

GARLAND
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC)
THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jerry Apodaca
Sunbola Ashimi
Dorothy Brooks
Joe L. Garcia
Dassa Giles
Hubert Hartin, Jr.
Koni Ramos Kaiwi
Virginia McClary
Jennifer Nguyen
Jaime Ornelas

STAFF:

Priscilla Wilson, Staff Liaison
Rosalinda Martinez, CMC Secretary

GUESTS:

None

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Chair Koni Ramos Kaiwi.

Approval of Minutes

After review and a correction to the minutes was noted, Hubert Hartin motioned to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2008 meeting; seconded by Jaime Ornelas; approved unanimously.

Citizen/Guest Comments

None

Chair's Briefing

Chair Koni Kaiwi stated that she met with Mr. Alfonso Gonzalez, Immigration and Naturalization Services regarding the Naturalization Ceremony scheduled for July 5, 2008. Koni also attended the Garland Police Department UNIDOS meeting. Koni attended the following meetings:

April 19 – Garland Goes Green event at the Firewheel Town Center

April 26 – City of Garland Fair Housing event; Dorothy Brooks and Virginia McClary were presenters at that event. Jennifer Nguyen, Lee Lutz and Annie Dickson won awards at that event.

May 8 UNT Seminar

May 13 GISD Hispanic Advisory Committee Program

May 13 GISD Drug Awareness Fair. Mayor Ronald E. Jones and Council Member Preston Edwards, District 3 also attended the event.

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Staff's Briefing

Priscilla Wilson provided the Garland election results. John Willis won the election for City Council District 5. He will be sworn at the Tuesday, May 20th Council Meeting.

Priscilla provided the Certificate of Course Completion – Open Meetings Act to the members for their attendance at the April 17, 2008 presentation by City Secretary Mary Kayser.

Priscilla stated that Adriana Sanchez Liberto dropped off a check payable to the CMC. This will be deposited to the CMC's account.

Priscilla attended the 2008 National Fair Housing Month Program and Luncheon Celebration - "On the Sunlit Path" on April 26, 2008.

Priscilla stated that the NAACP Garland Branch is partnering with the City of Garland Fair Housing Office to hold a community forum commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Federal Fair Housing Act on Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at 7:30p.m.

Priscilla stated that Fair Housing department will present a seminar "Money Matter, Budgeting and Credit".

Priscilla stated that the Mayor is currently considering two persons for the CMC vacant positions. Applications have not yet been submitted.

Priscilla informed the CMC of the new Utility Board and asked if they knew anyone that would want to submit an application to be considered.

Committee Reports

Bylaws Committee

Chair: Dassa Giles Members: Jerry Apodaca, Sunbola Ashimi; Dorothy Brooks Dassa stated that the Bylaws were last evaluated or changed in August 2003. Suggestions for possible changes to the Bylaws will be the change to meeting time; quorum; provide Open Meetings Act/Roberts Rules for new members; addressing absenteeism; renaming of sub-committees; and addressing whether or not ad hoc committee members can only be CMC members.

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Communication, Learning & Education Committee (CLUE)

Chair: Jaime Ornelas; Co-Chairs: Dorothy Brooks, Jennifer Nguyen
Jaime provided a hand out about the CMC Speakers Bureau. Jaime reviewed the speaker attributes, CMC history, CMC current board; and strategy. Jaime asked the CMC to review and address their comments to him.

Dorothy Brooks provided a draft proclamation for the CMC to review. The Mayor through this proclamation will set the tone that Garland does not tolerate racism. The Mayor will present the proclamation at the Tuesday, July 1, 2008 City Council Meeting.

Economic Opportunities Committee

Chair: Jaime Ornelas Members: Sunbola Ashimi, Dassa Giles
Jaime Ornelas provided a report at the last CMC meeting.

Events Committee

Chair: Sunbola Ashimi Members: Jerry Apodaca, Joe Garcia

Mosaic Festival Sub-committee

Chair: Virginia McClary
Virginia provided an update on the Mosaic Festival. Jennifer Nguyen committed to provide 20 volunteers. Dorothy Brooks committed to provide 5-10 more volunteers. Priscilla Wilson can provide a space for performer auditions. Priscilla stated that she can provide concession tickets for food/meals for the performers.

Naturalization Ceremony Sub-committee

Co-Chairs: Jaime B. Ornelas, Jerry Apodaca Member: Virginia McClary
Jaime stated that the Mayor signed the letter addressed to Homeland Security regarding the Naturalization Ceremony. Per Jaime, he will be in charge of securing the Keynote Speaker; Jerry Apodaca will be in charge of the Pledge of Allegiance; Presentation of Colors; and Volunteers; and Virginia McClary will be in charge of obtaining a Singer. The event will be held at the Plaza Theater, the set-up time will be at 8:00 a.m. and the Swearing-In of the new Citizens will be at 9:30 a.m.

Transportation & Mobility Committee

Koni Kaiwi stated that Hubert Hartin wants to chair this committee. He will contact Rosa Williams for information.

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Public Safety Committee

There is no chairperson for this committee at this time.

Priscilla Wilson stated that statistics on the Racial Profiling Report was sent to all the members.

Announcements

Hubert Hartin announced that he will miss the SS4th Mosaic and Naturalization events because he will be out of town at a Family Reunion July 3-6.

Koni Kaiwi announced that information about the City's Summer Nutrition Program was provided at the GPD UNIDOS meeting and a flyer is available.

Jennifer Nguyen invited the CMC to attend the 2008 Fundraiser Banquet/Reception/Silent-Auction for Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association on Saturday, June 7, 2008 at the Westin Hotel - Galleria. Jaime Ornelas, Dassa Giles and Virginia McClary confirmed that they would attend the banquet.

Adjourn

Joe Garcia motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.; seconded by Sunbola Ashimi; approved unanimously.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Rosalinda Martinez
CMC Secretary

Koni Ramos Kaiwi
CMC Chair

Date

Date