



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 Board Meeting
Asian Counseling and Referral Services, 3639 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South, Seattle, WA 98144
Saturday, January 12, 2013

REGULAR BUSINESS:

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and introductions were given. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Jagdish Sharma, Lisa Dickinson, Pearl Leung, Darren Pen, Frieda Takamura, Rey Pascua, Debadutta Dash, Jeannie Lee and Sofia Aragon.

Commissioners Absent: Quang Nguyen, Ty Tufono and Tashi Khamshitsang.

Staff Members Present: Executive Director, Kendee Yamaguchi; Executive Assistant, Justin Chan; Fellow, Grant Kagawa.

APPROVAL OF JAN 12, 2013 AGENDA

Motion was made 10:04 a.m. by Commissioner Takamura and seconded by Commissioner Dickinson to approve the agenda with no amendments. Agenda approved.

APPROVAL OF NOV 17, 2012 MINUTES

Motion was made 10:07 a.m. by Commissioner Dickinson and seconded by Commissioner Takamura to approve the minutes with amendment to incorporate the Commissioner Report. Minutes approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- **Operating Budget:** The agency's operating budget for the 2011-2013 biennium is \$234,000 for FY 2012 and \$212,000 for FY 2013 with a total of \$446,000. A request for \$12,000 in FY 2013 and FY 2015 was made to the Office of Financial Management to cover basic operating expenses.

2. **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION:**

- **Casework System:** The agency continues to maintain an online casework system. Requests on data related to the Asian American and Pacific Islander population and employment opportunities remain steady.

3. **LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

- **Regular Legislative Session:** The regular legislative session begins on January 14, 2013 in Olympia. In November, the commission approved its 2013 legislative priorities in the areas of: education, healthcare, human services, economic development and immigration. We thank Commissioner Aragon for her work in serving as our legislative liaison.

Agency Overview

The CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by ensuring 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.

- **Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Day:** API Legislative Day is on February 19, 2013 in Olympia. This event is organized by the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition with over thirty community organization sponsors. More information can be found on our website.
- **Ethnic Commission Legislative Reception:** The annual ethnic commission legislative reception is scheduled for February 5, 2012 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Columbia Room on the capitol campus. We invite community members to meet state legislators, board members of the commissions and representatives from the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs.

4. UPDATE ON PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS:

- **Memo of Understanding on Responding to Emergencies in Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities:** The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs is working on a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Department of Justice, Emergency Management Division, Human Rights Commission and the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises in follow up to the creation of A Guide for Responding to Emergencies in Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities. Access to information and resources during emergencies is critical for the diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in our state. This guide was developed to assist agencies in working with diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities in an emergency, disaster or a culturally sensitive issue. The development of a standing infrastructure to respond to emergencies with interagency involvement on a state and federal level is in progress.
- **Marine Debris Task Force:** The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs continues to serve on the Washington State Marine Debris Task Force and as a lead to the Cultural Heritage Workgroup. This workgroup continues to provide counsel on cultural competency issues and ways to reach out to diverse communities relating to our state's work on the Japanese tsunami marine debris. Most recently, the workgroup provided guidance on a list of ethnic media contacts to the Department of Ecology to assist in the distribution of information and public notices. Residents who encounter potentially hazardous marine debris should use the state's toll-free reporting and information line at 855-WACOST (855-922-6278).
- **Commission Initiatives:** The commission continues its work on two statewide initiatives: the Asian American and Pacific Islander Voices in Education Initiative and the Asian American Pacific Islander Health Disparity Initiative. More information can be found on our website.
- **CAPAA ACLF Fellowship:** The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs and the Asian Pacific Islander Community Leadership Foundation (ACLF) is pleased to announce the selection of the 2013 Fellow, Grant Kagawa. This is the fourth year of the program.

