



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC)  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jerry Apodaca  
Sunbola Ashimi  
Dassa Giles  
Chekeitha Gray  
Hubert Hartin  
Koni Ramos Kaiwi  
Martha Melaku  
Jennifer Nguyen  
Deo Sookdeo

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

John Fleming  
Jennifer Najera Hague  
Kaushalya Siriwardana  
Robert Alan Smith

**STAFF:**

Priscilla Wilson  
Rosalinda Martinez  
Lilly Clarke  
Angela Calvin

**U.S. CENSUS BUREAU:**

Elizabeth Lopez Lyon, Partnership Specialist  
Jeannie Henderson, Partnership Assistant  
Maricruz Mendez, Partnership Assistant  
Jerry Brady, Partnership Assistant

**GUEST:**

John Kaiwi

**Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:16pm by Priscilla Wilson. (Chairperson Koni Kaiwi arrived a few minutes later.) Priscilla stated that the Census 2010 Training agenda item would be the first agenda item of the meeting.

**Census 2010 Training**

Priscilla announced the Census committee members:

**Media/Education**

Jennifer Nguyen  
Chekeitha Gray

**Partnership/Community**

John Fleming  
Martha Melaku  
Sunbola Ashimi  
Hubert Hartin  
Jerry Apodaca

**Hard to Count (Low Count Areas)**

Deo Sookdeo  
Koni Kaiwi  
Robert Smith  
Dassa Giles

The Census representatives and the CMC created a workplan by listing barriers and challenges in achieving a complete census count. Events were listed in which the committee can spread their Census awareness campaign. Initiatives were listed for each of the Census committees as well as a timeline. Some initiative focus examples were provided such as Education, Faith-Based, Community Based, Business and Media.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Jerry Apodaca, seconded by Hubert Hartin to approve the August 25, 2009 minutes, approved unanimously.

Motion made by Sunbola Ashimi, seconded by Martha Melaku to approve the September 15, 2009 minutes, approved unanimously.

**Guest Comments**

None

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**Chair's Briefing**

Koni Kaiwi thanked the members that helped out with the Mosaic Festival. Koni announced the City of Garland Neighborhood Summit. Koni also announced that she will be participating in the LULAC "Cena en el Barrio" at Conrad High School on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Meals will be provided for 2,500 families and 350 of them are from Garland. LULAC will be inserting Spanish/English CENSUS 2010 flyers.

**Staff Briefing**

Priscilla Wilson reminded the CMC members about the Christmas on the Square event (December 3, 2009) and the Annual Boards and Commissions Dinner (November 19<sup>th</sup>).

Priscilla also announced that David Lo, the District 4 appointee had resigned.

**Slate of Officers**

Dassa Giles announced the Nominating Committee's Slate of Officers to the CMC.

<u>Office of Chairperson</u>	<u>Office of Vice Chairperson</u>
John Fleming	Sunbola Ashimi
Dassa Giles	
Koni Ramos Kaiwi	
Jennifer Nguyen	

Dassa made a request that her name be removed from the slate for the Office of Chairperson.

Dassa opened the nominations from the floor for Office of Chairperson and Office of Vice Chairperson. No names were submitted.

Motion made by Hubert Hartin; seconded by Dassa Giles to close the nominations from the floor and accept the slate as follows:

<u>Office of Chairperson</u>
John Fleming
Koni Ramos Kaiwi
Jennifer Nguyen

Motion made by Jerry Apodaca; seconded by Chekeitha Gray to close the nominations from the floor and accept the slate as follows:

<u>Office of Vice Chairperson</u>
Sunbola Ashimi

Motion made by Dassa Giles; seconded by Deo Sookdeo; to conduct the Election at the December 10, 2009 CMC monthly meeting; approved unanimously.

**Committee Reports/Discussion**

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

No report.

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## **Current Affairs**

No report.

## **Economic Opportunities**

No report.

## **Events**

### **Mosaic Festival**

Martha Melaku provided a report of the event as follows:

The 2009 Mosaic Festival was held on October 3, 2009 from 12:00 Noon to 5 P.M. at the Plaza Theater in downtown Garland. The Mayor of Garland and 4 City Councilmen were in attendance. Celebrity emcee was Jeff Ramirez from KERA. The following is a summary of Mosaic Festival October 3, 2009 participants for entertainment and booths.

Mosaic Festival booth list:

1. Addis Art & Culture
2. AIG Insurance
3. Buckingham United Methodist Church
4. CMC
5. CompSaver
6. Epoch Times
7. Global Art Initiative
8. MAAX International
9. Mary Kay
10. MAXX International
11. Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church
12. Out of African Village
13. Philippine Community
14. Center U. S. Census

Mosaic Festival performers list:

1. Mariachi Estrellas, Students from all seven GISD high schools
2. Kung Fu Center, Headed by Henry Marquez  
Maharlika Dancers, Dances from the Philippines
3. Pablito Guarino, Rina Lundsten, Edith McCoy - singing
4. Asian Fashion Show - Featuring cultural costumes from China, Cambodia, India, Japan, and Vietnam, Philippines, Thailand, Nepal and other Southeast Asian countries.
5. Nene Ramirez, contemporary Oriental Glass Dance
6. Lopar & Marnie Lopez, Brazilian Samba
7. Nene Ramirez, Performing contemporary Oriental Umbrella Dance
8. Falungdafa, Sharing the beauty of ancient Chinese traditions
9. Indian Dance School, Represented by Nanya and Nahian
10. Abigail Hoppe, Miss Bluebonnet Asian American Texas/Miss Philippines Texas – Singing
11. John Fleming, Songs from Texas Hill Country
12. Amazing Grace Dancers, Dancing
13. Sherna Armstrong, Various songs

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### **Mosaic Festival (continued)**

14. Generations Inc. – Dance, singing and poetry
15. Davidic Dance at the Mount, Dancing
16. K3 and Double Portions Band, Traditional Celtic (Scottish) dances and Irish/Scottish fiddle tunes and vocals

### **Health & Community Services**

#### ***Code Cares Project Update***

No report provided because John Fleming was absent. Koni thanked everyone that volunteered and stated that the weather was cold and there were about 10 volunteers and about 4 houses.

### **CMC Meeting Dates**

Thursday, November 19, 2009 (Meeting Cancelled)

Members were reminded that this meeting was cancelled so that the members could attend the City of Garland Annual Boards & Commissions Dinner. Invitations should be mailed out soon to the members.

Thursday, December 10, 2009 (Election of Officers)

### **CMC Budget Reports**

Priscilla Wilson distributed reports to the CMC members.

### **CMC Calendar**

The CMC calendar was provided to the CMC members.

### **Announcements**

The MLK Parade will be held in January 2010.

Motion made by Sunbola Ashimi; seconded by Dassa Giles that the CMC partner with the CENSUS 2010 and participate in the parade. Rosalinda will find out the exact date of the 2010 parade and register and pay the entry fee for the CMC. Jerry Apodaca requested that a thank-you letter be prepared for the driver of the truck that the CMC used in last year's parade. Jerry stated he would personally deliver the letter.

### **Adjourn**

Motion made by Sunbola Ashimi; seconded by Chekeitha Gray to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.; approved unanimously.

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Submitted by: Rosalinda Martinez, CMC Secretary

Approved by Committee: December 10, 2009

Approved by: Koni Ramos Kaiwi, CMC Chair