

Ellen Abellera  
Executive Director



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**

June 14, 2008  
211 2<sup>nd</sup> St. West  
Wapato, WA 98951

**INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME**

Doug Heyamoto

**CALL TO ORDER**

Welcome and introductions were given. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m., with CAPAA Chair Doug Heyamoto presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Doug Heyamoto, Thi Huynh, Ron Chow, Rey Pascua, Tanya Tran, Fel Abille, and Bee Cha

Commissioners Absent: Lua Pritchard, Tony Lee, Habib Habib, Jagdish Sharma, and Elliot Kim

Staff Present: Ellen Abellera

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion was made and carried by Commissioner Heyamoto to add "Discussion on meeting location and date for the next CAPAA meeting" under New Business

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

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 MINUTES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Heyamoto to amend the minutes in order to include the March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 meeting date.

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

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**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.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

### **Bylaws**

The Executive Committee will revisit the CAPAA bylaws and provide recommendations on updates to the bylaws at the next CAPAA board meeting.

- Meeting attendance
- Responsibilities as a Commissioner

### **United States Department of Agriculture - CAPAA Speaker Request**

The American Indian/Alaska Native Employee Association (AIANEA) and the Asian Pacific Organization (APIO) will be hosting a joint training conference in Spokane, Washington on August 11-15, 2008.

- Would like to invite 1-2 Commissioners from CAPAA to provide a presentation on the Thursday of August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008

<http://www.apio.org/>

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**Ellen Abellera – Executive Director**

### **1. Budget**

CAPAA has 11.1% of its available funding left versus the expected 7.1%.

There is a current net deficit in Salaries and Benefits due to a variety of reasons

- Executive Assistant departure in mid-May (Training, Medicare, and unused vacation leave)
- Previous whistle blower complaint
- The Department of General Admission over billed CAPAA for an additional month of rental cost for office space in the General Admission Building, which has since been refunded.
- CAPAA has a small amount of funding remaining for OMWBE certification workshops with CAPAA.

Travel Cost - Higher than expected cost of travels for in-state subsistence and lodging.

Printing Cost - Reduced estimated printing cost of 1,000 new CAPAA posters from \$4,000 to \$2,000 dollar.

**Conclusion:** Despite higher than expenditures, the agency continues to record a savings. The previously reserved funds for the OMWBE Certification Workshops may pay for an adjusted auditor invoice due next year. This will reduce this year (2008) savings, but will free up funds next year to pay for other expenses.

- The Executive Committee would like to have a quarterly report on the expenditures and funds allocated by SACH, in addition to a quarterly balance sheet.
- Ron Chow suggests that the Executive Committee conduct a meeting with SACS to breakdown the fiscal numbers, future projections, and overall status of the CAPAA finances.
- Thi Huynh - Discussion goes back to the need for a strategy planning meeting amongst the Commissioners due to the lack of prior discussion on the allocation in the usage of resources and funds.
- Ellen Abellera - CAPAA does not have a board treasurer since SACS serves as our treasurer representative, will forward the board's request for quarterly and end-of-the-year report to the SACS representative (Michelle Salinas) for CAPAA.

## **2. CAPAA Strategic Plan**

CAPAA Strategic Plan was due for submission to the OFM on June 13, 2008 - Please see attached document

### **3. Website Enhancement**

- Application for the \$52,000 grant to the Dept. of Information Services has been approved
- Will meet with DIS in the upcoming weeks to review services and timetable as approved.
- The new Executive Assistant, Phillip Sit will be in charge of web maintenance once the project is completed.

### **4. Education: Ethnic Commission of Achievement Gap Study – Legislative Mandate**

- 2SHB 2722 – Center for the Improvement of Student learning (CISL) in the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction; Commission on African American Affairs (CAA).
- HB2687 – Sec. 119 (1&2): Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (CAPAA)
- Identify performance and provide recommendations to a comprehensive plan for closing the achievement gap pursuant to goals under the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.
- Identify performance measures to monitor adequate yearly progress.
- Conduct an analysis starting with the Call to Action Paper, involving multi-ethnic think tanks and as guided by appropriate groups.
- A study update shall be submitted by September 15, 2008
- A final report shall be submitted by December 30, 2008

### **3. Health Care**

CAPAA would like to send one commissioner as a representative to the Interagency Council on Health Disparities. Currently, Ellen Abellera serves as a member of the Governor's Inter-Council for the National Census Bureau on Health Disparities.

- 1) Asian Heritage Month Celebration - May 04, 2008 at the Seattle Center
  - Gov. Proclamation requested
  - Aiming to launch CAPAA Heritage Month Poster 2008 at this event
- 2) Boards and Commissions Orientation
- 3) Census 2010 – Sitting on Asian Advisory Committee for APA Population
- 4) Letter to Dr. Terry Bergeson
  - In follow up to the disaggregation of data as an Appropriation from SB 5843
  - Also requesting a meeting with her on the new budget proviso for the study of the achievement gap

### **4. Economic Development:**

Of the 284,000 minority business in Washington State, only a few are OMWBE certified. In 2007, CAPAA held 2 certification workshops for minority business owners, out of the 3 workshops budgeted.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Doug Heyamoto

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

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

Commissioner Thi Huynh

- 1) Steering Committee for OSPI (Office of The Superintendent of Public Instruction) has provided opportunities for the community to identify candidates via forums across the state. The Committee is requesting recommendations on locations for community participations and venues
- 2) Would like to see the development of a CAPAA annual report with spaces for community and corporate ads, similar to the version produced currently by the Hispanic Affairs Office
- 3) Update on Goodwill Project and community response in Little Saigon, attended a meeting by the New Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce
- 4) Developers of the Goodwill Project have agreed in principals to certain mix-usage of the site.

