



Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, September 21, 2024 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Filipino America Association Of Kitsap County
1240 Sheridan Road
Bremerton, WA

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Quorum reached at 9:58 AM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Faitalia at 10:06 AM.

Present: Chair Lydia Faitalia, 1st Vice Chair Lalita Uppala, 2nd Vice Chair Kendall Kosai, Cmmr. Carrie Huie, Cmmr. Scott Lehrman, Cmmr. Anna Lising, Cmmr. Ping Ping, Cmmr. Ekkarath Sisavatdy, Cmmr. Kiana McKenna, and Cmmr. David Phongsas

Absent: Cmmr. Sam Cho

Staff: Executive Director Nam Nguyen, Project Manager Negheen Kamkar and Project Coordinator Brenda O'Brien

II. Welcoming Remarks

Welcoming remarks were provided by **Virgil Valdez**, Vice President of the Filipino American Association of Kitsap County.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: 2nd VC Kosai

Seconded by: Cmmr. Lising

No abstentions or objections. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A correction was submitted by Cmmr. Ping. In the "Commissioner Updates" section during her update in the third paragraph, *Taichaun* should be spelled *Taishan*.

Motion to approve with edits: Cmmr. Lehrman

Seconded by: 2nd VC Kosai

No abstentions or objections. Motion carried unanimously.



CAPAA

Washington State Commission
on Asian Pacific American Affairs

V. Staff Report

ED Nguyen gave a verbal overview of the Staff Report at 10:22 AM. Full report can be accessed below.



September 2024
Staff Report.pdf

V. Public Comment

Carl Jakobsson – Board member of the Filipino American Association of Kitsap County: The Filipino American Association of Kitsap County will be hosting a potluck celebrating Indigenous People’s Day, Filipino American Heritage Month, and the birthday of the US Navy on October 14th. The event will start at 10:00 AM and everyone is invited. Full details of event can be accessed below.



FAHIPDNBFLR24.pdf

Maria Manalac – On October 17th FANHS-GPS has partnered with the Washington State History Museum to host Laban, celebrating Filipino American History Month. Full details of event can be accessed below.



Laban.pdf

VI. Elections

Executive Committee

Chair: Cmmr. Kosai nominated Cmmr. Faitalia to chair for another term. It was seconded by Cmmr. Lehrman. The nomination was accepted by Cmmr. Faitalia and there were no other nominations. *Motion carried unanimously with no abstentions or objections.*

1st Vice Chair: Cmmr. Sisavatdy nominated Cmmr, Uppala for another term. The nomination was accepted by Cmmr. Uppala and there were no other nominations. *Motion carried unanimously with no abstentions or objections.*



2nd Vice Chair: Cmmr. Uppala nominated Cmmr. Kosai for another term. The nomination was accepted by Cmmr. Kosai and there were no other nominations. *Motion carried unanimously with no abstentions or objections.*

Civil Rights & Immigration Committee (Ad Hoc)

- Cmmrs. McKenna, Kosai, and Lising volunteered to serve for the 2024-2025 year.
- Cmmr. Kosai nominated Cmmr. McKenna to serve another term as Chair of the committee.
- Cmmr. McKenna accepted the nomination.
- There were no other nominations.

Economic Development Committee

- Cmmrs. Sisavatdy, Phongsa, Uppala, and Cho volunteered to serve for the 2024-2025 year.
- Cmmr. Sisavatdy nominated Cmmr. Phongsa to serve another term as Chair of the committee, and there were no other nominations.
- Cmmr. Phongsa accepted the nomination.

Education Committee

- Cmmrs. Lehrman, Huie, Ping, and Sisavatdy volunteered to serve for the 2024-2025 year.
- Cmmrs. Lehrman and Ping nominated Cmmr. Sisavatdy to serve another term as Chair of the committee, and there were no other nominations.
- Cmmr. Sisavatdy accepted the nomination.

Health & Human Services Committee

- Cmmrs. Huie, Lehrman, McKenna, Ping, and Uppala volunteered to serve for the 2024-2025 year.
- Cmmrs. Lehrman and Faitalia nominated Cmmr. Huie to serve another term as Chair for the committee, and there were no other nominations.
- Cmmr. Huie accepted the nomination.

Legislative Committee (Ad Hoc)

- Cmmrs. Kosai, Lising, Sisavatdy, and McKenna
- Cmmr. Sisavatdy nominated Cmmr. Lising to serve as Chair for the committee, and there were no other nominations.
- Cmmr. Lising accepted the nomination.

VII. AA & NHPI Education Disparities Update

ED Nguyen provided an update of the disparity studies being conducted by the University of Washington research teams that CAPAA hired. There are two separate studies being completed by two different UW teams that focus on the AA community and NHPI community respectively. The preliminary report will be given by the end of the year, with the final report expected by May.



