



The State of Washington
COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS
Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans

Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs Board Meeting
Asia Pacific Cultural Center
4851 S Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 98409
November 18, 2017, 10:00 AM to 2 PM

Regular Business

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Ty Tufono, Lisa Dickinson, Lakshmi Gaur, Mohan Gurung, Lori Wada, Tam Dinh, Ka`imi Sinclair, Ekkarath Sisavatdy

Commissioners Absent: Lynette Finau, Donny Rojo, Nam Nguyen, Roslyn Leon Guerrero

Staff: Executive Director, Michael Itti, Project Coordinator, Sam Le

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made at 10:08 AM by 1st Vice Chair Dickinson to approve the agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Dinh. With no further changes, the agenda was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made at 10:09 AM by 1st Vice Chair Dickinson to approve the September 16, 2017 meeting minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Sinclair. With no further changes, the minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS AND UPDATES

Introductions were given including acknowledgement of Asia Pacific Cultural Center and its important role in our communities.

Commissioners provided updates on the work they are doing in the community.

- Commissioner Sinclair: Hosted a symposium for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Native American stakeholders to come up with solutions to address disparities in cardiovascular disease in the community. Attended a conference hosted by the Native Hawaiian Civic Club in SeaTac. Further assisted in developing a health survey, which had 195 completed surveys for Native Hawaiians throughout the nation.
- Commissioner Sisavatdy: Attended the 5th UPRISE Summit hosted by Highline College and AANAPISI, which had 400+ students and 100+ parents in attendance. The next UPRISE is

scheduled for October 27, 2018 and the next the UNITE Summit is scheduled for November 10, 2018. Additionally, currently planning a health and screening summit to be hosted at Highline on August 25, 2018.

- Commissioner Gurung: Recently celebrated a community member who was able to write in 14 languages and lead discussion on awareness of cancer in the community. Will be celebrating Gurung Lhosar on December 31st and having discussion on building community hall.
- Commissioner Gaur: Attended workshop for LGBTQ+ community with 150+ students in attendance to address the taboo within the community. Encourages the larger community to embrace the community to build trust with older generation and parents. Expressed that this meeting and effort by the LGBTQ+ community was the proudest moment in her community service.
- 2nd Vice Chair Dinh: Expressed that working with children with autism is relatively new to the Vietnamese community and wants to bring awareness to it as the need is growing. Seen more parents asking for more resources to care for their children with autism. Additionally, expressed concern as she is the one of the few Asian member on the SMART Juvenile Taskforce.
- 1st Vice Chair Dickinson: Attended the 2017 Convention hosted by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) in which over 200 Asian Pacific American judges and attorneys were in attendance. Discussed on how Asian American and Pacific Islander attorneys need to be more involved in civic spheres and create a pipeline to mentor young attorneys. Expressed a goal to have API's in higher levels of government.
- Commissioner Wada: Hosted event to provide one-on-one guidance on Medicare for seniors with the Office of Insurance Commissioner. Concerned that too many were paying significantly higher medical costs than needed. Additionally, attended the Senior University graduation, where she has been teaching health care education.
- Commissioner Tufono: Has been working the Formerly Incarcerated Group Healing Together (FIGHT) on addressing the concerns with the current JPAY program in lowering the price for which children and families can communicate with a parent in prison. Aiming to put together a package for legislators to support as the relationships between parents and children should be maintained and not be barred due to incarceration. Additionally, will be attending school board meeting to learn more about the situation of which three Pacific Islander students were expelled.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Itti provided the Director's Report overview including an update on the Commission's financial report, legislative session, agency outreach, community events, and issue areas.

View the full report on the CAPAA website: <https://capaa.wa.gov/executive-directors-report-for-november-18-2017/>

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Rafael Estevez

Limited English Proficiency Coordinator

Emergency Management Division

Rafael Estevez invited Rosanne Garand and Chelsey Bell to share about the strategies Emergency Managers are using to conduct outreach and disseminating information on emergency preparedness and emergency notifications.

- Provide support to EMD on how to outreach and develop their communication plan with limited English proficiency populations.
- Provide partnerships and guidance between the emergency manager and communities.
- Promote awareness of SB 5046, which was passed. Emergency notifications and messaging to everybody simultaneously.
- Assist emergency managers to be integrated with the community.
- Provides subject experts to present to communities.

Rosanne Garand shared details on the emergency preparedness packets.

- Explained the packet that emergency planners use to conduct outreach.
- Map Your Neighborhood program explained as community based solution for emergency preparedness.
- An issue is the continuous updating of material and cost associated with translating.
- Emphasized the importance of pictures to convey information.
- 2 Weeks Ready packets are ready to be printed in other languages and also be easily printed by individuals.
- Presents question to Commission on how information can be sent to API communities.
- Has list of county contacts to prepare opportunities for connections and partnerships.
- Prepared survey for Commissioners to gather information for best outreach methods. Sam to collect and submit.

Chelsey Bell shared on the steps that Pierce County emergency management are taking to outreach within Pierce County.

