



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

Olympic College, HSS 119
1600 Chester Ave, Bremerton, WA, 98337
June 17, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Regular Business

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and introductions were given. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Ty Tufono, Lisa Dickinson, Zer Vue, Lakshmi Gaur, Mohan Gurung, Lori Wada, Tam Dinh, Nam Nguyen, Darren Pen, Lynette Finau

Commissioners Absent: Roslyn Leon Guerrero, Ka`imi Sinclair

Staff: Executive Director, Michael Itti, Project Coordinator, Brianne Ramos

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made at 10:03 AM by Vice Chair Dickinson to approve the agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Vue. With no further changes, the agenda was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 18, 2017 AND MAY 6, 2017 MINUTES

Motion was made at 10:04 AM by Vice Chair Dickinson to approve the March 18, 2017 and May 6, 2017 meeting minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Vue. With no further changes, the minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

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

- Commissioner Dinh is advocating with other community members to protect Little Saigon.
- Commissioner Gaur is working to support the India Association of Western Washington's Hate Crime Info Sessions to ensure youth and families know how to protect themselves.
- Second Vice Chair Vue was recently the guest speaker for the Cambodian American Community Council graduation and is working with staff to translate the CAPAA brochure in Mien.
- First Vice Chair Dickinson is advocating for better representation on juries by AAPI communities and will participate in ACRS' Walk for Rice with the Asian Bar Association of Washington.
- Chair Tufono is working to advise Pacific Islander community members and provide resources about immigration, launched the Coconut Wireless Radio in LA, and will be the emcee for the 2nd annual Pacific Islander Festival in Bremerton on August 26.

- Commissioner Gurung is working to support small businesses and to support the growing Nepali community in Washington. Additionally, he is educating the Nepali community about the World Language Credit Program and fundraising to support communities affected by the Nepal earthquake.
- Commissioner Finau received a request to form a coalition of PI teachers in Washington and is working to improve graduation rates for PI communities. Additionally, she is mentoring PI para-educators and recently met with Tongan church leaders to plan a celebration for the new school year.
- Commissioner Pen is working with the City of Tacoma on immigration issues and is organizing a town hall meeting.
- Commissioner Wada represented CAPAA at a Korean War memorial event that was hosted by the Secretary of State and attended Korean language school events. She is also advocating for affordable senior housing and working with LNI to distribute information to small business owners.
- Commissioner Nguyen is representing CAPAA on the interagency Task Force on Youth Homelessness, and is working to support immigrant state workers. Additionally, he is working with APIC South Puget Sound Chapter to create an immigrant/refugee center and he is working on a project regarding Islamophobia with the Asian Bar Association of Washington.

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: www.capaa.wa.gov/executive-directors-report-for-june-17-2017.

EQUITY & INCLUSION AT OLYMPIC COLLEGE

Cheryl Nuñez

Vice President for Equity & Inclusion
Olympic College

Vice President Nuñez shared strategies at Olympic College to create an open and welcoming campus for students from diverse backgrounds.

Graduate Kitsap & Mason – Collective Impact Partnership

- Mission is to strengthen the community by reducing gaps in educational opportunity and increasing postsecondary enrollment and completion.
- Guiding principles: anti-racist, equity-based, data-driven, resiliency-focused, systemic, collective action, sustainable structure
- Increase postsecondary enrollment to 70% of high school graduates
- Increase postsecondary completion rates of award-seekers to 50% and 4-year high school graduation rates to 90%
- Eliminate racial/ethnic/socioeconomic gaps

Commissioner Finau inquired about support for career/vocational education and Commissioner Vue asked about efforts to recruit faculty of color. Vice President Nuñez replied that the college has efforts underway for both.

Commissioner Dickinson suggested implementing a mentorship program to help improve the retention rates for students of color and first-generation students.

Commissioner Dinh advised that professors and staff should also have case manager training to support students through the higher education process and encouraged the college to reach out to faith communities.

Commissioner Gaur suggested making connections with companies throughout the region and state to provide students with internship opportunities.

COMMUNITIES OF CONCERN COMMISSION

Josephine Tamayo Murray

Vice President for Public Policy

Catholic Community Services of Western Washington

The Communities of Concern Commission has 21 board members representing various diverse communities throughout the state.

Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program

- A housing subsidy program for rental housing that was created within Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code
- Administered by state's housing finance agency – Washington State Housing Finance Commission
- Eligibility is based on tenant income

2017 Legislative Capital Budget Request - \$3 million

- Senate:
 - Filipino Community of Seattle: \$600,000
- House:
 - Communities of Concern: \$1 million
 - Filipino Community of Seattle: \$600,000
 - Billy Frank Jr. Heritage Center: \$206,000
 - El Centro de la Raza/El Patio: \$737,000
 - Total House: \$2,543,000

Ms. Murray requested that the CAPAA board support the Communities of Concern Commission legislative request.

1st Vice Chair Dickinson inquired about the process of deciding which projects gets funded and about representation and access for Eastern Washington communities. Ms. Murray explained that the Commission members come to consensus and they decide who receives funding and the amount. Vice Chair Dickinson agreed with the principle, but was concerned about the availability and capacity of organizations in Spokane that could join and fully participate. Ms. Murray said the Commission would consider changing its bylaws to allow individuals to join.

Commissioner Dinh encouraged more outreach to underserved communities and regions.

Commissioner Gurung mentioned the desire of the Nepali community to build a language school.

Commissioner Pen encouraged them to contact the Korean Women's Association.

Commissioner Nguyen expressed concern about areas with many ethnic communities, but without large enough populations to leverage funding.

COMMUNITY FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeannie Lee & Candice Kim, KBS WA TV

Jeannie Lee, a former CAPAA Commissioner, and Candace Kim shared news about the launch of KBS WA TV station, which can be viewed on channel 351 (Comcast). They expressed that they will be adding more subtitle options to their station such as Chinese and Vietnamese. They notified CAPAA that they are interested in sending out news and other information from the Commission on their station as well as broadcasting board meetings.

Dan Seydel represented the Entrepreneurial Institute of Washington. He shared a capacity building tool on YouTube that he created to help grow minority contracting businesses. Mr. Seydel also serves on the Community Economic Revitalization Board and is working to improve minority contracting in state government.

RETREAT FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION

Director Itti presented the Board Retreat Final Report. Commissioners discussed follow-ups to the retreat and ways to improve internal processes and communication.

- Notify legislators and other stakeholders when new Commissioners are appointed to their district
- Create a page on the CAPAA website for past Commissioners
- Explore different committee structures such as “work groups”
- Create a database of connections and networks based on issue areas

INTERNAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

2nd Vice Chair Vue presented a proposal to produce CAPAA keychains for graduates and/or community members that uphold the mission and goals of the Commission.

Commissioners discussed the project details.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dickinson to create a work group to further develop the criteria with intent to fund it via the general account. Commissioner Pen seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Gaur at 2:04 PM to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Finau. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 PM.

Minutes prepared by Brianne Ramos.