

CITY OF PLANO
MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH ROUNDTABLE (MCOR) MEETING
Council Chambers, Plano Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue

Minutes of the Meeting – October 14, 2008

Attendees:

Co-Chairs

Dr. Chris Parr	Mary Alice Garza	Jian Li	Basit Siddiqui
Mike Agan	Graciela Katzer	Rhonda Buros	David Hall
James Li	Asif Effendi		

City Council/Staff:

Pat Miner	Dee Dee Falls
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I. Welcome

Basit Siddiqui, Co-Chair of MCOR, welcomed the group.

II. Comments from the Public

Asif Effendi announced that his group, The Institute for Islamic Learning in the Metroplex/Plano, Texas (IILM), is planning a community meeting to have an open dialogue with City officials and the community. They are seeking to use the Sockwell Center, and have asked if MCOR would support the event by encouraging attendance. The event is to take place on November 8 and further details will be forthcoming. This group has submitted plans to City officials to begin building a center at Plano Parkway and Custer and they invite the community to come to this event and participate in a discussion about the future plans of this group.

Graciela Katzer reported that the Plano International Festival was a huge success with over 11,000 people in attendance. The 2009 PIF is in the planning stages already.

III. Reading, Amendment and Approval of Minutes

Mary Alice Garza moved to approve the minutes from the 09-09-08 meeting; this was seconded by Mike Agan. The minutes were approved by all present at the meeting.

IV. Discussion of obtaining speakers for future MCOR Meetings

Mary Alice Garza spoke of a past discussion of having quarterly meetings with speakers that take the place of the regular business meetings. Instead of discussing business these quarterly meetings would feature a speaker on a topic to be chosen by MCOR and advertised to the community in an effort to get more of the community to participate in MCOR and find out what the group is about. At this time, Jian Li will finalize the plans for Kim Soto, Environmental Education Coordinator for the City of Plano in the Sustainability and Environmental Services Department to speak at the November 11, 2008 MCOR meeting. Kim will speak on recycling and "living green in Plano". Future meetings involving speakers will be discussed at future meetings.

V. Committee Reports

A. Citizen Workshop Committee

i. Report on November 1 workshop

This workshop has been moved from November 1 to a date to be determined later. Dr. Parr is checking on dates that the Sockwell Center will be available. This workshop is a follow-up to the Citizenship Information Meeting that MCOR sponsored earlier this year and will deal with assisting Plano residents in filling out the necessary paperwork for U.S. Citizenship. There is a need for someone to step forward and chair this committee and Dr. Parr will be sending out an email to all MCOR participants letting them know that this opportunity is available. David Hall also said that he would assist in trying to get someone to chair this committee.

B. Cultural Affairs Committee

Graciela Katzer reported that she had met with the Plano Courtyard Theater to discuss what dates were available for a variety of events connected with MCOR attendees. She said that the groups were able to reserve several dates during the fiscal year of 2009-10. She hopes for more participation in the 2010-11 planning year.

i. Discussion of Awards Ceremony at 2009 MCOR Reception

This item was tabled until a later time when City Staff can be involved to aid in a discussion on how or if an awards ceremony is possible.

C. Government Participation Committee:

No report at this time.

D. Membership Committee:

No report at this time.

E. National Day of Prayer (NDP) Committee

No report at this time. The group will meet again in January, 2009.

F. Recreation Committee

No report at this time.

VI. Items for future agendas

No items at this time.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Jian Li
MCOR Secretary