



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission

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Evelyn Tang

Karen Tseng

Larry Wong

Bora Chiemruom

Executive Director

One Ashburton Place

12th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

www.aacommission.org

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 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.

- Accepted 1/13/2016 meeting minutes
- Corrections are to be made. Kay motioned to accept minutes, seconded by Liana. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Introduction of new commissioners: Vira Douangmany-Cage and Dr. John Naranja

- She is the Western Massachusetts coordinator for the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts. She also holds a seat on the Amherst School Committee.
- John is very active in the Filipino-American community, currently serving as an officer in the Philippine American Medical Association of New England, and is engaged in helping start up the Filipino American Law Association of Massachusetts.

Executive Director (ED) gave her monthly report:

- 1) Outreached efforts to legislators on the Ways and Means Committee to coordinate meetings for FY 2017 appropriation
- 2) Completed the necessary workbooks for the FY 2017 Ways and Means Maintenance form for the budget application
- 3) Secured Swearing-In Ceremony for February 26, 2016, at 2:30pm at the State House Room 227 (Treasurer's Office). A "snow day" was also scheduled for Wednesday March 9, 2016 at 1:30pm, for the same location.
- 4) Sent out invitations to appointing authorities and prepared press release
- 5) Supported in the confirmation of re-appointments and appointments
- 6) Secured Southeast Asian Resource Center in Worcester for a film screening and community listening event to engage with Hmong Community.
- 7) *Meetings and Events:*
 - Met with Sean Cuff – the Ways and Means Committee's Fiscal Analyst for AAC on January 22nd
 - Attended QARI Lunar New Year Celebration on January 30th
 - Attended Chinatown Main Street Gala on January 30th

Bora will share PowerPoint of "Cutting Through the Clutter: Communications Strategy"

Discussion of By-laws presented by Elisa at last month's meeting:

- Amendment to increase the cap amount that the Executive Committee (EC) would be empowered to approve up to \$500.
- Developing a finance policy for AAC, which Lydia volunteered to take the lead in drafting the policy.
- Wingkey motioned to approved amendment presented by Elisa, seconded by Jennifer and Gil. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Discussion of AAC FY 2016 budget: The current appropriation is \$50,000. As of February 2016, the remaining balance is \$7715.18, which must be spent by June 30, 2016.

The Executive Committee proposed to increase the ED's hours to 37.5 per week (state employee full time status).

- Wingkey and Elisa confirmed that the ED has been working more than 30 hours per week.



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- This increase comes with the understanding that it is in accordance with the state appropriation.
- The Executive Committee and the ED have been very busy planning an ambitious agenda of activities for the coming year, the increase will help to support the work.
- Wingkay motioned to increase the ED's hours to full time status of 37.5-hour work week. Seconded by Jennifer. Sophy abstained. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

For the sake of time, item #9 "Lending" AAC logo to other organizations for the purpose of partnership and collaboration (EC)" and Item #10 "Sponsorship Inquiries to AAC (EC)" were tabled to next month's meeting.

Subcommittee updates:

- Unity Dinner will be at Boston University on Friday, June 3, 2016.
- Sophy stated that although having our 10th anniversary celebration would have been glamorous at WGBH, the cost was going to be astronomical compared to BU, even with a 40% discount on their facilities fee.
- The theme will be "Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Pioneers"
- This is our special 10th anniversary celebration: the award working group will meet to discuss and implement a scholarship program

All other items have been tabled to next month's meeting.

Meeting adjourned!