



The State of Washington  
**COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

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*Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans*

**Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs Meeting**

Kitsap Regional Library  
East Bremerton  
1301 Sylvan Way  
Bremerton, WA 98310

**Begin:** 10:15 a.m.

Welcome & Introductions – Doug Heyamoto

Commissioners Present: Doug Heyamoto, Thi Huynh, Ron Chow, Fel Abille, Tanya Tran, Jagdish Sharma, Habib Habib, Elliot Kim

Staff: Ellen Abellera, Jared Jonson

Not Present: Lua Pritchard, Tony Lee, Rey Pascua

Guests: Yolanda Wilson, OFM/SACS, Michelle Salinas OFM/SACS, Phuoang Hamilton, OSPI

**Introduction:**

Commissioners introduced themselves and welcomed new commissioners Jagdish Sharma and Rey Pascua

**Agenda and Minutes:**

August 18, 2007 Minutes

Motion for approval: Jagdish Sharma      second: Tanya      **PASS**

**Chair's Report – Doug Heyamoto (Acting)**

- 1) Consulate General of Japan, Kazuo Tanaka is retiring  
-has not announced a predecessor

**Commissioner Reports**

**Thi Huynh**

- 1) Vietnamese American Bar Association of Washington Dinner was a success
- 2) VABAW is planning to send a Vietnamese Law student to study abroad and work with an international law firm
- 3) VABAW hosted legal workshop for the community

**Tanya Tran**

- 1) Assisted in getting a \$1,300.00 grant for Senior Vietnamese/APA citizens in Olympia

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**Agency Overview Jagdish Sharma**

The CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

- 1) Helped organize/participate in Ghandi Jayati Day at Governor's Mansion
- 2) IAWW going to work with NW Harvest this holiday season
- 3) Researching resource for Indian American senior citizens

**Habib Habib**

- 1) Activities covered by Jagdish

**Fel Abille**

- 1) Developing network of individuals and organizations
- 2) Attending various community events

**Ron Chow**

- 1) United Methodist Church donated \$10,000 to Hmong Farmers relief fund
- 2) Proposes CAPAA to write a letter of thanks to United Methodist Church

**Elliot Kim**

- 1) January 13, 2008 – National Korean American Celebration Day  
-statewide Korean American organizations will host event on Saturday (Jan. 12) at the Capitol Bldg. in Olympia
- 2) Will forward flyer to CAPAA Board
- 3) Ellen will ask Governor Gregoire for a proclamation

**Executive Director's Report**

**Ellen Abellera**

- 1) Financial Report – Provided by SACS
- 2) Audit  
-Exit Meeting on Monday, Nov. 19, 2007  
-Issues  
    -Protection for toll free calls  
    -Auditor is suggesting CAPAA open a non-profit account for donated money
- 3) Whistleblower Complaint  
-Final letter sent to Executive Ethics Board
- 4) Education  
-Letter with CHA to Gov. Gregoire over ELL and family engagement concerns with the Governor's P-20 council on education, working with Joyce Turner  
-OSPI has not fulfilled CAPAA's disaggregated data request from 2003
- 5) Economic Development  
-OMWBE works are successful  
-Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> hearing on OMWBE  
-\$20.8 Million dollars for APA businesses enrolled in "Linked Deposit Program"

- 6) CAPAA Board Meetings
  - Large events planned or participated in by CAPAA may count as meetings
- 7) Immigration
  - Meeting with Rep. Dave Reichert's staff over family-reunification legislation

**Discussion**

- 1) Letters
  - Ron motioned to write letter of thanks to United Methodist Church
  - Ellen suggested letter to Gov. Gregoire for support of "Mortgage Relief Act"
  - Ellen suggested letter of thanks to Sen. Cantwell and Rep. Honda for their support of disaggregated APA student data

