

CITY OF MILPITAS
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMISSION
MILPITAS CITY HALL COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM
APPROVED MINUTES
November 7, 2007

**I.
Call to Order
and Roll Call**

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Fang, Mohsin, and Ranker
Alternates present were Commissioners Madnawat, Meharu, and Pham
Absent: Commissioners Abelardo, Choudhury, Lind, Nwobi, Queenan, and Villegas

**II.
Seating of
Alternates**

Alternates seated: Pham, Meharu, and Madnawat

**III.
Pledge of
Allegiance**

Chair Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV.
Approval of
Agenda**

MOTION to approve the Agenda as submitted.

M/S: Mohsin, Ranker

Ayes: 7

**V.
Approval of
Minutes**

MOTION to approve the minutes of October 3, 2007.

M/S: Ranker, Mohsin

Ayes: 7

**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**

City Council

Councilmember Polanski introduced herself to the Commission and gave a brief summary of the most recent City Council items. She stated the City Council meeting of November 20, 2007 has been rescheduled to November 27, 2007. Sunday, November 11th is the Veterans Memorial Day celebration at 9 am. The annual tree lighting event is Saturday, December 1st. The Council did not discuss the water and sewer rate increase; it was removed from the agenda. The Council received 4,184 protest letters against the water rate increase and 4,169 opposed the sewer rate increase and an additional 277 letters received that were not valid because they did not have the parcel number on them. The new City Attorney Michael Ogaz started in October. Councilmember Polanski and Giordano are on the City Attorney subcommittee and will be meeting with the new City

Attorney. The CAC recommendations on the CDBG priorities were approved unanimously by the City Council.

**IX.
New Business**

a. Public Art Committee Presentation.

Bill Foulk, Public Arts Commission Chair, with fellow Commissioners Mareile Ogle and Elena Lawson gave a presentation on the new library art to be included in the construction of the new library. The Public Arts Commission was directed by the City Council to find an artist and what type of art should be presented at the City's new library. There are two artists that are needed to be selected, one artist to do the tower art and one artist to do the plaza art. The proposed art has been displayed at the old library; they have been going to all the other Commissions to display the proposed artwork. Mr. Foulk stated that all 6 artists are nationally known.

b. Consider Invitation to Sponsor a Special Event.

Rob Means from Sunnyhills HOA is putting together a large discussion on democracy and how they can make it stronger in Milpitas. The model they are using is the World Café model, which has a large room with small tables and 4 chairs to each table. The facilitator gives out a question to talk about for about 20 minutes and then discuss the issues to all other tables in the room. Mr. Means is asking the CAC to participate and sponsor a Town Hall meeting.

Commissioner Meharu asked if this was a demonstration and exercise in democracy. Mr. Means stated that he expects an outcome or a way of strengthening democracy. Commissioner Ranker asked the number of participants in the Sunnyhills area. Mr. Means stated that he sent out invitations to 100 or more participants. Mr. Means will be advertising in the Milpitas Post and on Channel 15. He also stated that he has a \$3,000 budget and is looking for donations. He is also looking for 2 volunteers from the CAC.

Commissioner Ranker suggested replacing the Town Hall meeting with the Democracy Café. Councilmember Polanski suggested checking with the City Attorney on the rules and regulations. Commissioner Mohsin asked the date of the event. Mr. Means stated the event is scheduled for January 19, 2008.

c. Review 2008 Draft Work Plan.

Staff went over the work plan for 2008. Chair Lee asked the Commission if there were any additions or changes to the work plan. Commissioner Mohsin asked if the Town Hall meeting would be changed to the Democracy Café. Staff stated that if the Commission decided to do the Democracy Café they would revise the work plan. Commissioner Madnawat suggested having a chat room on-line for the Town Hall meeting. Commissioner Ranker stated in the past they had a phone in Town Hall meeting and the turn out was very low. Commissioner Mohsin stated that they tried having a Town Hall meeting during the election year but still the turn out was very low. Staff asked the Commission if they would be working on any of the short-term goals during the next quarter of the calendar year. Commissioner Ranker suggested continuing this item to the December meeting before forwarding it on to the City Council.

d. Holiday Tree Decorating.

Chair Lee stated that this year the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Open House would be Saturday, December 1, 2007. The holiday tree would be available for decoration from November 19th through 25th. Chair Lee stated that they wanted to reserve a tree. Staff stated that the Commission needed to select a lead Commissioner and some volunteers to decorate the tree. Councilmember Polanski asked if the Commission ever thought of having a theme. Commissioner Ranker asked if any other Commissions reserve and decorate a tree. Staff stated that no other Commissions

decorate a tree. The 3 volunteers to decorate the holiday tree are Commissioners Mohsin, Pham, and Nwobi. Commissioner Mohsin stated that he would contact the Library Commission to see if they would like to help with the decorating.

e. Subcommittee/Task Force Status Reports.

Community Outreach (Lee and Queenan)
Chair Lee stated that he received 2 responses.

X.

Adjournment

Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m. to the December 5, 2007 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Andrade, Recording Secretary