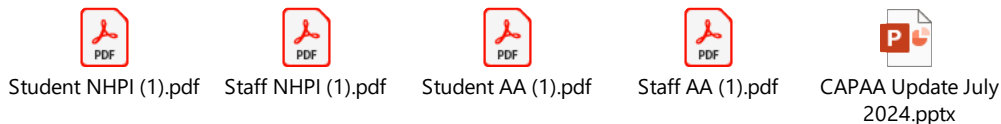
The research teams have provided some initial updates on what they've been finding during our Educational Committee meetings. One of the issues they have flagged is how mental health is an issue amongst many AA & NHPI communities. They have recommended that CAPAA start preparing for how to best present the report to various groups once the studies have been completed.

They are also finding how any disparities are not just affected the area of education, but to other areas such as the Department of Health and would love to see the studies extend beyond just education into the realm of health. We will be discussing whether this is something we should pursue once the report is completed.

Staff has approached the Dept. of Health to see what data they might already have, and there is also an ongoing discussion on standardizing data collection within the state. We are working with the Office of Equity and the Environmental Justice Council to address this standardization during the next legislative session.

Cmmr. Sisavatty provided some additional background of the studies. The last one was completed in 2008, with an update being completed in 2015. The research teams are now in stage 2 of their research and are conducting qualitative interviews. Please encourage students and staff members in your networks to register for these four interview surveys. It is so important for them to hear from our community members.

Survey registrations and last update by the research teams can be accessed below.



VIII. AA & NHPI Small Business Listening Forum

Cmmr. Phongsa shared a summary on how the listening session for small businesses on the eastern side of the state went. There were about 10 to 15 people who were present for the virtual forum. Bao-Tram, owner of Emerald City Florals was a guest speaker, along with OMWBE, and representatives of the Department of Commerce.

It proved more challenging than expected to get business owners on the East side to sign up and participate. There seemed to be a hesitancy to take part, so perhaps in the future we may want to market it differently. Rather than call it a listening forum, we may want to present it as the resources that are available to them to help them succeed.

Those that were present were grateful to learn about the resources that existed for them, so overall I consider the session a success. I hope to host another one next year with the goal of having more eastern Washington small businesses take part.



Both **Cmmrs. Huie and Uppala** agreed with marketing a future listening forum differently. We can also include information to these business owners on getting certified with OMWBE, so that they have access to government contracts and more opportunities for their small businesses.

Cmmr. Ping suggested that perhaps having the forum at a different time other than summer could help, as that it a busy time for small grocers. She also learned that changing the date proved to be an obstacle for the business owners she talked to. They were planning on attending the first date but were not available for the date it was changed to.

IX. Lunch

The Commission broke for lunch at 11:15 AM and reconvened at 11:45 PM for the Commission Retreat.

X. Retreat

The Commission started the retreat with an icebreaker.

XI. Proclamation and Appearance Requests

PM Kamkar provided a summary of requesting proclamations, ceremonial letters, or greetings from the Governor's office. Requests should be sent to ED Nguyen at least two months in advance with all the details of the event (name, date, and type of request).

If you know of events that occur annually, let CAPAA know as early as possible in the fiscal year, so that we can keep track of those ahead of time.

Action Item: Cmmr. Huie requested an instructional document that outlines the procedure to follow for proclamations.

XII. New Meeting Format

ED Nguyen proposed a new meeting format to accommodate busy schedules and be more in alignment with how other small commissions are choosing to meet. Instead of requiring that our five Public Board meetings all be in person, he would like to suggest three meetings be in-person, and two meetings be held virtually.

Discussion was also held about possibly changing some of the meeting months. More specifically, June might be a good month to either meet virtually or to change to another month, as that is when schools let out and many are traveling.



To encourage more community members to attend, we could offer a local hero award. This could be identified by the commissioners hosting the meeting.

XIV. What's in a Name? Short History of CAPAA

ED Nguyen gave a brief history of changes to our commission name since its inception in 1974. A preliminary discussion was started on whether the CAPAA name should be altered to more accurately represent and include all ethnicities in our AA & NHPI communities. Conversation will be ongoing.

XV. Commission Goals 2025

There are three areas of goals we should consider for this year: committee goals, individual commissioner goals, and staff goals. For this retreat, we will focus on staff goals. Please think about any goals individually you would like to focus on for 2024-2025. Committee goals can be discussed at the committee meetings.

What do you think staff can do better and what should staff focus on in the coming year? We welcome all ideas and feedback.

Cmmr. Lising suggested that staff meet with each commissioner briefly before each Board meeting to go over what will be discussed at the meeting and solicit feedback we would like to receive from them. This was a practice that other commissions she has served on carried out.

Cmmr. Lehrman appreciated having a more in-depth conversation at this retreat, and wondered if we could have more of these to help commissioners feel more empowered to carry out their roles. Perhaps we could structure future meetings similarly with the main business being carried out in the first hour or two, and the remaining time being spent having deeper conversations around issues, policies, etc. It might also be beneficial to receive small homework assignments that the commissioners are assigned to work on.

Chair Faitalia encouraged having commissioners bring bills they are working on or are interested in to the Commission. It could help alert community members attending about legislation pending that could affect their communities.

Cmmr. McKenna thought that sending a survey asking for staff feedback would be helpful. The other commissioners agreed.

XVI. Adjournment

The retreat and meeting were officially adjourned at 2:02 PM.