

Ellen Abellera
Executive Director



The State of Washington
COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS

210 11th Ave SW • RM 301 • ms 40925 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0925
PH: 360.725.5667 • FX: 360.586.9501 • EM: capaa@capaa.wa.gov • WS: www.capaa.wa.gov

Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans

Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs Meeting
Western Washington University
Viking Union - Room 565
516 High Street – Bellingham, WA 98225

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Doug Heyamoto

CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and introductions were given. The meeting was called to order at 10:23 a.m., with CAPAA Chair Doug Heyamoto presiding.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Doug Heyamoto, Thi Huynh, Rey Pascua, Tanya Tran, Fel Abille, Frieda Takamura, Elliot Kim, Jagdish Sharma, and Bee Cha

Commissioners Absent: Ron Chow, Lua Pritchard, & Habib Habib

Staff Present: Executive Director: Ellen Abellera and Executive Assistant Phillip Sit

INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY APPOINTED/REAPPOINTED COMMISSIONERS

- Frieda Takamura / Lua Pritchard

Frieda Takamura was appointed to the CAPAA Commission Board by Governor Gregoire and will serve a 3 year term.

Frieda Takamura is a long time educator living in Renton, King County who recently retired from the position of Human/Civil Rights Coordinator at the Washington Education Association. Prior to working with the WEA, Frieda was a teacher in the public schools and in various leadership positions. She is Japanese American and is active in the Asian/Pacific Islander community in her roles as co-chair of the Asian/Pacific Islander American Think Tank; volunteer and curriculum consultant at the Wing Luke Asian Museum; planning committee for Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration Day at the Seattle Center; member of the Asian/Pacific Islander Directors Coalition, among other activities. Frieda is also a cultural competency trainer, has experience as a facilitator with diverse communities, and is co-chair of the Safe Schools Coalition.

Lua Pritchard was reappointed to the CAPAA Commission Board by Governor Gregoire and will serve a 3 year term.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agency Overview

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.

Motion was made and carried by Commissioner Heyamoto to add "General Announcements" after the conclusion of New Business

Motion was made, duly seconded and carried by Commissioner Sharma to approve the agenda

APPROVAL OF MARCH 22nd, 2008 MINUTES

Motion was made, duly seconded and carried by Commissioner Huynh to adopt minutes as submitted.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Doug Heyamoto:

- 1) Attended the USDA Training Conference in Spokane, WA for API employees.
- 2) Made a PowerPoint presentation at the conference about CAPAA.

Commissioner Thi Huynh:

- 1) Update on Dearborn Project, a new agreement has been drafted by the developers to provide a community center, subsidized housing for seniors and low-income families, and concessions made to community groups.
- 2) Meet with a student from Western Washington University, seeking assistance from CAPAA on recruiting students of color from high school to explore starting on a legal track upon starting at the Law, Diversity, and Justice Program at the Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies at Western Washington University. Web link: <http://www.wvu.edu/cldj/>

Commissioner Fel Abille

- 1) Has attended numerous community events in the heavily API-populated Kitsap County.
- 2) Various community groups are attempting to develop funds for community centers.
- 3) Attended community celebration of Filipino high school students

Commissioner Bee Cha

- 1) National Hmong Grave Desecration Committee has submitted a proposal to the Thai ministry to bring a peaceful resolution to the Hmong graves desecrated in Thailand.
- 2) Meet with API youths that are currently working on a video project to preserve Little Saigon in light of the Dearborn Project development.
- 3) Attended a social justice training seminar.

Commissioner Rey Pascua

- 1) Working with community partners to bring in the "Undoing Racism" workshops to the region.
 - The 2 ½ day seminar provides anti-racism training for social work practitioners and educators, to foster local work groups that will continue the conversation and work toward institutional changes.
 - The seminar would cost between \$10,000 to \$15,000 – Will attempt to partner with school districts and colleges in the Yakima Valley.
- 2) Attended the 12th National Conference for the Filipino American National Historical Society in Anchorage, Alaska. (Meeting in 2010 will be held in Seattle, WA)
- 3) Next community meeting on immigration to be held on October 8th, 2008.
- 4) Filipino Community Center in Wapato purchased property next to existing building.

Commissioner Tanya Tran

- 1) Worked with minority business owners to access the OMWBE certification process

Commissioner Jagdish Sharma:

- 1) The next CAPAA Commissioner board meeting will be hosted by the Indian Association of Western Washington at the Redmond Senior Center on Saturday, November 15th, 2008.

Commissioner Elliott Kim:

- 1) Community education workshops – Introduction to local government
- 2) Currently involved with two Korean-based radio stations in Federal Way, conduct a weekly 20 minute talk show on election education and will conduct a 70 minute talk show called “Radio Living Room” with Government leaders and agencies representatives.
- 3) Attended Korean Lunar Thanksgiving Ceremony

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Ellen Abellera – Executive Director

1. Budget

Michele Salinas was unable to attend the board meeting, and will provide a CAPAA financial report at the next CAPAA board meeting. In the September 2008 Financial Report by SACS, the balance of the CAPAA budget for the fiscal year (June 30th, 2007 to June 30th, 2008) ended with a savings of \$11,633.

