

**CITY OF PLANO
MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH MEETING**

**Minutes of the Meeting
November 2, 2004 6:30 p.m.
Plano Municipal Center – Training Room A**

Attendees:

Co-Chair Christopher A. Parr, PhD

Anisa Adem
Rafael Gutierrez
Thomas Tsang

Abraham Biadgelgne
T. J. Johnson
Ben Thomas

Timothy Fong
Jian Li
Andrey Vakulenko

Nuray Fuller
Ram Ramanant
Irina Vakulenko

City Staff Present:

Bruce Glasscock

Cindy Potrykus

City Council Present:

Handouts:

Agenda for Meeting

Dr. Chris Parr opened the meeting and welcomed the group at 6:40 p.m.

I. Welcome & Introductions

Each individual briefly introduced themselves to the group.

II. Confirmation of MCOR Bank Account Signatories and Secretary

Dr. Parr asked the group to consider and confirm four signatories for the Plano Multicultural Outreach Roundtable (MCOR) bank account at North Dallas Bank & Trust located at 3900 Preston Road in Plano. The four members considered for bank account signatories by the group included Christopher A. Parr, PhD, Cleotilde Rodriguez-Anderson, Rene Rodriguez, and Thomas Tsang.

Nuray Fuller made the motion to approve the above signatory appointments. Abraham Biadgelgne seconded the motion and all present approved.

In addition, Jian Li was confirmed as MCOR secretary (as noted in the minutes of July 15, 2004). As secretary, Ms. Li will authenticate the above signatories as required for the bank account.

III. Creation of Plano International Festival Committee (Corporation)

a. Review Sample Bylaws and Incorporation Documents

Sample by-laws will be reviewed at the next MCOR meeting.

The group reviewed the state application for Articles of Incorporation. Discussion was made concerning the name of the non-profit corporation. All present agreed the name of the corporation will be "Plano International Festival Corporation."

Dr. Parr explained the application must list a minimum of three directors for management purposes. The directors will serve as the initial board until the first annual meeting or until successors are elected. Dr. Parr explained that neither he nor Co-Chair Coty Rodriguez-Anderson could serve as directors of the Plano International Festival Corporation due to their current status as appointed Co-Chairs of the Plano Multicultural Outreach Roundtable by the Mayor of Plano. Five members present at the meeting expressed interest in serving on the Plano International Festival Corporation Board: Jian Li, T. J. Johnson, Rafael Gutierrez, Abraham Biadgelgne and Andrey Vakulenko.

b. Discuss Outreach and Recruitment for Festival Participation

Citing that corporations are already reserving their 2005 discretionary funds, Dr. Parr emphasized the need for the Plano International Festival Corporation to begin outreach and recruitment for sponsors of the October 22, 2005 event. He commended the group for the fine effort put forth toward the postponed 2004 event and stated the foundation is in place for a successful festival in 2005.

IV. Confirmation of MCOR Sub-Committee Chairs

Sub-Committee #1 – Recreation/Facilities/Services

Current Chairperson Thomas Tsang requested additional time to reflect on retaining his position.

Sub-Committee #2 – Diversity and Cultural Affairs

Current Chairperson Coty Rodriguez Anderson was not present to speak. Therefore she will remain chairperson of this sub-committee at least until the next MCOR meeting at which time she may choose to remain or step down.

Sub-Committee #3 – Direct Services to New Residents

T. J. Johnson confirmed her commitment to co-chair this sub-committee. Her partner, Pat Humphress, was not present to speak; therefore she will remain in the position of co-chair of this sub-committee at least until the next MCOR meeting.

Sub-Committee #4 – City Government Participation

Dr. Chris Parr offered to step down as the chairperson of this sub-committee due to his commitment as Co-Chair of MCOR as a whole. As no one present stepped in to fill the position, Dr. Parr conceded and remains chair for this sub-committee.

Sub-Committee #5 – Homeland Security

Ben Thomas confirmed his commitment as chairperson of the Homeland Security Sub-Committee.

V. MCOR Sub-Committee Reports

There were no reports for Sub-Committees 1, 3, 4, and 5.

Anisa Adem spoke on behalf of Sub-Committee #2 – Diversity and Cultural Affairs. She mentioned their efforts have been focused on the development of the 2004 Plano International Festival and that again, they have a good foundation laid for the success of the upcoming 2005 event.

She also reported that the two recent citizenship ceremonies (held October 23 and 25, 2004) were very successful and brought positive media attention to MCOR and Plano. Other members of the group concurred with Ms. Adem's remarks. Dr. Parr will write a thank you to those organizations that assisted MCOR with hosting the October citizenship ceremonies.

VI. Old and New Business

The group had no old business with which to attend. Regarding new business, Ms. Adem announced that another U.S. citizenship ceremony is scheduled in Plano for November 19, 2004. She explained that the office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has been instructed to contact Dr. Parr regarding making requests for MCOR's assistance at these events.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Jian Li
MCOR Secretary