- Working on translating messages to disseminate immediately during emergencies. Messages that can't be pre-scripted is concern in which Pierce County EMD is focusing on developing partnerships.

Commissioner Gurung: Would like to invite the community for in-person training with the local emergency manager.

Commissioner Gaur: Presents thoughts on the daycares and babysitters who work with higher number of children. Rosanne Garand replied that there is an exceptional effort by King County Public Health that pushes to prepare community based organizations on agency, staff, and participant preparedness.

2nd Vice Chair Dinh: Has question on funding and how the communities could be involved in planning for emergencies. Suggested community centers and churches to be lead. Answer provided stated that each agency/emergency planner is funded through grants and limitations on the capacity for the State Emergency Management Division is held to only providing recommendations and suggestions, not mandating.

Commissioner Tufono: Asked about active shooting situations. Response indicated that King County emergency management has been focused on the issue with partnership with community organizations and in person trainings are available for scheduling. Other effective methods of sharing information needs to be explored and utilized.

Commissioner Wada: Expressed concern on how the local agencies can be held accountable, especially in rural groups. Need to share resources and have communities to be aware of the resources. Rafael Estevez responded that EMD needs support in their outreach efforts and requests that commissioners be active in inviting EMD to community gatherings and events.

YOUTH MARIJUANA PREVENTION – Asian Pacific Islander Coalition Advocating Together for Health Communities (APICAT)

Elaine Ishihara

Executive Director
APICAT

Tia Aga

Coordinator
APICAT

Mia Woo

Participant in Youth Marijuana Prevention Campaign

Tia Aga and Mia Woo presented an overview of the Tailored Youth Marijuana Prevention Marketing (TYMPM) and the Together Our Voices Campaign.

- Expressed the disparities within Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Southeast Asian communities seen when research disaggregates the Asian Pacific Islander data for marijuana use.
- The use of youth focus groups led by community leaders were relied on when conducting surveys and developing an outreach campaign.
- Youths developed the focus of the campaign, the definitions, and questions. Decisions made for the campaign were reviewed by youth board.
- Mia Woo, youth participant in focus groups and youth board, presented the details on the Together Our Voices Campaign.
- Together Our Voices Campaign kick-off video to commissioners shared the questions that API youths from focus groups have focused on.
- Has social media and website: website, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, print ad (IE, NAWA)

Commissioner Tufono: Inquired if information is available on the impact of marijuana. APICAT members responded that the youths saw a need to focus on the questions youths have on marijuana use as opposed to just providing statistics and data. Follow up videos on website provide answers to the initial video presenting the questions.

Commissioner Gaur: Addressing the difference between addictions versus habitual uses. With the pain management experience, noticed that opioids are often involved with marijuana addition cases. APICAT responded that the current focus was marijuana use by youths due to the time and resource limitations.

2nd Vice Chair Dinh: Inquired about next steps in the project. Expressed that with her experience in chemical dependency and research would love to connect and follow up. Elaine Ishihara responded that the state is expected to provide additional funding for applicants and APICAT is planning to apply or establish a partnership to continue the work and expand the platform for other conversations.

ASIA PACIFIC CULTURAL CENTER

Lua Pritchard
Executive Director

Patsy Surh O'Connell
President; Founder

Albert Q. Cosio
Secretary

Ka'imi Sinclair
Board Member

Elaine Ishihara
Board Member

Staff and Board Members of the Asia Pacific Cultural Center presented on the programs available and the proposal of the new center and the campaign to raise funds.

- APCC has served the API communities for the past 21 years.
- The programs and events at APCC reaches over 100,000 individuals outside of the APCC network every year.
- The Promised Leaders of Tomorrow youth program enrolls 120 students on a yearly basis.
- Upcoming on February 10th, 2018, APCC will be hosting the 20th Annual New Year Celebration centered on showcasing the Korean community.
- Community organizations are permitted to host programs at APCC on a regular basis at no cost, ensuring that facilities budget isn't a burden to their programs.
- APCC's proposal for the new center is focused honoring and sharing the stories of the people and cultures.
- Land and housing has been donated, leaving a total of \$41 million to be raised.

Commissioner Gaur: Offers greetings and testimony in support of APCC.

Commissioner Tufono: Inquires about the thoughts of reaching out to grants and sponsors. Lua Pritchard responds that individual sponsors and grants are including in the fundraising campaign.

COMMUNITY FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT

Hadley Wan shared about the work that SafePlace Olympia is doing to support victims of domestic violence through assistance in transportation, food, clothing, and personal items. Expressed the hope that Commissioners could actively use SafePlace as a resource in their community.

Formerly Incarcerated Group Healing Together (FIGHT) Presentation

Brandon Wong
Co-Founder

Peter See
Facilitator at WCC Shelton

Brandon Wong and Peter See presented about FIGHT's mission and what programs they provide, as well as their concerns with the current Department of Corrections system and handling of incarcerated Southeast Asians.

