



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission

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Bora Chiemruom

Executive Director

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Meeting Minutes

Saturday, December 5, 2015 at 9:00am

Asian American Civil Association, 5th floor

Absent Commissioners are highlighted on left.

Remote Participants are indicated by an asterisk*.

The Executive Director explained about the Executive Session to the Commission. Kajal motioned to move into Executive Session on the ground of purpose #1 (1. To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual. The individual to be discussed in such executive session shall be notified in writing by the public body at least 48 hours prior to the proposed executive session; provided, however, that notification may be waived upon written agreement of the parties.) to discuss complaints and status of the Commission, which may affect the character and reputation of one or more Commissioners. Karen 2nd the motion. The results of the motion carried by unanimous votes taken by roll call.

The Executive Session was facilitated by Mabel Lam. Tony recorded the session. Mabel outlined ground rules. We had a very lengthy discussion. Commissioners asked a lot of questions. Kajal presented the reasons for not transitioning to the new Executive Committee (EC) that was elected on February 25, 2015. He explained that there were extenuating circumstances for not transitioning. He gave a very detail timeline of the incidents. There was a potential litigation involved and the issue needed to be resolved before transition. He also mentioned that most of the elected EC requested that he stayed on for his legal guidance and support.

As the meeting progressed, we discussed weakness and strengths of the Commission: The following are recommendations:

- We need to have orientation for new Commissioners
- Be more transparent
- Have Standard Operating Procedures (Operating Manual)
- Hold Community Listening sessions
- Refine our thinking
- Develop better messaging and communications of our successes
- We need to have a Strategic Action Meeting

After a lengthy discussion, we all agreed to move forward. Karen suggested how to approach the current composition of EC:

Step 1 – Re-authorized the EC that was elected on February 25th

Step 2 – Dissolve elected EC and have a new election by January 2016

Wingkay motioned to vote of no confidence of the February elected Executive Committee and to schedule an election by January 2016. Evelyn 2nd the motion. The motion carried by 8 votes of yes and 2 votes of abstention. We will have the election at our next meeting on December 9th, 2016 at JFK. Bora will email out election procedures. Nominations can be submitted to Bora by email.

Gilbert motion to move current AAC website to the Treasurer's website where he will be able to manage. Elisa counter motioned to table discussion and move the motion to next meeting. We tabled the discussion on moving the AAC website to the Treasurer's website. We only covered item #1 on the agenda. Other remaining items will be added to next meeting's agenda.