

PLANO MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH ROUNDTABLE (MCOR)
September 10, 2019

MCOR Co-Chairs Present:

Mary Alice Garza Shaheen Salam Graciela Katzer

Co-chair Katzer convened the meeting to order at 7 pm, Tuesday, September 10, 2019 in Training Room A at Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. A quorum was present.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Alyssia Ocasio with Sent Church announced that her church could possibly host the MCOR holiday party and she will check for a Monday or Tuesday in the 2nd week of December and report back.

READING, AMENDMENT AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the August 13, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Denise Hamilton moved that the minutes be approved and Sant Virmani seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by all present.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Report on Business Leadership Reception

Co-chair Garza reported that the event went well and there was an excellent panel presentations by 4 professional women speakers from Raytheon, TI, Willow Bend Mall, and State Farm moderated by LaShon Ross. Attendance at the reception good but some people did not stay for panel. Information presented by City Council Member Kayci Prince about women in Plano was very good and it was posted to the MCOR website.

Discussion of Plano International Festival

Co-chair Katzer said that everything is in place for the event and they are finalizing vendors and booths. They expect about 25,000 people. There will be a naturalization ceremony where 50-75 candidates will be sworn in. The opening reception for the art exhibit is on October 1 and invitations have gone out. This year the festival is working with Plano Symphony Orchestra and will be having a musical program involving professional dancers. The proceeds from ticket sales will go to PSO music scholarships.

Discussion of future MCOR Speakers

Co-chair Garza will be checking with Marcus Freeman with Denton ISD to see if he would like to return and speak again on his program. Alyssia Ocasio with Sent Church announced that her pastor would be interested in speaking to the group as he is very diverse and is knowledgeable in many areas that may be of interest to the multicultural community. She will send a short outline of what he would like to talk about.

Discussion of future MCOR Movies

Co-chair Garza also check about permission to show a movie prepared by UTRGV about the underground railroad in south Texas. Co-chairs Salam and Katzer are also checking about showing a movie.

GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE

Youth Committee report

The MCOR youth group reported that they do have a sponsor and have been given the go-ahead to start planning the next Community Circles event in February and the Council PTA's will co-sponsor the event.

Discussion of 2020 Citizen Workshop

Co-chair Salam said that the next workshop will be on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at the Sockwell Center and will start at 2 pm. She was happy to confirm that Council Member Maria Tu will be the keynote speaker at the 2020 Workshop. More details at a future meeting.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Update Friendship Circles

Denise Hamilton reported that the next event is on October 26, 2019 at Mary Alice Garza's house. Invitations will be sent out soon.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

No report at this time

Census Committee presentation – Alan Johnson

Mr. Johnson spoke to the group about the 2020 Census. The counts every resident in the US every 10 years and collects names, ages, races/ethnicities, genders and relationships between each person in a household. This helps to determining the number of seats each state gets in the US House of Representatives. The questionnaire will start being sent out in March of 2020. Accurate representation of the true numbers in each state help with schools, health care, businesses, city services and also ensures that each state is fairly represented in Congress. The information helps with determining locations for hospitals, nursing homes and clinics, funding for the CHIP Program, planning for health and educational services for people with disabilities, public safety strategies, maps to speed emergency services to households, where new businesses choose to locate, what goods and services to deliver to local markets, how trends are driving the economic well-being of communities, needs for police, fire, EMT and 911 services, priorities for funds and programs service low-income households, services to children and adults with limited English language proficiency and future housing and transportation needs among other things. This year you can respond to the census online for the first time. Mail and phone are still options. Mid-March 2020 the Census Bureau starts mailing letters, April 1, 2020 is Census Day and from May-July working will go door to door for those who did not respond. You will only be asked your name, age, race, Hispanic Origin, if any, ethnicity, gender, if you own or rent and your relationship to household members. You will not be asked for money, bank account or credit card numbers or your social security number. Your personal information is protected for 72 years and may not be shared with any other federal agencies. For more info you can check online at www.plano.gov/census, email census@plano.gov or call 972.941.7151.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None at this time

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm.

MCOR Co-Chair