I. Call to Order and Roll Call
Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Choudhury (7:03 pm), Fang, Lind, Mohsin (7:03 pm), Queenan, Ranker, and Villegas. Alternates present were Commissioners Madnawat, Meharu, Nwobi, and Pham. Absent: Commissioner Abelardo.

II. Seating of Alternates
Alternate seated: Nwobi.

III. Pledge of Allegiance
Chair Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Agenda
MOTION to approve the Agenda as submitted.
M/S: Fang, Ranker
Ayes: 9

V. Approval of Minutes
MOTION to approve the minutes of September 5, 2007.
M/S: Ranker, Fang
Ayes: 9

VI. Announcements
Staff had no announcements.

VII. Public Forum
Chair Lee invited members of the audience to address the Commission on any item not on the agenda. There were no requests.

VIII. Liaison Reports
a. City Council
Councilmember Polanski was not present at the meeting. Staff read the report on Councilmember Polanski’s behalf. First reading of the Tree Ordinance was approved at the October 2, 2007 Council meeting. City Council unanimously hired Michael Ogaz as the new City Attorney. Groundbreaking for the new medical clinic will be held October 5, 2007 on Main Street at 10:00 a.m. Arts Day in Milpitas will be Saturday, October 6, 2007 at City Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., adults and children activities are planned.
IX.
Public Hearing

a. Review of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding Priorities for FY 2009-2011.

Gloria Anaya, Sr. Housing and Neighborhood Preservation Specialist, gave a brief presentation on the funding priorities. The last time funding priorities were adopted by Council was October 4, 2005. The City of Milpitas has used its CDBG funding allocation for Public Services, these are typically non-profit organizations offering services, which benefit low-income households, and also Non-Public Services, and these are for other housing related services. During the next fiscal years 2009-2011, the City of Milpitas anticipates to receive approximately $600,000 in CDBG funds.

The October 2005 priorities are as follows:

Public Service
1. Senior Services
2. Youth Teen Services
3. Homeless Sheltering / Services
4. Child Care
5. Battered Women Sheltering / Services

Non-Public Service
1. Home Repair / Rehabilitation
2. Affordable Housing
3. Rental Apartment Rehabilitation

As recommended by the CAC, the City Council also established two additional policies in regards to the CDBG program on October 4, 2005. It was decided that 25% of the Public Services fund must be spent within the City of Milpitas. In addition to that the second policy they adopted was to increase the allocation for fair housing services for Project Sentinel. The City continues to get positive feedback from HUD indicating they are meeting their housing goals and meeting their low-income priorities outlined under the HUD program. On November 6, 2007 the CAC recommendations will be forwarded to the City Council for their review.

Staff recommends that the City Council maintain the current established funding priorities for FY 2009-2011 with the two existing policy changes.

A representative from each of the agencies present addressed the Commission with an outline of their agency’s functions and how allocated funds would be utilized.

MOTION to close the public hearing.

M/S: Lind, Mohsin

Ayes: 9

Commissioner Ranker suggested moving up Battered Women Services to No. 4 and moving Child Care to No. 5. Staff stated if the Commission decides to move the battered women services it would be fine. Should there come a time that the Commission would have to cut some of the organizations that would be a determining factor.

MOTION to maintain the current established funding priorities for FY 2009-2011 with the two existing policy changes.
X. New Business


Zulema Maggi, Housing and Neighborhood Preservation Specialist, stated that by the August 31st deadline, staff received (16) sixteen nominations. Staff nominated (1) one for staff choice award and the subcommittee chose (3) properties to ensure all categories are represented for a total of 20 nominations. The subcommittee toured the sites and made selections on September 17th and due to time constraints finished on September 19, 2007. The NBO residential award winners will receive a $100 gift certificate from Home Depot and declaration. In addition, all nominees will receive a certificate of appreciation. The results will be posted on the City’s website, Cable TV and the Milpitas Post. The awards will be distributed by the City Council at their meeting of November 27, 2007, with a break for refreshments and a celebration. Staff showed a slide show of the winners and nominees. Staff recommends the Commission review and approve the subcommittee and staff’s NBO 2007 award recommendations.

MOTION to approve the annual recognition awards for the Neighborhood Beautification for 2007.

M/S: Ranker, Mohsin

b. Assessment of Neighborhood Beautification Awards Program.

Staff stated that at the August meeting the Commission requested this item be placed on tonight’s agenda for discussion. Commissioner Ranker stated that the subcommittee was trying to find ways to nominate houses in advance. One way they thought was to meet earlier during the year on their own to tour the areas where they live. Staff stated they could designate areas for the subcommittee and get the CAC more involved. Staff also stated that the NBO Awards are advertised in the Milpitas Post, Cable TV, City’s website, letters are sent to past participants inviting them to nominate again, and letters are sent out to Homeowner Associations. Commissioner Ranker suggested sending letters to the nominees that the subcommittee chose to see if they choose to participate or not. Vice-Chair Queenan suggested going to the houses and letting the residents know who they are and letting the residents know that the subcommittee is interested in nominating their house. Staff stated that if any of the Commissioners are involved in their Neighborhood Watch program they could distribute the nomination forms at that time. Staff also suggested selecting the subcommittee earlier in the year late April or earlier May. Commissioner Ranker suggested having this item on the April agenda and note that the subcommittee would canvas their neighborhoods and either knock on doors or have staff send out letters. Chair Lee stated giving out the forms at the Neighborhood Night Out event.

MOTION to accept and approve the subcommittee’s recommendations for the NBO awards.

M/S: Mohsin, Queenan

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Chair Lee asked if there were any new trees, or groves of trees, to recommend to the City Council for a heritage designation. There were no nominations.

d. Subcommittee/Task Force Status Reports.

Community Outreach (Lee and Queenan)
Staff has not received any new forms. Commissioner Mohsin received one form and will submit it to staff.

XI.

Adjournment

Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m. to the November 7, 2007 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Andrade, Recording Secretary