I. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Beard called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call - Present: Chair Beard, Vice Chair Batilo, Commissioners Leon, Maglalang, Manassau, Mohsin, Rosario, Councilmember Gomez

Alternate Commissioners Present: Holland, Truong

Absent: Andres, Do

III. Seating of Alternates – Alternate Commissioner Truong seated for voting.

IV. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Rosario motioned, and Commissioner Leon seconded, for approval of the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously to approve the agenda as submitted.

V. Approval of Minutes – Minutes of February 5, 2014 – Commissioner Mohsin motioned, and Commissioner Rosario seconded, for approval of the meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Public Forum – No items

VII. Announcements – Felix Reliford, Principal Housing Planner, introduced Secretary Elia Escobar who was present at the Commission meeting to assist with the CDBG item and record the meeting minutes.

VIII. Liaison Report – Councilmember Gomez thanked the Commissioners for their time and effort on the Tree Planting event and commented that Chair Beard has restructured the Commission to be one that gives back to the community.

IX. Commissioners’ Round Table – No items

X. New Business:

A. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Applications for FY2014-15

The Commission conducted an annual review of CDBG funding applications for FY 2014-15. There were 15 eligible applications received, 12 for public services and 3 for non-public services.

Commissioner Truong motioned, and Commissioner Batilo seconded, to open the public hearing. Staff Liaison Felix Reliford explained the process of allocating funds and representatives from 14 agencies gave short presentations about their organizations and the services they provide.

1. Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County – Wanda Hale, Project Manager
   They serve all of Santa Clara County and every year the demand for their services grows.

2. Child Advocates of Silicon Valley – Karen Scussel, Executive Director
She presented a handout. 32 of the children they currently serve are based in Milpitas but this is the first time they have applied for Milpitas CDBG funds.

3. City of Milpitas Recreation Services Assistance Program – Stephanie Douglas, Recreation Supervisor
Ms. Douglas provided an activity guide and said that the CDBG funds provide subsidies for their programs.

4. Emergency Housing Consortium – Hilary Barroga, Chief Program Officer
EHC serves homeless and at-risk individuals throughout Santa Clara County. They are requesting funds for 20 Milpitas residents in their San Jose location.

5. The Health Trust – Teresa Johnson, Director of Meals on Wheels
They provide meals, social interaction and welfare checks.

6. Live Oak Adult Day Services – Colleen Hudgen, Executive Director
Ms. Hudgen provided a handout. They provide specialized adult day care programs for frail, at-risk, low income seniors.

7. Milpitas Food Pantry – Karen Kolander, Director
80% of the people served there are Milpitas residents.

8. Milpitas USD Milpitas Family Literacy Project – Linda Lambert, Coordinator
Ms. Lambert showed a video presentation. These funds would provide their services for 35-40 Milpitas families.

9. Next Door Solutions – Kathleen Krenek, Executive Director
They served 68 persons last year from Milpitas and expect to serve about 95 this year.

10. Project Sentinel – Ann Marquart, Executive Director
$10,000 is allocated for them from general CDBG administration, they are asking for an additional $15,000.

11. Senior Adult League Assistance (SALA) – Georgia Bacil, Directing Attorney
The target age for their clients is 60 and over, and this is the only program county-wide that provides services at Barbara Lee Senior Center.

12. YWCA Domestic Violence Department – Susan Cortopassi, Grant Writer
They provide essential domestic violence services including a 24-hour toll free bilingual crisis hotline.

13. Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley – Beverley Jackson, Executive Director
They provide repairs and home improvements for very low income homeowners and over 14,000 volunteer hours annually.

14. Terrace Gardens Senior Housing – Cody Glossop, Regional Manager
They are seeking funds for modernization of three aging elevators.

There was no representative present from the San Jose Conservation Corps.

Commissioner Mohsin motioned, and Commissioner Leon seconded, to close the public hearing. The Commission took a 15 minute break to deliberate.

Upon return, Staff Liaison Reliford stated that Live Oak Adult Day Services and Milpitas Unified School District allocations did not add up to the minimum of $5,000 per City Council's
policy to provide at least $5,000 each. Commissioner Leon commented that some of the agencies are funded through 100% donations and he believes the Family Literacy Program funding may be offset by the State. He also said that the program is important but there are some going without food on their tables and that is a priority. He feels Live Oak Adult Day Services are not easily accessible. Commissioner Leon said there is a large need to support the local community.

Chair Beard agreed that funds should stay within Milpitas but recommended funding each for $5,000 this year and suggested discussing alternate ways to allocate funds at an upcoming commission meeting. Commissioner Leon agreed but wants to establish a process to help make a more educated decision based on services and the number of residents they are serving, along with what resources are available to these groups as some rely solely on the City of Milpitas. Commissioner Leon updated his tally sheet.

Commissioner Mohsin commented that $5,000 does not seem like a valuable amount. Commissioner Maglalang said that the $5,000 minimum is a problem and wondered if the minimum amount could range from $4,000 - $5,000. Chair Beard answered that with the amount of work to audit she feels that $5,000 is the minimum to make it worthwhile for both staff and the organizations.

Councilmember Gomez stated that the City Council does look for advice from the CAC and believes they should have this discussion. He encourages other groups to apply and said they could possibly add additional funding.

Vice Chair motioned, and Commissioner Leon seconded, to ask the City Council to consider giving an additional $15,000 from the City’s Housing Authority for Project Sentinel with the condition that they include outreach in various languages.

Commissioner Leon motioned, and Commissioner Mohsin seconded, to ask the City Council to provide additional funding for the Milpitas Food Pantry to match their funding request of $25,000.

Commissioner Mohsin motioned, and Commissioner Manassau seconded, to request that the City Council consider deleting the policy of a minimum of $5,000 for all service providers.

Commissioner Mohsin motioned, and Vice Chair Batilo seconded, to accept the tally amounts for Public Services and forward the recommendations to City Council. Commissioner Leon abstained.

Commissioner Mohsin motioned, and Commissioner Maglalang seconded, to accept the tally amounts for Non-Public Services and forward the recommendations to City Council.

B. Review of CAC Tree Planting Event on February 15, 2014
Chair Beard discussed next steps for the tree planting event, including her desire to send thank you letters. She requested volunteers for the data entry and Commissioner Leon volunteered. Alternate member Holland is already looking at other sites and grants, and Chair Beard said that the CAC needs funding first before proceeding.

Commissioner Maglalang suggested that the CAC concentrate tree plantings at boundary/perimeter streets and identify which boundary streets have existing water lines, outlets or the possibility of installing water lines to and from outlets. They should also assess the feasibility of lining up new water lines coming from recycled or regular water. He would also like the CAC to schedule a weekly tree planting from the rest of this Spring season until Spring 2015.
Commissioner Maglalang would like to share tree planting news, via Facebook or website, so that volunteers will have access to updates, announcements and a schedule of events. Staff Liaison Reliford to check if the city will allow it.

Commissioner Maglalang would like the CAC to prepare an annual budget and submit to City Council for approval, continue the search for grants, follow up on letters of solicitations to Milpitas businesses, and report on these items at a future meeting.

X. Unfinished Business – No items

XII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm to the next meeting of April 2, 2014.