



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission

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Vice Chairperson
Mary K. Y. Lee

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Nina Liang
Dimple Rana
Philjay Solar
Ying Wang

Executive Director
Jenny Chiang

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

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 5, 2019 at 5:30pm to 7:00pm
Asian American Civic Association, 87 Tyler St, Boston, MA 02111

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

1. Approval of minutes from July 10, 2019 – **VOTE**
 - Chung motions, Philjay seconds – motion passed
2. Executive Committee Report (Pralhad, 10 mins)
 - Governor passed FY20 budget for AAC at \$150,000
 - Allows room for 2 full time, 1 part time, and our own office
 - Current budget would allow \$38,280 remaining in the fiscal year
 - AAC may be able to ask for \$200,000 budget next year
 - Proposal to establish a search committee for office space
 - Pralhad provided an overview of the Executive committee and staff reports
3. Annual Retreat Planning (Pralhad, 10 mins)
 - Proposal to invite Asian Caucus rather than have a facilitator
 - A survey was sent to the Commission on preferred date/venue
 - Pralhad spoke with Donald Wong to see if Kowloon restaurant is available
 - Anil proposed Bamboo restaurant in Bedford, MA
 - Vote to hold retreat on Sat, Sept. 14 at Bamboo restaurant
 - The restaurant opens at 11:30am
 - The EC will work on an agenda
 - Discussion to meet with the Asian Caucus annually
 - Jenny will invite the Asian Caucus
 - Last year's retreat was 5 hours (10am – 3pm)
 - Proposal to hold the retreat for 4 hours (11:30am – 3:30pm)
4. Western MA Coordinator (Pralhad, 10 mins)
 - A committee scored applicants to narrow down top candidates
 - Chung, Pralhad, and Jenny interviewed candidates today
 - Decision to hire Brooke Yuen
 - Discussion to see if we can contact an organization for office space. Chung has an office in Springfield that the Coordinator can use. Discussion to have Chung's space as an office space for AAC even if we have to use funds.
 - Proposal to have October meeting in Springfield
5. Asian Americans Got Talent Event (Mary L., 10 mins)
 - Mary L met with community relations person at MIT
 - Possible venue: Kresge Auditorium. AV will be provided
 - Possibly in June after graduation
 - MIT would like Asian students and organizations to get involved to help with marketing and website design
 - Discussion that there are less students in June who may want to participate



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- MIT can provide liability insurance. Discussion that AAC may want to have insurance as well in addition to MIT's.
- Follow up with solicitation for sponsorship
- MIT is very interested in hosting the event
- Those interested in joining the committee are asked to email Mary Lee
- Planning to meet with student organizations in the fall
- Jenny to send out email to solicit interest in joining the committee

6. Subcommittee updates (if any): max time 3 mins each

Unity Dinner/Fundraiser (Anil, Pralhad, & Vanna, Co-Chairs)

- Vanna was nominated as a Chair last meeting
- Discussion to start planning for the next dinner
- Discussion to consider UMass Lowell Inn and Conference Center and possibly Crowne Plaza again
- Vanna will be setting up a meeting soon. Those interested are welcome to join the committee

Legislation Committee (Nate, Chair)

- The Legislative committee is planning to meet with the Asian Caucus on Wednesday, August 7 to discuss the 2020 census

PR Committee (Mary L., Chair)

- Discussion to think about outreach strategies to help with marketing on Asian Americans Got Talent event
- Pralhad discussed updating the website to provide more information
- Jenny has updated the website to include resources for AAPI community and State agencies
- Pralhad discussed having newsletter feature updates on committees
- List organizations we supported on our website
- Jenny created a draft community grant application for 501(c)3 organizations to apply for AAC funds. Jenny will send the draft to the Commission.

Finance/Admin (Chung, Chair)

- Discussion to convene subcommittee to search for an office space
- Possible spaces include Malden, Everett, Quincy
- Mary Lee can review lease details
- Discussion to see if existing nonprofits are willing to sublease their space. Nate be able to connect us to various nonprofits.
- Parking will be required at the space

Health and Human Services (Mary C. & Vanna, Co-Chairs)

- Jonjy will continue on HHS committee
- Jenny to send out list of committees to Commissioners
- HHS is looking to have a panel discussion in Lowell with a focus on measles
- Inviting speakers from DPH, Greater Lawrence Health Center
- Venue: Lowell Community Health Center: February 20, 2020
- AAC will focus on advocacy and speakers will focus on the clinical education

Young Leaders Symposium (Nina, Chair)



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- Ratification of Philjay as Co-Chair
- Currently trying to secure location
- Possible venues:
 - o Boston University (Sept. 28)
 - o Pao Arts Center (Sept. 21)
- Proposal to see if BU could offer discounted parking

Economic Development (Mary C., Chair)

- Mary has been talking with Nate. Nate is reaching out to ACDC and GMAACC to see if there is interest in working on a forum about affordable housing in Malden

7. Old business

8. New Business

The EC will discuss attendance at AAC meetings

Jenny to reach out to Mabel to see if she plans to officially resign from AAC

Discussion on reaching out to appointing offices to fill vacancies

9. Next Commission meeting: Every first Monday, October 7, 2019

- Annual retreat in September will take place of September meeting

10. Other Community updates & Meeting adjourned

- Motion to adjourn the meeting – motion passed



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