ed Moore
Janet L. Bridges
Ricardo Rocha

GUESTS/CITIZENS:

Landra Jackson
Aris Williams
Tara Dunn

STAFF PRESENT:

Beth Dattomo
Priscilla Wilson
Cheryl Zirrax

Call To Order:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Martha; seconded by Kausha to approve the February 20, 2014 meeting minutes and the February 8, 2014 Special Meeting minutes as presented; motion passed.

Citizen Comments:

Landra Jackson and Aris Williams, guests, are observing the meeting for a school project.

The Concilio:

Tara Dunn with The Concilio presented their educational program "Parents Advocating for Student Excellence" (PASE). They teach parents how to be involved in their children's education. Since the program was started, they have seen an increase in students graduating from High School. The Concilio would like to begin the PASE program in the GISD schools.

National Day of Prayer:

Sandra Dinkins was unable to attend the meeting.

Chair's Briefing:

CMC welcomed the newest CMC Member, Lucian Giambasu. He introduced himself to the committee.

Jennifer and Minerva attended the Mayors State of the City Address. The video is on the City's website. The Jade Buddha Parade and Opening Ceremony were very well attended. Thank you to the PRCAD department, Warren Bird, Jackie Justice, and Priscilla for their help with the events. Kausha and Ed were able to attend the parade.

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Staff Briefing:

The coming elections will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2014. Incumbent Council Members for Districts 1, 2, and 4 are uncontested: Tim Campbell (District 1), Anita Goebel (District 2), BJ Williams (District 4). Council member John Willis (District 5) has reached the maximum number of terms. There are two candidates for Council for District 5: Terry G Kaliney and Billy Mack Williams.

CMC meetings will need to continue to take place at COGU due to the construction at City Hall.

Members were reminded of Committee Nights (first Thursday of the month). Teen Talk hosted by Garland Youth Council (Saturday, March 29, 2014) would like to increase their attendance and need your help to promote it over the next week. The flyer will be emailed to CMC members. Celebration of Cinco de Mayo (May 3; GDBA hosting) will take place this year as well as Star Spangled Fourth. The Marketplace Garland is back the third Saturday of each month through the summer at the downtown square from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Budget Consideration/Approval:

Motion made by Minerva; seconded by Kausha to approve the budget as follows: Mosaic Festival \$1500; Event Participation Expenses \$791.18; Regular Expenses \$2046.70; and Member Expenses \$662.12; motion passed.

Committee Reports and Discussion:

- **Ad hoc Committee**
 - Presented the changes to the Bylaws.
- **Communication, Learning, Understanding & Education (CLUE)**
 - No report.
- **Community Services**
 - No report.
- **Multicultural Affairs**
 - Spoke on what was important – relationships are important, suggested for everyone to report something from their district at each regular meeting.
 - Mosaic Festival, need ideas for venue, partners (Healthy Living Expo / Star Spangled Fourth), etc.

Commission Item Review:

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

CMC Monthly Meeting Dates:

April 3, 2014 – Committee Night
April 17, 2014 – Regular Meeting
May 1, 2014 – Committee Night
May 15, 2014 – Regular Meeting
June 5, 2014 – Committee Night
June 19, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Future Agenda/Events Items:

None presented.

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Adjourn:

Motion made by Minerva; seconded by Jesse to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.; motion passed.

Submitted by: Cheryl Ziriak, CMC Secretary

Approved by Committee: April 17, 2014

Approved by: Jennifer Nguyen, CMC Chair