

  
**COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC)**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2011**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jennifer Nguyen, Chair  
Sunbola Ashimi, Vice Chair  
Chekeitha Gray  
Dassa Giles  
Deo Sookdeo  
Henry Hammons, II  
Hubert Hartin  
Jennifer Najera Hague  
Kaushalya Siriwardana  
Minerva Moreno

**MEMBER ABSENT:**

John Fleming  
Martha Melaku

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Priscilla Wilson  
Cheryl Ziriaux

**GUESTS:**

Leea Thompson Fudge  
Gerald (Jerry) Nichols

**Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Chair Jennifer Nguyen.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Minerva Moreno; second by Kausha Siriwardana to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2011 meeting; approved unanimously.

**Guest Comments:**

Jerry Nichols, Senior Awareness Planning Committee Chairman, and Leea Thompson Fudge, Garland Senior Citizen Commission Acting Chair, presented information regarding the District 112 (encompasses Richardson & portions of Garland) Senior Awareness Day on Saturday, August 6, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Richardson Convention Center. The event usually has 30 – 50 exhibitors, and serves as an advocate for seniors in all areas of life, not just health. In the past, it has been mostly attended by the Caucasian community and the organizers would like to reach out to the diverse population. The Senior Awareness Planning Committee stated the CMC can help this year by sharing ideas/ways to reach the multi-cultural community. They would also like to expand the entertainment that is at the event. The preference is that the entertainers be 50+ years of age. They will have a flyer available in several weeks. The coordinators of the Senior Awareness Day would like our input on how to increase multicultural attendance and ideas of possible entertainers. The CMC Community Services subcommittee agreed to coordinate this endeavor.

**Chair's Briefing:**

Jennifer Nguyen shared that she attended the Garland Police Department Awards Banquet on April 2<sup>nd</sup> with her husband. She was able to have the information included in the Vietnamese Weekly News Publication.

The Community Services subcommittee had a good goal setting meeting. Several goals include a formal introduction letter, drafted by Minerva. The CLUE subcommittee was assigned the task of trying to report to the Mayor and Council on a quarterly basis.

Plans are moving forward for a CMC Social/Teambuilding dinner, thanks to an idea presented by Henry Hammons.

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Go and Be Project (Code Cares) will take place on Saturday, April 30. Registrations were taken by Kausha. Cheryl will coordinate with John Fleming for the food purchase and further information on project locations will be emailed.

Jennifer will be in Austin, Texas on May 4<sup>th</sup> to meet with a State Representative to receive the Asian Heritage Proclamation from Governor Rick Perry.

DFW International Dinner with the Mayor's will be held Thursday, June 14 at 6 p.m. in Dallas at the Lovers Lane United Methodist Church. Individual tickets are \$100. Sunbola will attend the Mayor's Dinner.

Henry proposed to have a team-building event, along with meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> at JD's restaurant beginning at 6:00 p.m. The duration of the meeting would be 1 hour and dinner/mingling would follow.

**Staff Briefing:**

Priscilla gave out copies of the current budget, Garland City Press and DFW International Community Alliance April and May 2011 calendars.

Priscilla provided a handout with dates available for the 'Robert's Rules of Order' training. A follow-up email will be sent out as well.

Priscilla gave the accounting directive "Prohibited Expenditures" and addressed the following: "Flowers or bereavement acknowledgements such as hospitalization, funerals, etc." are prohibited.

Tax Exempt forms were handed out to members to ensure purchases are tax exempt.

A copy of the 2010 Census Population by Race and Hispanic Origin and Occupancy Status for Garland, Texas was provided. Priscilla mentioned more information is still being reported.

Members were given the Tree Power Free Tree Program information that is scheduled for Saturday, April 30, 2011.

The March 2011 edition of the GAFHA newsletter was circulated. An article was included in the newsletter regarding the attendance of several CMC members at the March meeting where the history of the CMC as well as the mission was presented. The CMC brochure was also included in the newsletter.

Information was provided for the Hollabaugh Recreation Center. This location is a possible site for the Mosaic Festival. Motion made by Hubert Hartin, second by Dassa Giles to move Mosaic Festival to Hollabaugh Recreation Center to be held October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011; approved. Dassa suggested moving the planning details to the events/Mosaic Festival subcommittee; she is willing to serve as acting chair for the Mosaic Festival. Henry Hammons, Jennifer Hague, and Minerva Moreno are willing to serve on the subcommittee.

CMC Committee Appointments list was provided. Anyone not listed on any subcommittees was encouraged to notify Cheryl what subcommittee(s) they would be willing to serve on.

**Committee Reports/Discussion:**

**Ad hoc Committee**

- No report

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**Committee Reports/Discussion: (continued)**

**Communication, Learning, Understanding & Education (CLUE)**

- CMC Brochure – Priscilla will get with Martha
- Website – pictures were taken of the board members
- CMC Topic of the Month – no report

**Community Services**

- **Senior Awareness Day**
  - Kausha and Deo will work together on this
- **Baylor's Diversity Fair**
  - Motion made by Minerva Moreno, second by Dassa Giles that we partner in Baylor's Diversity Fair, Minerva will setup a table and share the CMC information; approved.
- **Go and Be Project (Code Cares) – April 30**
  - Written report provided

**Multicultural Affairs**

- Sunbola would like Minerva to chair the subcommittee. Minerva will co-chair the subcommittee with Sunbola.
- Dassa and Minerva will co-chair the Mosaic Festival subcommittee

**CMC Meeting Dates and Future Agenda Items**

The next meeting will be May 19, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at JD's. The Go and Be Project (Code Cares) is on Saturday, April 30, 2011.

**Announcements**

None.

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Jennifer Nguyen to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.; approved.

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

**Approved by Committee: May 19, 2011**

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