



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission

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Anil Saigal
*Sophy Theam
Evelyn Tang

Bora Chiemruom
Executive Director
Guest: Minica Long

One Ashburton Place
12th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
www.aacommission.org

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 4:30pm
McCormack Building, One Ashburton Place, 12th floor

Absent Commissioners are highlighted and remote participants are indicated by an asterisk*. Quorum was reached by attendance.

Item #1: Previous minutes from March 2017 was accepted

Item #2: Executive Director Report - Bora

- We are saying goodbye to Chris Chanyasulkit, who is ending her term as Commissioner
- Update on Unity Dinner: we have so far reached \$31,000 in sponsorship!
 - For the first time, Eastern Bank is sponsoring \$10,000

Item #3: Executive Committee Report - Elisa

- Please refer to the written executive committee report
- There are also a few new sponsorship requests for the following events:
 - Khmer New Year Celebration in Lowell and Lynn
 - Chinatown Main Street Festival (Nick Chau and Gilbert Ho recused themselves)
 - Massachusetts Asian American Mental Health Forum
 - Company One production of "peerless" (Elisa Choi recused herself)

Item #4: Introduction of new Commissioners: Walter Kim and Chung Liu

Item #5: 2017 Unity Dinner

- Sponsorship: we are currently at \$31,000 raised from sponsors
- Direct ask at the event
 - The group unanimously decided that there should be direct asks of donations at the dinner
 - This can be done through envelopes placed at the event for guests to donate at their will
- Comping of VIPs
 - Extensive discussion of whether VIPs should have their tickets compensated
 - Agreed that VIPs such as mayors, international consul generals and dignitaries should have their tickets comped
- Other Discussion:
 - Should AAC charge groups that would like to have a table display?
 - Cultural display?

Item #6: APA Leadership Reception and Youth Summit (skipped)

Item #7: AAC HHS Community Advisory Group Meeting



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- Elisa report out about meeting group
- We are hoping to secure a AAC Advocacy Day at the State House

Item #8: Subcommittee updates

- Unity Dinner/Fundraiser (as above)
- PR/Legislation
 - Co-chairs Loan Dao and Evelyn Tang will meet to propose guidelines about public statements and research about political advocacy
- Finance/Admin
- Program - Health and Human Services
 - An advisory group was formed and met to have a roundtable discussion
 - Most prominent areas of concern was regarding opioid crisis in MA, mental health, and diabetes screening
- Program - Young Leaders Symposium
 - The next YLS will likely be in September or October
 - Co-chairs UyenSa and Nina will possibly hold monthly or biweekly meetings for planning of this event
 - We are considering three possible locations: Brookline Public Library, Bunker Hill Community College, or Tufts University
 - Sponsored by EEOC, budget of \$3000
- Program - Economic Development – partnering with Eastern Bank to celebrate small business month at Aloft hotel on May 16th

Item #9: Old Business

- Potential COI when representing AAC in public
 - Reminder that commissioners need to follow COI rules as it relates to representing AAC in public

Item #10: New Business

- Cultural Event: an idea proposed to have a Cultural Day at City Hall, celebrating each Asian community
 - This would allow for more visibility of AAPI communities
 - We will continue to discuss this and perhaps create a working group to plan this event

Item #11: Next Commission meeting: Wednesday May 17, 2017

Item #12: Other community updates and Meeting adjourned!