



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

Lynnwood City Hall
19100 44th Ave W, Lynnwood, WA 98036
March 18, 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 10:04 AM.

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Absent: Roslyn Leon Guerrero, Lynette Finau, Ka`imi Sinclair

Staff: Executive Director, Michael Itti

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made at 10:05 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 JANUARY 21, 2017 MINUTES

Motion was made at 10:06 AM by Vice Chair Dickinson to approve the January 21, 2017 meeting minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Gaur. With no further changes, the minutes were unanimously approved.

POLICY MANUAL UPDATES

Commissioners deferred adding a definition for “business telephone calls” to June. Commissioner Dickinson explained the “project proposal rules – internal” policy to the board. Chair Tufono explained that a subcommittee worked on the proposal with members of the Executive Committee.

Motion was made at 10:24 AM by Commissioner Dinh to approve the “project proposal rules – internal” as amended and seconded by Commissioner Pen. The motion was approved unanimously.

SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS

Vice Chair Dickinson briefed the board on the sponsorship request from the Cambodian American Community Council of Washington. The Executive Board recommends fulfilling the sponsorship with the remaining balance allowable this fiscal year, which is \$230.32.

Several Commissioners asked questions about the purpose of the event being sponsored. Commissioner Vue discussed how the Council efforts are aligned with our strategic goals to close opportunity gaps.

Commissioners requested that staff provide more detail in the one page summary regarding the sponsorship request. Commissioners requested the Council to encourage their event participants to join CAPAA's email newsletter.

Commissioner Dinh suggested creating a pin to recognize graduating API graduates. The Education Committee plans to explore this project.

Motion was made at 10:46 AM by Commissioner Dinh and seconded by Commissioner Pen. The motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioners requested staff to specify in the letter:

- Add participant emails to CAPAA listserv
- Explain that CAPAA is unable to provide the full sponsorship request, however, it is providing the maximum amount allowable per Commission policy for the fiscal year
- Invite the students to share their story at a CAPAA meeting about their goals
- Unused funds must be returned to CAPAA

CAPAA SPECIAL MEETING DISCUSSION

Staff explained the proposed objectives for the May 6 all-day retreat and that Bach Mai Dolly Nguyen was selected by the Executive Board to facilitate the meeting. Commissioners have the opportunity to speak with Ms. Nguyen prior to the retreat to further shape the agenda and goals/objectives for the meeting.

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.

Commissioners expressed the following regarding the report:

- Commissioner Dinh expressed interest in joining the Interagency Workgroup on Youth Homelessness and requested to learn more about the methodology used for a Disparity Study.
- Commissioner Gurung inquired about what size of business should get certified with OMWBE.
- Commissioner Wada would like to encourage DES and OMWBE coordinate their message around certification and doing business with the state.
- The Economic Development Committee plans to draft a letter to address concerns regarding doing business with the state and better supporting small businesses.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Noah Quitugua expressed concern about federal policy changes and how it would affect Pacific Islanders, particularly COFA Islanders.

Hing Potter works at Edmonds Community College in the admissions and outreach office. He has worked in higher education for seven years. The college is aiming to increase access for underrepresented populations and looking to create scholarship opportunities for under-served students. He is also working

to reach out to communities in rural areas. Mr. Potter encouraged CAPAA to support higher education access. Chair Tufono encouraged Commissioner Vue to reach out to Mr. Potter regarding higher education issues.

Tracey Drum represented Washington BATS, a newly formed national organization that advocates for student driven policies and systems that are equitably funded to meet the needs of the students and schools and more. Ms. Drum is a middle school teacher and is working to address inequities. A national conference is coming up in July in Seattle.

Joseph Lachman raised concerns about a professor at Columbia Basin College who gave a lecture and wrote an op-ed that incarcerating Japanese Americans, by the signing of Executive Order 9066, was not motivated by racism and prejudice. Mr. Lachman has been working with JAACL Civil Rights Committee to respond, including attending a Columbia Basin Badger Club meeting to address this issue. Mr. Lachman is also active with CAIR and reported that hate incidents and crimes are the highest since the 9/11 attacks. Mr. Lachman is seeking resources and ways to increase education about API history and experiences. Vice Chair Dickinson expressed concern about the rationalization of EO 9066. Regarding the teaching of API history, Commissioner Dinh mentioned other API communities would also like the education system to reflect their experiences related to social justice and civil rights. Mr. Lachman requested CAPAA reach out to API legislators. Commissioner Vue would like to work with Mr. Lachman to send a letter to the community college.

DIALOGUE ON IMMIGRANTS & INCLUSIVENESS

Director Itti provided a brief summary of the Governor's Executive Order 17-01: Reaffirming Washington's Commitment to Tolerance, Diversity, and Inclusiveness.

Marissa Vichayapai, Programs Director for 21 Progress, presented to the Commission about policies that impact undocumented APIs and ways to support them.

Ms. Vichayapai said that API communities have many diverse immigration stories and also share commonality among those experiences. In our immigration system, not all pathways lead to the same opportunities in terms of changing legal status. Wait times to receive family visas can take many, many decades. Nationally, there's an estimated 11.5 million undocumented individuals, of which, 1.3 million are APIs. APIs make up 26% of our state's undocumented population. Breakdown of undocumented status by each country. 700,000 people have been approved for DACA. Only 4.6% of DACA are APIs. Language barriers, awareness of the program, and stigma are some of the reasons why APIs have not applied for DACA.

21 Progress continues to encourage DACA recipients to renew their DACA status, however, people who are eligible, but without DACA, should not apply. 21 Progress is concerned about an increase in scams in the community regarding deportation insurance.

Lalita Uppala, Director of the India Association of Western Washington's Community Program, presented about IAWW's Hate Crime Info Session.

IAWW has received increase reports of concerns regarding hate crimes and hate incidents. Students in school have experienced an increase in bullying and name calling about their skin color. Community members have been the target of racially offensive terms when driving around from other motorists. IAWW has developed a model Hate Crime Info Session format that includes prosecutors, police, and school staff to educate the community about ways to address hate incidents and crimes and harassment. IAWW is working to ensure the community supports people of Islamic faith and join in standing up

together against hate crimes. IAWW invites CAPAA to the upcoming session on Sunday and partner to bring the workshop to other communities.

2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Rep. Cindy Ryu of the 32nd legislative district chairs the Members of Color Caucus in the Legislature. She provided an update on legislation that is moving through the session related to communities of color, including HB 1529 regarding use of deadly force and HB 1291 related to Pacific Islander health equity and answered questions relating to HB 1570 and HB 1445.

Commissioner Wada inquired about affordable housing set-asides to help underserved communities, particularly APIs.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES, WORK GROUP & TASK FORCE UPDATES

Commissioner Wada, who represents CAPAA on the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities, provided an update about the Council's work.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dickinson at 2:02 PM to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Pen. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 PM.

Minutes prepared by Michael Itti.