



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, July 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 – Commissioners shared personal details and accomplishments from last year. New commissioners shared what they hoped to achieve next year.

Item 2: Quick appreciation and a big “THANK YOU” to outgoing AAC intern: Minica Long, she’s heading to southern California for medical school

Item #3: Accepted July minutes

Item #4: Subcommittee updates:

- Unity Dinner/Fundraiser – Nothing to report at this time
- PR/Legislation – Evelyn and Loan submitted AAC Legislative Positions 2017-2018
- Finance/Admin – Conference committee confirmed \$50,000 AAC appropriation for FY 2018, and Wingkay shared information on Carolyn Wong proposed study of gambling behavior in Chinatown with Chinese immigrants
- Health and Human Services – Nothing to report at this time
- Young Leaders Symposium – Submitted written report of upcoming YLS event on September 23 at VietAid
- Economic Development – Nothing to report at this time

Item #5: Executive Director Report -- Bora

- Focused on budget amendment for appropriation
- Represented AAC at Asian Festival 6/25
- Participated in Stakeholders Advisory Group meeting for Gambling Initiative with Commissioner Wingkay Leung 6/28
- Worked with Commissioner Sophy Theam to release 2nd edition of AAC Newsletter 6/30
- Represented AAC at Chinatown Main Street Festival 7/8
- Attended Hong Kong Day at the State House with Commissioners: Nick Chau, Kay Dong, Wingkay Leung, and Anil Saigal 7/11
- Wingkay, Loan and I had a meeting with Carolyn Wong @ UMASS Boston
- Prepped AAC summer retreat 7/12

Item #6 – ED Announcement – Conducted in Executive Session

Item #7 - Strategic Planning, Future Directions for the AAC

- We discussed that in 3-5 years we would like to be self-sustaining and have policies/standardization



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- We all agreed to complete the AAC Commissioner Skill Inventory that was generated at the beginning of this year. All Commissioners will fill out their skills so that we can train and support one another (i.e. public speaking, technology, etc)
- We discussed focusing even more on advocacy than events

Reviewed and report out of Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT):

- Strength – We have strong Executive Committee, ED, networking, diversity, and background of Commissioners
- Weakness – all volunteers, funding, branding, and Commissioner commitments/participation
- Opportunity – Leverage network, expertise, more commissioner participation, and more participation from State House
- Threat – appropriation: impede growth and not enough AAC branding

ACTION PLAN

- Commissioners in their perspective appointing authority group should have one or two meetings with their appointing authorities annually to update them of our activities
- Invite elected official to all our events and create “Elevator speech” or letter to elected officials
- Strength and weakness spreadsheet in the next two weeks
- Shared event calendar for Commissioner commitment

Item #8: Reminder of upcoming events: Resource Fair (RF)

- RF: Fall River Cambodian Cultural Festival on Saturday, August 5
- AAC and Asian Caucus hosting NACAPSL on Saturday, August 5 @ Kowloon Restaurant
- RF: Southeast Asian Water Festival in Lowell, MA on Saturday, August 19 @ Pawtucket Blvd
- Young Leaders Symposium on Saturday, September 23 @ VietAid
- AAC Advocacy Day at the State House on Tuesday, October 17 @ Great Hall
- 2nd AAPI Annual Civil Rights Forum on Friday, October 27 @ Federal Reserve Plaza