



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission

## COMMISSIONERS

### Chairperson

Kajal Chattopadhyay

### Vice Chairperson

Elisa Choi

### Treasurer

Sophy Theam\*

### Secretary

Nick Chau

Kenneth An

Joel Buenaventura

Yan Jennifer Cao

Chun-Fai Chan

Chris Chanyasukit\*

Tony Dang

Kay Dong

Gilbert Ho

Mabel Lam

WingKay Leung

Lydia Schroter

Evelyn Tang

Karen Tseng

Larry Wong

Bora Chiemruom

### Executive Director

One Ashburton Place

12th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

[www.aacommission.org](http://www.aacommission.org)

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 4:30pm  
JFK, 15 New Sudbury Street, Room 475

Absent Commissioners are highlighted on left.  
Remote Participants are indicated by an asterisk\*.  
Quorum was reached by attendance.

1. Accepted 3/11/2015 meeting minutes
  - Corrections are to be made. Kay motioned to accept minutes, seconded by Ken. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
2. Application process closed.
  - We received nine (9) applications of qualified candidates
  - We will follow-up with the appointing authorities
  - We need to fill from the following authorities: Senate President (2), House Speaker (2), and Governor (1)
  - Tony suggested to reach out to those that will not be appointed to the Commission to be added to Advisory Committee
  - We will send a standard "thank you" letter to all the candidates for their interests in the Commission and for applying.
  - Tony requested resumes and application for all new Commissioners applicant
3. We had a discussion on new language for the by-laws
  - Reviewed how that effect the current six years
  - Voted to accept the new language, all in favor
4. Tony gave an update on Unity Dinner (UD) status
  - Tony proposed a deadline for dinner theme, and asked Commissioners to send him theme's idea
  - Tony requested making UD volunteers/interns official, having the capacity to assist with the subcommittee
  - We discussed the implications of making Unity Dinner interns official
  - We will research further what are our responsibilities, liabilities, implications of having an official AAC intern as a state agency
5. Subcommittee updates  
Young Leaders Symposium"
  - ChunFai confirmed YLS – September 24<sup>th</sup> at UMB, Ryan Lounge 3pm to 8pm with breakout sessions, and continue speed mentoring
  - ChunFai spoke with Chicken and Rice Guys, Ian So, as possible sponsor and speaker

### Healthcare Subcommittee:

- Elisa reported that we have made connection with Lowell and Lexington, and will be focusing on various health and mental health disparities
- Discussion of collaboration and partnership are under way with these communities

### Economic/Financial Literacy:

- Gilbert reported that we are working with East West Bank to have two



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission

## COMMISSIONERS

### Chairperson

Kajal Chattopadhyay

### Vice Chairperson

Elisa Choi

### Treasurer

Sophy Theam\*

### Secretary

Nick Chau

Kenneth An  
Joel Buenaventura  
Yan Jennifer Cao  
Chun-Fai Chan  
Chris Chanyasulkit\*  
Tony Dang  
Kay Dong  
Gilbert Ho  
Mabel Lam  
WingKay Leung  
Lydia Schroter  
Evelyn Tang  
Karen Tseng  
Larry Wong

Bora Chiemruom  
**Executive Director**

One Ashburton Place  
12th Floor  
Boston, MA 02108  
[www.aacommission.org](http://www.aacommission.org)

workshops

- Hoping to work with Vietnamese community in Dorchester

**OLD business:** Discussion of Ms. Pearl J. Park's requests for sponsorship:

- Discussion of, what is the gain? And what do we get out of the sponsorship
- At this point we do not have policy in place to grant the request
- Elisa will share the Commission's decision with Ms. Park
- Tony offered to reach out to Ms. Pearl and connect her with Vietnamese community to help with her request.

We moved Contribution Procedures to next meeting

### New Business

-WHA-API - White House Summit, May, 12, 2015: A couple of Commissioners will be representing AAC at the Summit.

-WHA-API - Federal Emphasis on Asian American, May 27<sup>th</sup>

- Nam Pham, Massachusetts Assistant Secretary of Business Development will be the keynote speaker.
- Panel Discussion with Kajal, Elisa and Bora.
- Commissioners and community members are invited
- Location will be JFK Building Room 900B, 11:45 am to 1:00pm

-White House AAPI Grant Writing Workshop – June 12, 2015:

- Ken passed out the flyer for event.
- Commissioners are encouraged to invite two people from community by end of April, then we will open to general public
- Content will target individuals in organization or groups who engage in direct management of, writing of, or relationship building to secure federal grants

-Elisa disclosed that she is receiving a Policy Award from the Asian for Women Health

- Appropriate COI guidelines were followed, in receiving the award
- We are reminded the importance of all Commissioners paying attention to potential COI in any circumstances where their role as Commissioners are involved
- This includes the need to file appropriate disclosure forms with their appointing officers in a timely fashion.

6. Next Commission meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 2015, will still be at JFK Building Room 475

7. Meeting adjourned