



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
Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Washington
1414 S Weller St, Seattle, WA 98144
November 19, 2016

Regular Business

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and introductions were given. Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Ty Tufono, Lisa Dickinson, Zer Vue, Lakshmi Gaur, Mohan Gurung, Lynette Finau, Lori Wada, Nam Nguyen, Tam Dinh, Ka`imi Sinclair

Commissioners Absent: Roslyn Leon Guerrero, Darren Pen

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made at 10:05 a.m. by Commissioner Dickinson to approve the agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Wada. With no further changes, the agenda was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 MINUTES

Motion was made at 10:06 a.m. by Commissioner Dickinson to approve the September 17, 2016 meeting minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Vue. With no further changes, the minutes were unanimously approved.

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 here: <http://capaa.wa.gov/executive-directors-report-for-november-19-2016/>.

ETHNIC BUSINESS COALITION

Taylor Hoang, Executive Director, Ethnic Business Coalition

Background of EBC:

- The Ethnic Business Coalition was founded in 2014 in response to changes that would impact small, minority-owned businesses
- Members of EBC are committed to the development, promotion, long-term growth, sustainability, and success of immigrant and POC-owned small businesses in WA

- Areas the EBC currently serves:
 - Chinatown International District
 - Central district
 - Southeast Seattle
 - West Seattle: White Center junction

Current Programs:

- Multimedia support: www.EthnicSeattle.com, social media platform
- Helping businesses build a digital footprint
 - Directory of small businesses
 - Free website development for businesses in the directory
- Tenant improvements – provide small grants for businesses
- Marketing campaigns
 - Holiday shopping campaigns – “Shop local, shop ethnic”
 - www.shopsmallseattle.com
 - International food tours
- Policy and legislative advocacy

2017 Programs:

- SMS text messaging outreach
 - Send targeted text messages to business owners based on language, type of business, geographical location
 - Give updates about issues that could impact their business
- Micro-financing & financial literacy assistance
- Direct business growth and development

Q&A

Question: Are you connected to the Department of Commerce?

Answer: The EBC has not worked with the department yet. The EBC is looking to expand their resources and partners in the future.

Question: Do you work with OMWBE to get businesses certified?

Answer: The EBC works with OMWBE and the Port of Seattle to increase minority businesses utilization.

Question: What qualifies as a small business?

Answer: The EBC works with minority or ethnic owned business.

Question: Do you only support businesses in Seattle?

Answer: The EBC is currently focused on businesses in Seattle because funding is from the City of Seattle. The EBC is hoping to expand their focus beyond Seattle with additional resources.

UPRISE REPORT BACK

Pulemau Savusa, Director, Our Future Matters

Background:

- Both summits in King and Pierce County brought in close to 600 students, faculty, and community members
- UPRISE was created so that PI students had a safe space to learn and inspire each other to reach their goals

Youth experiences:

- One youth participated in three summits and came back the third year as a workshop facilitator
- UPRISE helped inspire her to continue on to higher education and become a teacher
- Another youth stated that UPRISE made him feel at home because he was surrounded by other students who looked like him and understood his culture

Call to action:

- Addressing chronic absenteeism – affects Pacific Islanders because they have the 2nd highest rate of chronic absenteeism
- At UPRISE King County, students had group discussions to address barriers and brainstorm ways to encourage students to attend school regularly

UNITE REPORT BACK

2nd Vice Chair Zer Vue, Ekkarath Sisavatdy, Angela Aphayvanh, Sam Le

Background of the Southeast Asian Education Coalition (SEAE D)

- Mission: To recognize individuals who embrace their ethnic pride and identity as Southeast Asian American and Asian American students; to promote meaning that life is a mission for the greater good in their communities and encourage educational advancement to cultivate and empower individuals to reach their potential.

SEAE D Fellowship Program

- Provide mentors in different fields and support students in leadership and empowerment

UNITE Summit Workshops

- Mental health and wellness
- Career development
- College access and affordability/funding opportunities
- Parent and community engagement

CAMBODIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF WASHINGTON

Pakun Sun, Co-Chair, Cambodian American Community Council of Washington

William Oung, Co-Chair, Cambodian American Community Council of Washington

Background:

- Across Washington, there's about 22,000 Cambodians – most of the community is located in the Puget Sound region

- Currently working with about 14 different organizations to create space for cross-cultural collaboration

Programs:

- Organized “40 Years After the Killing Fields” to commemorate survivors of the Khmer Rouge
- CACCW hosts educational programs for parents about the importance of communicating with their children and teaching the culture
- Goal: Create a Cambodian community center

PUBLIC COMMENT

Margaret Fisher, Civic Learning Initiative

- Background: The Initiative is focused on teaching youth about their rights and responsibilities and how to engage with government
- The goal is to give every child in K-12 the tools to be informed, engaged, and active citizens
- Prioritizing youth of color, refugees, immigrants, at-risk students, rural youth
- Hosting two Summits – January 2017 (requesting API representative for panel) and Spring 2018
- Request: Create partnership with API communities to reach students and review curriculum

Sam Le, Director, Asian Student Commission

- ASC is launching a campaign called “Gang of Four: Seattle’s Living Legacies” that focuses on educating the UW campus about the legacy and impacts of the Gang of Four
- The campaign is sponsored by multiple student commissions and student organizations that will host seven activities throughout the winter and spring
- Request: fiscal support for events, collaboration, facilitators for events and programs, reviewing event content, and outreach and promotion

HMONG ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON

Jaylie Xiong, President, Hmong Association of Washington

Kabao Xiong, Vice President, Hmong Association of Washington

Background:

- Mission: To preserve and promote the culture of the Hmong people; to provide and give access to community resources for the Hmong community; advocate for the Hmong people; and to facilitate discussions to better serve the Hmong community.

Programs:

- Partnership with the Burke Museum to provide information about Hmong artifacts
- Hmong New Year – happens annually during early November in partnership with Seattle Festal
- Education scholarship – HAW provides \$1000 scholarship for college and graduate students
- Access to higher education:
 - Hosted College Night – educated students and parents about the application process for higher education and resources for financial aid
 - Took 40 Hmong youth on a college tour
- SPIRAL Program

- Youth-to-youth outreach
- Uses music and entertainment as an outreach tool for youth and students
- Annual summer camp – HAW takes 30 to 40 youth camping where they learn how to embrace their culture, traditions, and identity

Engaging with CAPAA:

- Connecting with state agencies and resources
- More visibility of Hmong community
- Partnership with other API organizations in WA
- Support the SPIRAL program and connect youth leaders with other SEA or PI youth groups

2017 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Economic Development

- Establish clearinghouse for state RFP opportunities
- Improve collaboration with OMWBE and other ethnic commissions

Education

- Support programs and policies that promotes cultural preservation in school curriculum
- Improve data collection for AAPI students in the education system and encourage reporting of disaggregated data when possible – work with members of the Race and Ethnicity Student Data Task Force
- Education Committee project: Supporting OSPI’s work on the data disaggregation grant

Health and Human Services

- Advocate for culturally competent mental health services and training for health professionals and educators
- Support programs and policies that addresses the high rate of diabetes among API communities
- HHS Committee project: Host three community conversations on mental health during 2017

POLICY MANUAL UPDATES

Chair Tufono made a motion to create a Policy Review Committee and nominates Commissioner Nguyen and Commissioner Gaur to serve on the Committee along with members of the Executive Committee. Commissioner Wada seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- CAPAA Legislative Internship: Deadline for students to apply is December 16, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Gaur to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Wada with no further discussion and unanimous approval. The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 PM.

Minutes prepared by Brianne Ramos.