Commissioner Fel Abille

- 5) Involvement in the development of a Filipino community center in Kitsap County
- 6) Attended community celebration of Filipino high school students

Commissioner Bee Cha

- 1) Attended Asian Pacific Islander festival at Bellevue Community College
- 2) Traveled to Spokane, Washington to speak on issues regarding Hmong farmers in the state
- 3) Concluded interviewing victims and witnesses in the grave destruction of Hmong grave sites near the former refugee camp at Wat Tham Krabok

Commissioner Rey Pascua

- 1) 350 undocumented individuals from Guatemala were deported after being arrested at a meat-packing plant in Wisconsin and were deported
- 2) Az. Gov. Napolitano signed House Bill 2779, The Legal Arizona Worker Act, which imposes much harsher penalties against employers that hire on undocumented workers.
- 3) An undocumented woman from the Yakima Valley was arrested after being lured into a immigration lottery, and was detained in the detention facility in Tacoma, has been ordered to return back to the Philippines within 30 days of release
- 4) There will be workshop conducted in July to provide an overview of rights to undocumented workers
- 5) Attended Filipino Veterans event in Walla Walla

Commissioner Tanya Tran

- 1) Would like to request a meeting in regards to the closure of several social service agencies with the Vietnamese Community

Commissioner Ron Chow

- 1) Illegal immigrants are afraid to leave Orcas Island due to ID verification checks by the Border Patrol on State ferries.
- 2) Attended the Wing Luke Museum Grand Opening and the API Employee Group event at Microsoft – Redmond Campus
- 3) Raised money and delivered supplies to regions affected by the earthquakes in Central China.

## COMMUNITY FORUM

### GUEST:

#### 1.) United States Census 2010

**Francesca Ty Abellera – Partnership Specialist**

[www.census.gov/2010census](http://www.census.gov/2010census)

Distribution of U.S. Census 2010 information packet and Seattle Regional Census Center

Presentation on the three main values of the Census

1. \$300 billion in Federal grants are annually rewarded to states and communities based heavily upon Census data.
2. Census data guides local decision-makers and leadership in community planning efforts.
3. Census data will affect representation in Congress via the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Preparation of the 2010 Census

1. The 2010 Census short-form Questionnaire will contain (7) seven questions (name, relationship, gender, race, age, date of birth, and whether the respondent owns or rents his or her home)
2. The 2008 Dress Rehearsal for the 2010 Census is currently underway, as residents begun receiving questionnaires around April 14, 2008
3. The Census does not release or share information that identifies individual respondents or households for 72 years

## **2.) O.M.W.B.E**

### **Cathy Canorro – Manager (Agency Support and Supplier Diversity)**

Special Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides vouchers for food products

- o Program mission is to improve the lifelong health and nutrition of women, infants, and children in Washington State.
- o Enrollment of retailers into the WIC Program is based upon the following criteria.

Program Needs - Retailers are selected to provide reasonable access to at least the minimum quantities and variety of WIC approved foods as specified in the WIC Approved Foods – Minimum Stock Levels,

Check Volume - Retailers re-applying must take in at least 40 checks per month.

The WIC program requires certification by OMWBE, and would provide benefits to both the API community and local minority-owned businesses.

OMWBE is also increasing efforts with the State's Park and Recreation Department to solicit contract bids from small minority-owned firms on a variety of projects

## **3.) Voter Registration – Department of the Secretary of State**

### **Andreas Udbye – Contractor for the Elections Division**

The election division would like to construct a roadmap of community agencies and groups in the API community, to better identify channels in which to provide outreach services for voter's registration.

\* Please note that as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, Mr. Udbye is no longer with the Department of the Secretary of State

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1) There will be a board vacancy after Commissioner Tony Lee's term has expired – Nomination Committee and the greater board will solicit resumes and applications for the position.
  - o Nominations Committee
    - Discussion of two potential candidates
      - 1) Aaron Owada – Olympia/Tacoma
      - 2) Kelly Dang – Seattle (King County)
- 2) Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month: CAPAA received a considerable amount of request by various school districts in Washington to provide presentations during Asian-Pacific American Heritage month. Due to limited resources, the new 2008 APA heritage posters were sent out to the K-12 school system for distribution.
- 3) Bylaws are in need of both updates and modifications, the Executive Committee will convene together to review the bylaws and provide recommendations to the rest of the board.
- 4) The next CAPAA board meeting will be held on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Washington State University Campus. Commissioner Chow will follow up with the administrators of WSU to coordinate details.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:23 PM**

**MEETING MINUTES BY PHILLIP SIT**