5. OUTREACH:

- **Statewide Outreach:** Despite limited resources, staff continues to conduct community outreach and provide advocacy on policy related issues facing the AAPI community and outreach to underrepresented populations. Over 125 meetings and events with stakeholders, governmental entities and community organizations have occurred in the last three months, in addition to the numerous events our commissioners have attended in each of their counties.
 - **Community Connections:** Staff continues to meet with over twenty community leaders and community based organizations on a regular basis to hear about issues and concerns facing their unique communities. When necessary, casework and policy issues are brought to the attention of the Governor's Office, federal agencies, state agencies, legislative members and municipalities. Some recent issues raised by community liaisons include: preserving financial assistance for Asian American and Pacific Islander students, access to employment resources and requests for support on securing state funding in this upcoming legislative session for clinics and community centers serving the Asian American and Pacific Islander population.
 - **Remembrance for Elaine Akagi:** The commission recently presented a letter of condolence to the family of Elaine Akagi. Elaine Akagi was a tireless community worker and an advocate for civil rights. She is remembered for her admirable work in the Japanese American Citizens League and for dedicating her life to advocating for those members of our society discriminated against.
- **Federal Outreach:** Our agency continues to maintain relationships with federal agencies to stay apprised of policies impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in our state.

- **Federal Policies Impacting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders:** Staff continues to participate in monthly calls with federal agencies on policies impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. Issues range from health, education, the economy and immigration. Federal agencies include the Department of Justice, White House and the Federal Trade Commission.
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture:** Staff provided recommendations to Chris Bieker with the farm service division on outreach to organizations that engage with Asian American farmers in Washington State. This agency provides federal financial assistance to farmers.
- **Federal Trade Commission:** In December, staff participated in the testing of the Federal Trade Commission's Website to provide recommendations on accessibility and cultural competence. Staff is also monitoring data on consumer protection cases and continues to make recommendations for the collection of disaggregated data in our state.
- **Agency Outreach:** Since the launch of the Asian Pacific American State Agency Liaison-Network (APASAL-Network), staff continues to meet with our agency liaisons on a monthly basis. Meetings cover current policies and programs for the AAPI community, partnership opportunities, assistance requests, recommendations and policy issues. This infrastructure bridges communication and access to services and programs for the community.
 - **Department of Social and Health Services:** Staff connected with Victor Chacon, our agency liaison, on programs, policies and data. The commission received a briefing and continues to provide recommendations on the implementation of ESSHB 2536 pertaining to an inventory of evidence based practices for children and juveniles. The commission also continues to monitor data on the number of Asian American and Pacific Islanders utilizing the department's services.
 - **Employment Security Department:** Teresa Eckstein is our new agency liaison. With the departure of Eddie Maiva, a staff member who worked on outreach to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, the commission is advocating for the hire of an immediate replacement. The commission continues to advocate for outreach to the Pacific Islander community given our state's data showing that this demographic faces one of the lowest rates of unemployment.
 - **Department of Financial Institutions:** Staff continues to meet with Lyn Peters on programs and policies of interest to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The commission continues to advocate for an increase of translated materials on consumer protection issues. Community members should be aware of a consumer alert where individuals are fraudulently representing companies on unpaid loan transactions. This is a debt collection scam. To determine whether a lender is properly licensed to conduct business, you can access the "Verify a License" feature at www.dfi.wa.gov.
 - **Office of the Attorney General:** Staff connected with Paul Corning on a standing request for the collection of disaggregated data on consumer protection complaints. The commission continues to advocate for more translated materials in Asian languages and disaggregated data. Most recently, the commission submitted a proposal for a statewide consumer protection campaign for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.
 - **Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board:** The commission is working with the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board on the release of statewide data on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the workforce. This data will be made public at the commission's board meeting in January 2013. The board recently released its High Skills, High Wages 2012-2022: Washington Strategic Plan which included policy recommendations from the commission. The commission provided recommendations on the inclusion of high school dropout and retrieval programs and wrap-around models for diverse populations. Several community members also participated in public forums on the draft plan in Everett, Tacoma, Spokane and Yakima.
 - **Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises:** The executive director continues to meet with Chris Liu to discuss policies, programs and opportunities for Asian American and Pacific Islander business owners. The Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises will be featured on a panel sponsored by the commission in January where all known Asian American and Pacific Islander chambers of commerce will be in attendance.
 - **Office of the Education Ombudsman:** Staff connected with Cathy Liu Scott on current programs, data and policies impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The commission requested data on the number of cases filed with the Ombudsman Office from the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. Recommendations were also provided on outreach strategies to ensure the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is aware of the services of the Office of the Education Ombudsman.

