

GARLAND
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION (CMC)
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jerry Apodaca
Dorothy Brooks
Joe L. Garcia
Koni Ramos Kaiwi
Virginia McClary
Jennifer Nguyen
Diana O'Hearn
Jaime Ornelas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sunbola Ashimi
Dassa Giles
Hubert Hartin
Adriana Sanchez-Liberto

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

Jerry Apodaca motioned to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2008 meeting; seconded by Diana O'Hearn; approved unanimously.

Chair's Briefing

Koni Ramos Kaiwi stated she attended the GPD UNIDOS Meeting

Koni informed the CMC that Clay Womack resigned on March 13, 2008.

Staff's Briefing

Priscilla stated that Chief Mitch Bates is prepared to present the Racial Profiling information to the CMC.

Priscilla announced that Jose Alvarado (Fair Housing Manager) wants to present ideas where the CMC can partner with the City of Garland's Fair Housing Office.

Priscilla stated that City Secretary Mary Kayser is available to speak to the CMC regarding the Texas Open Meetings Act. A motion was made by Jaime Ornelas to invite Mary Kayser to speak at the next CMC meeting in April; seconded by Jennifer Nguyen; approved unanimously.

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Committee Reports

Bylaws Committee

Koni Kaiwi will contact Dassa Giles in order to schedule a meeting with her regarding this committee. Dorothy Brooks resigned from the Bylaws committee.

Communication, Learning & Education Committee

Due to Clay Womack's resignation, Jaime Ornelas will now be the Chair for this committee. Jennifer Nguyen and Dorothy Brooks will co-chair this committee.

Economic Opportunities Committee

Jaime Ornelas provided a report to the CMC. Jaime's report included information about the CMC partnering with the Fair Housing Office on the programs presented by that office. Jaime distributed flyers regarding 1) Sustaining Home Ownership Workshop to be held March 20, 2008; and 2) Preparation Class for U.S. Citizenship to be held on April 26, May 3 and 10, 2008. The brochures included the CMC logo along with the Fair Housing Office logo.

Events Committee

Mosaic Festival Sub-committee

Priscilla Wilson stated that the Mosaic Festival sub-committee could contact Bonnie Patrick from Community Relations Department/City of Garland to discuss the Mosaic Festival at the SS4th event at the Firewheel Town Center (FTC). Dorothy Brooks and Diana O'Hearn stated that they encountered bad traffic at the event last year at the FTC.

Naturalization Ceremony Sub-committee

Jaime Ornelas and Jerry Apodaca will co-chair this sub-committee.

Health and Community Services Committee:

Dorothy Brooks provided a report to the CMC. The committee's two action items are 1) comprehensive list of resources and 2) identification of community groups. This committee is in the process of compiling a list of community resources for health that will later be presented to community groups.

Public Safety Committee

Diana O'Hearn will contact Chief Bates for information/statistics that can be provided to the members prior to his presentation on Racial Profiling. Questions from the CMC can go to this committee prior to the Chief's presentation.

Diana informed the CMC that there will be a Safety Fest on May 3 at the new Fire Administration Building and invited them to attend and volunteer.

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Announcements

Diana O'Hearn provided information about the American Lung Association's Asthma Walk to be held on April 12, 2008 at Victory Park. Mayor Ronald E. Jones will lead the City of Garland team. Diana invited the CMC to participate if they were interested.

Adjourn

Virginia McClary motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.; seconded by Diana O'Hearn; approved unanimously.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Rosalinda Martinez
CMC Secretary

Koni Ramos Kaiwi
CMC Chair

Date

Date