- FIGHT dedicates 50% support work, 10% to immigration, 10% to community building, 10% to leadership development, 10% mentor and healing, and 10% to advocacy.
- Aims to improve service for API individuals than the standard process of DOC.
- Currently serves 5 prisons
- Focus on the Annual API Cultural Banquets, Education/Workshops, Early Release/Clemency, Programs, Prison Advocacy, and Weekly support.
- Focus on Immigration in emergence. Currently working with US representatives to work on deportation issue.
- Community building in and outside of prison as well as healing used to support individuals.
- Expressed barriers and obstacles faced when supporting individuals, such as lack of family support, lack of culturally relevant programs, community support, and pathways to work with DOC.
- FIGHT has sent representatives to Cambodia to help fight the separation of families.

Commissioner Wada: Asked whether FIGHT is working with Employment Security Department to ensure formerly incarcerated individuals are being provided services and support from employment securities.

1st Vice Chair Dickinson: Inquired if there is currently a sponsor at Airway Heights. Would like to connect with them to support. Also, notified that CAPAA can be willing to sponsor events hosted by FIGHT.

2nd Vice Chair Dinh: Inviting FIGHT to the Safety Taskforce to increase the API representation.

Commissioner Gurung: Inquired on how FIGHT communicates with incarcerated individuals facing deportation and connecting with communities to gain support.

Commissioner Sisavatdy: Inquired on how FIGHT is educating communities to be prepared. FIGHT representatives responded that FIGHT has tailored the Know Your Rights trainings to specific communities and pushes the message of keeping families together.

2018 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Education

- Director Itti summarized the proposed changes to the education agenda. Commissioners discussed changes to the education agenda related to early learning and other issues.
- Motion to approve Education items B – J by Chair Tufono.

1st Vice Chair Dickinson: Suggested to schedule time to review Legislative Priorities at prior meeting in September for next year. Commissioner Wada also expressed that board meeting allows commissioners to discuss and learn about the issues.

Commissioner Tufono: reminder for committee to review and have discussion before.

Commissioner Wada: Suggested need to more educate ourselves on the opportunities available, i.e., the Early Childhood learning. Proposed a change in item A to include “to build more partnerships with other agencies”. Michael suggested that those changes to be in CAPAA’s the strategic plan.

Commissioner Tufono: include language into the item A to have “and underserved”.

Motion to approve Education Legislative Priorities made by Commissioner Wada at 1:24 PM. Seconded by 2nd Vice Chair Dinh. No oppositions. Chair Tufono abstains. Motion is carried.

Health and Human Services

Director Itti summarized changes to the Health and Human Services agenda. Commissioners discussed and proposed some additional changes. 2nd Vice Chair Dinh: Questioned whether agenda item on data disaggregation should be more specific. Michael responded that the wording provides flexibility for the Commission to evaluate and advise policymakers on proposals to improve data disaggregation for health and human services related areas.

Commissioner Ka'imi: Proposes to change "diabetes" to "cardio metabolic diseases" in item J.

2nd Vice Chair Dinh: Proposes to include "and cultural" to item I as she notes that ethnic communities are not accessing housing resources due to being underserved.

Motion to approve Health and Human Services section of Legislative Priorities with amendments made by Commissioner Gaur at 1:33 PM was seconded by Commissioner Sinclair. Motion is approved unanimously.

Economic Development

Director Itti summarized proposed changes to the Economic Development agenda. Commissioners discussed proposed changes. 1st Vice Chair Dickinson: Would like to focus on policies that have a statewide impact and suggested removing item F.

Motion to approve items A through E in Economic Development section of Legislative Priorities at 1:40 PM by 1st Vice Chair Dickinson and seconded by Chair Tufono. No one opposed. 2nd Vice Chair Dinh and Commissioner Sisavady abstained. Motion is carried.

Immigration

- Director Itti summarized the proposed Immigration related agenda items. Commissioners discussed the changes.

Motion to approve Immigration section of Legislative Priorities was made at 1:45 PM by Commissioner Wada and was seconded by Commissioner Sinclair. Motion is carried unanimously.

Civil Rights and Government

Director Itti summarized the proposed Civil Rights and Government agenda items. Commissioners discussed the changes. Chair Tufono and Vice Chair Dickinson expressed that the Commission should consider item B at a later time to wait for proposed bill language.

Commissioner Gaur: requests more information on why item C is being proposed. Michael Itti responds that the change would provide CAPAA with the same capability as the Commission on Hispanic Affairs to advise the Legislature in addition to the Governor and state agencies.

Motion to approve Civil Rights and Government section without item B was made at 1:55 PM by 1st Vice Chair Dickinson and was seconded by Commissioner Gaur. All Commissioners in favor. Motion is carried.

PROJECT PROPOSAL REQUEST

2nd Vice Chair Dinh reintroduces the proposed CAPAA Pin Project to recognize student achievement in our communities.

Asks that CAPAA support this project by providing \$500 from the internal project fund to support initial design work.

Commissioners discussed the project proposal.

Motion to approve project proposal made by 2nd Vice Chair Dinh at 2:07 PM and was seconded by Commissioner Gaur. All Commissioners in favor. Motion is carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Tufono at 2:10 PM to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by 1st Vice Chair Dickinson. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Minutes prepared by Sam Le.