- **Human Rights Commission:** Sharon Ortiz, our agency liaison, continues to provide updates on proposed policy changes and the number of discrimination complaints filed by the statewide Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The commission is working with the Human Rights Commission on ways to outreach to the community on issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity since rule making is currently underway. Community members should be aware that the Human Rights Commission is holding a board meeting on January 24, 2013 in Snohomish County.
- **Department of Early Learning:** Staff connected with Amy Blondin on early learning programs and policies impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The commission continues to provide recommendations on the creation of videos for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community on the Washington State Early Learning and Development Guidelines. Community members should be aware that the department will be releasing a report that includes disaggregated data on how children are doing in January 2013.
- **Department of Labor and Industries:** Staff continues to meet with Dave Wasser, our agency liaison, on changes in law and policies that may impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The Department of Labor and Industries announced that there is no overall increase in workers' compensation insurance premiums in 2013. This is the second year in a row that the Department of Labor and Industries has held overall rates flat. The commission will continue to monitor the Department of Labor and Industries review of premium rates next year and any adjustments to cover the anticipated costs of claims that will be filed.
- **Department of Licensing:** Staff met with Josh Johnston who provided an update on proposed rules impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The commission is conducting research on the development of a specialty license plate. In December, the Department of Licensing expanded a new program allowing driver training schools and school district driver training programs to conduct driver knowledge and skills testing for new driver license applicants.
- **Secretary of State:** Our agency liaison, Patrick Reed, provided an update on policies and publications of interest to the community. The commission is working with the Secretary of State on outreach to Asian American and Pacific Islander Chambers of Commerce to ensure businesses are aware of existing policies and programs.
- **Department of Revenue:** Staff connected with Rick Stedman. The commission is working with the Department of Revenue on outreach to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community on policies and programs. Community members should be aware that the local sales tax rates changed in San Juan County and the cities of Sequim and Spokane on January 1, 2013. More information can be found at www.dor.wa.gov
- **Office of the Insurance Commissioner:** Chewon Lee, our agency liaison, provided an update to staff on policies, programs, resources and outreach to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The commission continues to monitor the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and its potential impact on students studying here from abroad.
- **Department of Commerce:** Leigh Felton, our agency liaison, provided an update on policies and programs of interest to the community. Community members should be aware that Select USA is hosting an event for investors from China. The Washington State Department of Commerce also awarded more than \$65 million from the Housing Trust Fund for 49 affordable housing projects in 23 counties across the state. The projects will provide a total of 2,349 units of affordable housing for low-income households and will generate an estimated 2,866 jobs.
- **Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction:** Staff continues to connect with Phouang Hamilton, our agency liaison. The commission recently received a briefing on the agency's legislative priorities and is working with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction on providing recommendations for representatives to serve on the Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program Committee.
- **Department of Health:** Jovi Swanson, our agency liaison, provided updates on programs, policies and events of interest to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The Department of Health recently filed a home health care aide emergency rule. The department also revised marriage certificates to conform with the new same-sex marriage law giving couples a full range of options - gender neutral or gender specific terms. The new form is effective December 6th.
- **Office of the Lieutenant Governor:** Staff connected with Antonio Sanchez who provided an update on his work with many representatives from Asian countries. Commissioner Leung continues to work with the office on potential trade missions to Japan, South Korea and China.

- **Department of Ecology:** In December, the executive director met with the agency's communication and education office on policies and programs of interest to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The commission continues to work with the agency on a range of issues, including: tsunami marine debris to fish consumption rates.
- **Legislative Outreach:** Upon the request of legislative members, the commission provides briefings on the statewide Asian American and Pacific Islander community and its work.
 - **Asian Pacific American Legislative Members Briefing:** The executive director met with Representatives Santos, Hasegawa and Ryu to provide an update on programs, services and the interagency work of the commission on November 20, 2012. House members have requested five standing meetings a year.

6. CAPAA COMMISSION:

- **Board Meetings:** The commission will be holding board meetings in 2013 on March 16, June 15, September 14 and November 16. Special thanks to the Asian Counseling & Referral Service for providing a venue for the January meeting and Commissioner Dash for the refreshments.
- **Standing Committees:** Standing committees continue to meet on the commission's three priority areas of education, health care/human services and economic development. Most committees meet on a monthly basis in-person or by conference call.