SACS conducted a meeting with Commissioner Doug Heyamoto and Thi Huynh, along with CAPAA staff to discuss the previous 4-years of expenditures. The CAPAA Executive Board had previously requested quarterly report on the expenditures and funds allocated by SACH, in addition to a quarterly balance sheet.

Travel Cost: Has increased significantly from 2004 to 2008 due to raising gas prices.

2. Website Enhancements

CAPAA is working with the Office of the Minority Women’s Business Enterprise (OMWBE) on developing a script that details the benefits and process of the OMWBE certification process. Upon approval by OMWBE, the script will be produced by the Department of Information Services (DIS) into an orientation video to be hosted on the CAPAA website.

[\(Please see attachment: OMWBE script\)](#)

3. Education: Ethnic Commission Achievement Gap Study

2SHB 2722 - Center for the Improvement of Student Learning (CISL) in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Commission on African American Affairs (CAA).

HB2687 - Sec. 119 (1&2): Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (CAPAA)

Analysis: Similarities

Recommend a comprehensive plan for closing the achievement gap pursuant to goals under the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

Dr. Shirley Hune, leading the study on the Asian American Students and Dr. David Takeuchi leading the study on Pacific Islander students submitted their first report on September 15, 2008. A second report on the Study of the Achievement Gap will be provided on October 30th, 2008.

The deadline for the final report will be December 30, 2008.

Ellen Abellera distributed copies of the first report as presented by Chris Alejano from the Governor’s office. [\(Please see attachment: Study of the Achievement Gap Report 091508\)](#)

CAPAA is overseeing the contracts with the University of Washington Researchers and will conduct a series of community forums on the researcher’s conclusions after the final report has been submitted on December 30, 2008.

An amount of \$5,000 will be allocated from the Achievement Gap Studies Budget for the community forums, and the funding will be available until June 30, 2009.

The CAPAA office will schedule three community forums and one town hall meeting in 2009, and one community forum will take place as a CAPAA board meeting.

4. Health Care: The Governor's Interagency Coordinating Council on Health Disparities

A board meeting was conducted on September 25th, 2008, and the council has been briefed on the ongoing progress on the Achievement Gap Studies.

The Council has initiated a number of activities toward the goal of developing recommendations on closing health disparities.

- 1) Contracting with the Cross Cultural Health Care Program to conduct focus groups and interviews to understand and assess the availability of culturally and linguistically appropriate health education materials.
- 2) Convening the Public Forum on Language, Culture, and Health Care on September 19, 2007 in Tumwater.
- 3) Organizing a community meeting focus group with Spanish-speaking individuals in Tacoma.
- 4) Convening the Community Forum on Health Equities on May 28, 2008 in Tacoma.
- 5) Seeking input through public input surveys.

5. Immigration

The increase in immigration sweeps has impacted the Asian Pacific Islander Community. In Washington State, the number of deportation cases has increased 40% from the 2007 figures. Currently, undocumented individuals are being held at the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Washington. The facility is privately operated by a profit-making company, the Geo Group and managed in partnership with the Immigration Custom Enforcement Agency (ICE). The detention centers can housed 1000 individuals, and are looking to expand to 1500 individuals by next year.

A report by the Seattle University School of Law and OneAmerica has alleged that the Northwest Detention Center is guilty of inhumane treatment and violations of detainee's human and Constitutional rights. Phillip Sit and Alicia Luna from the Hispanic American Commission were provided with a tour of the facility by ICE.

A meeting with Scott Heinze of the Governor's office is being scheduled, with Uriel Iniguez of the Hispanic American Commission and Jorge Baron of the Northwest Immigration Rights Project.

6. Census 2010

CAPAA has requested a proclamation from the Governor to support and encourage participation in the 2010 Census.

A meeting has been schedule for October 06, 2008 with the Ethnic Commission's Directors and State Agencies regarding Washington State's participation.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Doug Heyamoto

- 1) Committees
 - o Discussion on the current implementation of committee models
 - o Committees should be more proactive
 - o Committees to identify objectives to be presented at next board meeting

OLD BUSINESS

Amendment of CAPAA By-laws

Commissioner Doug Heyamoto, Thi Huynh, and Ron Chow met together to develop a list of recommendations and suggest modifications to the existing CAPAA by-laws.

This is an on-going draft that will be revisited at the November 15th CAPAA board meeting once all the commissioners has had a chance to review the draft by-laws.

Article III: Commission Officer:

The drafted by-laws recommend eliminating the Second Vice Chair

The drafted by-laws recommend modifying the Vice Chair description to include “assume the position of Chair on January 1st after the expiration of the current Chair’s term.

Article VI: Duties and Meetings:

The drafted by-laws recommend that a “quorum shall consist of seven commissioners, if a total of twelve commissioners have been appointed. However if the Governor has appointed less than twelve commissioners, then a quorum shall consist of at least two-thirds of the then appointed commissioners.

Article VI: Duties of Commissioners:

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:23 PM

MEETING MINUTES BY PHILLIP SIT