**Financial Report – OFM-Small Agency Client Services (SACS)**

- 1) CAPAA has 62.3% of its available funding left versus the expected 62.5%
- 2) Salaries and benefits expenditures match with the expected expenditures
  - Benefits expenditures had unexpected expenditure of \$1,834 for unemployment (savings from other budget categories offset this expenditure)
- 3) Goods and Services saved two percent of its available funding, indicating a slight savings through Oct. 2007
- 4) Travel – there was a slight savings (15.1% of available funding)

**Old Business**

- 1) CAPAA Commissioner Vacancy
  - Bee Cha will be recommended by CAPAA Board to fill vacancy

**New Business**

- 1) Election of CAPAA Officers for 2008
    - Chair**
      - Thi Huynh-Motion for nomination: Doug Heyamoto                      Second: Jagdish Sharma    **PASS**
    - 1st Vice-Chair**
      - Ron Chow-Motion for nomination: Thi Huynh                              Second: Doug Heyamoto    **PASS**
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair**
      - Doug Heyamoto-Motion for nomination: Ron Chow                      Second: Thi Huynh            **PASS**
- New Officers  
 Chair – Doug Heyamoto  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair – Thi Huynh  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair – Ron Chow
- 2) Audit
    - Exit Meeting scheduled for November 19, 2007
  - 3) Governor's Leadership/GMAP
    - CAPAA's role/functions has changed from advisory role to performance-oriented state agency in accordance with GMAP
    - Commissioners must take more active role in their respective communities

- CAPAA Executive Committee must be activated
- 4) CAPAA Board Meeting Dates for 2008

January 5, 2008 – **Everett**  
March 8, 2008 – **Vancouver**  
June 7, 2008 – **Yakima**  
September 20, 2008 – **Spokane**  
November 15, 2008 – **Seattle**

Public Forum

**Guests: Phouang Tran, OSPI, Bilingual Education**

Turnover of Director of Bilingual Ed. Office a major concern  
Pattern of high Director Turnover the past 6 years  
Bilingual staff feels OSPI Administration is unresponsive

Bob Harmon, current Interim Director

OSPI brought in new, non people-of-color to address Bilingual Ed.  
-revised WA Code for State Transitional Bilingual Ed. Program

30 applicants for Director position  
-only screened two candidates

Still recruiting for a Director

2006-07 90,000 ELL Students in Washington State

2004-05 70,000 ELL Students in Washington State

Dave Upthegrove was working on failed bill to help secondary ELL students

Family structure and involvement are playing a major role in failure of ELL Students

What can CAPAA do?

We need to write letters to terry bergeson  
-outlining the problem and history regarding director turnover  
-there needs to be a community-outreach division that represents student communities  
-there needs to be a parent and engagement division that CISL should do  
-ask questions as to what areas they've shown parental involvement  
-write letters to legislators

OSPI Created equity in education – we should research this

Write governor Gregoire about issues raised during the 2005 education summit

CAPAA should find out what "Equity in Education" actually does

No movement on 2005 education summit from OSPI

No minority representation in OSPI's policy cabinet

We need to bring these issues up at next APIC meeting December 13

Accountability within the school districts

- Dr. Anaya left abruptly
- he was trying to hold school districts accountable to the transitional bilingual education law
- schools are using an alternative education program
  - a pullout, where they take kids out of the classrooms and teach them basic English
- this is not what the law says, it says that school instruction must be done in child's primary language

No Child Left Behind and Mike Honda's releases on disaggregating student data

Familial involvement with regards to education?? – Thi

Is finding qualified bilingual teachers really that difficult?

State transitional bilingual funding\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*845.66 k-12 state transitional bilingual funding per year

State law says that schools must provide educational instruction in a language that the student can understand

-since this is unrealistic for schools, they use the pull-out system

Professional development for teachers to work with ELL students?

-paid for by federal funding?

#### Public Concerns

- Washington Association of Realtors is in need of members, realtors, escrow officers, and mortgage lenders
- American Red Cross is seeking nominations for local heroes
- Filipino-American Community of Kitsap County is trying to raise funds for a community center, they need about \$600.00