7. UPDATE ON ISSUE AREAS:

- **Education:**
 - **Asian American and Pacific Islander Voices in Education Initiative:** In November, the Asian American and Pacific Islander Voices in Education Initiative released a summary on its key findings and proposed next steps for 2013 and beyond. From the community meetings and the culmination of two summit gatherings, the Initiative produced recommendations to support the success of Asian American and Pacific Islander students which include: coordinating community-based efforts and organizations on grassroots advocacy efforts, facilitating partnerships and building family support groups to close the opportunity gap. The initiative is currently working to produce a list of Southeast Asian ethnic groups to be included on the University of Washington's admission application.
 - **Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee:** Commissioner Takamura and Sili Savusa continue to serve as our community representatives on this committee. Commissioner Takamura will provide an update and more information on the release of the committee's annual report to the legislature.
 - **Education Workgroups:** Community representatives continue to sit on the following workgroups: Early Learning, Gangs in Schools, Ed Tech, QEC Compensation Workgroup, the Bilingual Education Advisory Committee and the OSPI & External Partners Dropout group.
- **Health Care and Human Services:**
 - **Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Disparities Initiative:** The commission continues working on the statewide Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Disparity Initiative. The initiative's primary goal is to achieve health equity for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in our state. The focus areas of the initiative are data collection, treatment, prevention and education on the Affordable Care Act. There are continuous discussions on monitoring, surveying and analyzing current trends in health legislation in other states that impact Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and determining whether any of this work can be utilized in policymaking for Washington State. Commissioner Aragon serves as a liaison to this initiative.
 - **Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities:** The executive director serves as a representative to this council on behalf of the commission. Most recently, recommendations were provided to the council on evidence-based practices for delivering services to children and juveniles. The council also recently finalized the State Action Plan to Eliminate Health Disparities which includes policy recommendations for the areas of: poverty, behavioral health, environmental exposures and hazards, adverse child experiences, health reform implementation and its potential impacts on health disparities.
 - **Puget Sound Health Alliance:** At the request of the community, the commission provided a letter of support on the inclusion of Asians, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders in the Puget Sound Health Alliance proposal for Aligning Forces for Equality.

- **Economic Development:**

- **Economic Development Workgroups and Committees:** A special thanks to the many representatives who continue to serve on statewide committees working on economic development issues. Albert Shen, a member of the Economic Development Committee, serves as a representative on the Small Business Advisory Committee. Commissioner Dash sits on the Export Initiative which hosts quarterly working group meetings. Maiko Winkler-Chin is working with staff on the Microenterprise program and Mohan Gurung on the Efficient Regulation exercise.
- **Washington Wine Asia Export Initiative:** Commissioner Leung continues to work with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor on a wine export initiative.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Greater Seattle Chinese Chamber of Commerce

- Millie Su, President of the Greater Seattle Chinese Chamber of Commerce, provided information on the chamber. She discussed their goals that include promoting the well-being of the AAPI community and collaborating with other chambers to better provide information to the AAPI community. The chamber's activities include promoting trade, hosting lunches and meetings and the advocacy of youth and community services. Most recently, the chamber participated in Seafair, hosted a police appreciation dinner and hosted an annual Lunar New Year dinner show.

Korean American Chamber of Commerce

- Yeong Seo, President of the Korean American Chamber of Commerce introduced the chamber. The chamber's activities include recruitment and collaboration with other chambers. The chamber advocated for the free trade agreement between the US and Korea in March 2012. The chamber encourages job creation for local communities. The chamber collaborates with other ethnic chambers to create programs such as a monthly professional networking event. The chamber hopes to provide more opportunities to share and communicate.

Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce

- Polly Huang, a member of the Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce, introduced the chamber that was founded in 1987. The chamber participated in a Centennial Anniversary Event, and the Renton International Festival to promote tourism and business between Washington and Taiwan. The chamber is active in promoting the trade of Washington State wine between Washington State and Taiwan along in addition to other goods. The chamber would like to work with other ethnic chambers. She indicated that there is an expected surge of Taiwanese businesses in the region. She concluded by requesting more information on social services, business loans, and healthcare.
- Andy Chin, Director General of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Seattle, expressed his appreciation for the commission's work and in bringing together representatives from all known Asian American and Pacific Islander Chambers.

Filipino American Chamber of Commerce

- Marvin Rosete, a board member of the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce, provided information on the chamber. The chamber serves the largest Filipino community in the Northwest through partnerships developed over the recent years. The chamber promotes small businesses and encourages trade between the Philippines and the US. The chamber has developed relationships with other chambers and government organizations. The chamber works to promote community involvement and festivals. The chamber advocates an increase in spending for the arts to promote cultural values in the community. The chamber meets once a month and will have a business conference in either April or May of 2013.

Economy and Innovation and Business Panel

US Small Business Administration

- Nancy Porzio, Director of the Seattle District Office, provided an introduction to the agency. The agency has several programs that help with the process of starting a small business. All of their services are open to the public. There are 26 small business centers across Washington State including three women business centers. She recognized Albert Shen as the 2012 Minority Champion of the Year for his work in the community. The agency is working to increase SBA loan programs and to include more AAPI participants. She indicated that Washington State needs to further increase exports.

Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises

- Chris Liu, Director of the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE), provided information on the agency. OMWBE provides opportunities for women and minority run businesses. The agency promotes diversity by supporting all businesses regardless of race, ethnicity, or gender. Their services include certification at federal and state levels, and assisting in simplifying the certification process. The agency is working with the Department of Transportation on a pilot program to transition into an electronic system to increase efficiency and capacity. The agency does not award contracts. The agency is working to increase outreach and to improve the agency website.

Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

- Bryan Wilson, Deputy Director of the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, introduced the agency. The agency is an independent Governor-appointed body that focuses on business, labor, and government. The Governor-appointed body represents a partnership of nine voting members that work to make the Washington State workforce more competitive to employers. The board also conducts research to better serve underrepresented populations. The board intends to do further research in disaggregated data amongst AAPIs. He encourages more AAPIs to participate in the board's programs. The board is open to creating multiple pathways for success to support the state's diversity.

Presentation: Commissioner Lee

- Commissioner Lee presented her work with Korean small businesses. She discussed that many Korean business owners do not understand many of the programs and services they could have access to. She continues to work with the commission to educate the Korean American community on these opportunities. She continues to work with Executive Director Kendee Yamaguchi on outreach through the radio show. At times, her gender and leadership style makes it difficult to communicate. She discussed her background and experience serving in the military. She visits stores that are often overlooked and noticed numerous issues in the community. She discussed that there are often language and cultural barriers when communicating with Korean business owners and customers. Some difficulties for Korean business owners include the Washington State minimum wage, rules on payroll and taxes, medical insurance and cultural barriers. She hopes to devote all of her time for the community with the help of the commission. She encourages more state agencies to utilize the commission

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Marguerite Richard addressed concerns in regards with the alleged police abuse of Leo Etherly in which an AAPI officer was involved. She attended an advisory council meeting on the case and indicated that the AAPI community should be more involved in these issues.
- Dainen Penta with the Asian Adult Adoptees of Washington (AAAW) introduced the organization. The AAW provides mentoring, fellowship and educational opportunities for AAPI adoptees. He indicated that they hosted many adoptees in the fall and launched a teen and youth adult program. They sent a delegation of adoptees to the Korean American adoptee conference. He thanked the commission for all of their work. For more information, visit www.aaawashington.org.
- Sherwin Chao, a National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP) Seattle board member, provided information on the organization. They are a professional 501(c)(3) non-profit that was founded 30 years ago as an MBA network program. NAAAP focuses on professional development and community service. Currently, they are the largest chapter in the nation with over 300 members. They recently won the top chapter of the year. Their services include a college graduate school and food lifeline program, mentorship and network events. They hold three to five events a month. Past events include an entrepreneur and Microsoft career panel, Women in NAAAP and stress workshops, leadership events and AAPI blood drives.
- Michael Fuller, discussed issues of abuse against the African American Community. He is devastated by the police abuse that has been committed. He currently works on many issues in the community including homeless veterans.

- Louise Chernon, President of the Greater Seattle Business Association, provided information about the chamber. She gave thanks to the commission on inviting her. The chamber is the largest active LGBT chamber in the region with a young professional group. Through their scholarship fund, they have given \$1.4 million since 1998 to students who are committed to civil rights. She would like to seek more opportunities to promote this scholarship. The chamber promotes and advocates for businesses and civil rights. Their current priorities include supporting the Dream Act sponsored by Senator Ed Murray, more equitable tax reform, revenue options, and relieve stress on B&O tax based on gross income. The chamber would like to work with all the commissions and ethnic chambers to educate the community on LGBT rights.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Commissioner Pascua announced the passing of a few community members in addition to a farmer that is in a coma. The Filipino Hall Celebration will be in Wapato in March 2013. He is planning on visiting the Philippines for the Consulate Officer meeting in July 2013. Today was also his granddaughter's first birthday.
- Commissioner Sharma announced that he attended the 66th annual India Association of Western Washington celebration of India in Bellevue. He is planning on attending the 2013 Ethnic Legislative Reception.
- Commissioner Pen announced that he attended the January 11th county council meeting on banning smoking in public housing. He will be working with Michael Mirra, executive director of the Tacoma Housing Authority, on outreach to community members.
- Commissioner Aragon announced the start of the 2013 Legislative Session.
- Commissioner Takamura announced that the Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee (EOGOAC) produced a draft of their legislative priorities. She also announced that there will be an Equity in Education Coalition education summit following the board meeting.
- Commissioner Dickinson announced that there will be a Nikkei appreciation event on March 17th.
- Commissioner Dash announced that he visited the White House in December as part of holiday celebrations. University of Washington Global Business Center will be providing education to low-income students.
- Commissioner Lee announced that the 6th Annual Washington State Korean-American Day Celebration will be at the Highline Performing Arts Center starting at 2:30 pm. She indicated that she is providing casework assistance to a Korean store owner who requires assistance on being within compliance.

Commissioner Pascua motioned to adjourn the board meeting at 1:46 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Takamura with unanimous approval.

Minutes prepared by Justin Chan.

Commissioner Report

January 12, 2013

Asian Counseling and Referral Services
3639 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South
Seattle, WA 98144

1. COMMISSIONER ARAGON:

- Participated in a meeting with the Racial Equity Team to prepare for the upcoming legislative session by identifying issues that will impact communities of color.
- Representative on the Navigator Technical Advisory Committee of the Health Benefit Exchange developing overarching policy principles to ensure that health equity is incorporated as part of the Navigator Program, a program that aims to facilitate enrolling individuals into the most appropriate health insurance coverage available through the Health Benefit Exchange.
- Working with Representative Cody on the Welcome Back Center which helps foreign trained students in the health professions complete requirements for licensure in Washington State.
- Met with Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos on how Washington State can improve its collection of disaggregated data for Asian American and Pacific Islander groups.

2. COMMISSIONER DASH:

- Participated in the first Washington State Summit on US-India Trade & Commerce at the Seattle Center from September 27th to 28th. The Summit was hosted by the Washington State and India Trade Relations Action Committee in collaboration with the Consulate General of India in San Francisco, the City of Seattle, the Port of Seattle, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Foster School of Business and the Seattle Center Foundation as part of the Next 50 event marking the 50th year anniversary of the Seattle Center and Seattle's 1st World Fair.
- The summit had high profile trade delegations from three India states: Assam, Gujarat and Odisha with plenary sessions focusing on key areas of agriculture, bio-tech and medical research, education, clean-tech, infrastructure, logistics, manufacturing, real estate and investment, tourism, and renewable energy. More information on this trade summit can be found at www.NextFiftyIndia.org.

3. COMMISSIONER DICKINSON:

- Appointed to the Nevada Inter-Tribal Court of Appeals as a Pro Tem Appellate Justice.
- Participated in an American Bar Association Tort? Trial & Insurance Practice Section meeting in La Quinta.
- Serves as a standing member of the Professionalism Committee and Vice-Chair of the Business Litigation Committee.
- Attended the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism meeting in Chicago.

4. COMMISSIONER KHAMSHITSANG:

- Continues to travel across North America presenting to numerous Tibetan American communities about the work and services of the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs.

5. **COMMISSIONER LEE:**

- Provided casework assistance to several Korean American residents which included but was not limited to: a Korean American who requires language translation service in obtaining a cosmetic license and a Korean business owner who wants to expand his business.
- Attended the Korean Movie Night at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center on October 18th.

6. **COMMISSIONER LEUNG:**

- Attended the following events: September 22nd, Organization of Chinese American (OCA) Golden Circle Awards at the Joy Palace Restaurant in Seattle. November 1st, the Executive Development Institute's 19th Annual Graduation Dinner at the Westin in Bellevue. November 2nd, Low Income Housing Institute's 10th Gala and Auction at the Hyatt in Seattle. November 3rd, the Filipino Community of Seattle's 77th Anniversary Dinner in Seattle.
- Organizing a trade show for minority business enterprises in the greater South Lake Union neighborhood of Seattle.

7. **COMMISSIONER NGUYEN:**

- Representative on the Puget Sound Regional Council's South Corridor Task Force (SCTF) addressing transportation and small businesses issues related to the future development and growth of the 24 transit nodes from south of Downtown Seattle to Downtown Tacoma. The SCTF is developing a template for station area typology which will help determine what type of strategies and resources are needed to support equitable growth.
- Assisted in the launch of the Cleanup Little Saigon Campaign to raise money to fund sidewalk cleaning services for Little Saigon.
- Working with SCIDpda to develop a business incubator space for the neighborhood as part of an initiative to connect the neighborhood to the broader regional and global economy.
- Helping the Co-working Alliance in promoting the culture of co-working in Seattle.
- Working with community stakeholders on the Little Saigon Landmark project by assembling a working group of community activists, business owner and community based organizations to develop a plan for the Vietnamese Cultural Center.

8. **COMMISSIONER PASCUA:**

- Spearheaded efforts to educate students, schools, cities, government and corporations on Filipino American History Month.
- Worked with the Filipino community throughout the state and received proclamations from organizations and several cities.
- Presented the Filipino American History Month resolution to school district superintendents and newspapers around Washington State leading up to October 2012.
- Met with the Kent and Tacoma School District boards for a special vote to recognize October as National Filipino American History Month. The school districts were the first two in Washington State to recognize October as National Filipino American History Month.
- Participated in the Annual Harvest Dinner for the Yakima Valley Filipino Community.

9. **COMMISSIONER PEN:**

- Attended the following events: September 21st, the Asian Pacific Islander Summit at the Tacoma Dome. September 27th, City of Tacoma's Neighborhood Councils 20th Year Celebration. October 8th-12th, Puget Sound Energy representative meeting with 85 Vietnamese seniors, 95 Cambodian seniors, 120 Korean seniors, 50 Filipino, Chinese, and Japanese seniors and 16 Samoan seniors on gas safety. October 23rd, the Pierce County Asian Pacific Islander leaders meeting at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center in Tacoma to encourage Asian American and Pacific Islander voter engagement. November 2nd, the Korean Art Show at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center in Tacoma. November 5th to 9th, Police Community Liaison Officers meeting with the Tacoma Police Department to address Vietnamese, Cambodian, Korean, Filipino, Chinese, Japanese and Samoan seniors groups about a residential parking ordinance, violation fees and a residential solid waste disposal rules and responsibilities.
- Met with the Barangay Community Service on the community garden project taking place on public vacant land.
- Worked on the American Singers Contest on November 9th at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center in Tacoma.

10. **COMMISSIONER SHARMA:**

- Attended the following events: September 27th, meeting with the Consul General of India at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle. November 2nd to 4th, tabled for the Ethnic Heritage Council (EHC) during their 22nd

Annual Cultural Crossroads Fair in Bellevue. November 10th, Indo American Friendship Forum (IAFF) town hall meeting between the Consul General and the Indian community at the University of Washington in Seattle. November 11th, breakfast meeting with the Consul General of India in Seattle to discuss health and education initiatives.

11. COMMISSIONER TAKAMURA:

- Representative on the Equity in Education Coalition (EEC) and working on policy issues to close the education opportunity/achievement gap for the upcoming legislative session.
- Attended the Asian Pacific Islander Community Summit in Tacoma on September 21st, the Pacific Islander Education Summit at South Seattle Community College on September 29th and the Southeast Asian/Asian Education Summit at Highline Community College on October 6th.
- Continues to serve as a representative on the Education Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee.
- Convened the Asian Pacific Islander American Think Tank.
- Participated in several meetings with various education stakeholders including the State Board of Education, Thrive by Five, One America, Children's Alliance, the University of Washington Minority Affairs Office and UW School of Social Work, the Vietnamese Friendship Association leadership program and the Southeast Seattle Education Coalition.

12. COMMISSIONER TUFONO:

- Attended the following events: September 22th, campus tour of South Seattle Community College Cultural Center with Staff Member Rochelle Fonoti. September 29, Pacific Islander Education Summit at South Seattle Community College. October 11th, Community Leaders Event in Lynnwood hosted by Rep. Mary Helen Roberts. October 13th, the U.T.O.P.I.A's 3rd Annual Scholarship Fundraising Pageant at the Renton Ikea Performing Arts Center.