



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission

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*Lianna Kushi

*Mabel Lam

John Naranja

*Uyen-Sa Nguyen

Dimple J. Rana

Lydia Schroter

*Evelyn Tang

Karen Tseng

Guests: *Minica Long

*Bora Chiemruom
Executive Director

One Ashburton Place
12th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

www.aacommission.org

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at 4:30pm

McCormack Building, One Ashburton Place, 12th floor

Absent Commissioners are highlighted and remote participants are indicated by an asterisk*.

Item #1: Accept previous minutes

- Unable to accept minutes from October 12 meeting since quorum was not reached

Item #2: Executive Director (ED) Monthly Report – Bora

- Please refer to the written Executive Committee report submitted by Elisa Choi
- Bora met with Treasurer's office, Ms. Leanne Martin Fay along with Gilbert to support them with Economic Empowerment Series in Quincy
- Bora reported that Gilbert and Lianna have been re-appointed

Item #3: Written Executive Committee Report – Elisa

- Please refer to the written Executive Committee report submitted by Elisa Choi

Item #4: Commissioners Attendance, Expectations, and Responsibilities

- Discussed the importance of in-person participation by commissioners during monthly meetings in order to reach quorum, as well as emphasizing the importance of participation in subcommittees
- Refer to the 2016 Code of Conduct for commissioners

Item #5: Discussion of Commissioner appreciation event for former and current commissioners

- Discussion regarding the time and place of this party, with the conclusion that the party should be held during the January monthly meeting
- We will start to invite former commissioners as soon as possible
- We will also continue to discuss other planning, such as budget and possible gifts for commissioners who will be leaving

Item #6: Discussion of election for Executive Committee

- There are 4 positions to be filled for the Executive Committee: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary
- Encouraged current commissioners to run for these positions

Item #7: Commissioner Applications/Commissioner Re-appointment Update

- Lianna and Gil were re-appointed
- Karen and Chris's terms will be ending
- Lydia opt out of re-appointment and Tony did not submit application and resume for re-appointment

Item #8: Unity Dinner 2017 @ BU Friday, May 26th

- Vira will be the Chairperson for the Unity Dinner Planning Committee



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- Bora sent out the “Save the Date” and signed the contract with BU to reserve the space
- Discussion of the dinner theme or “tag line”, possibly considering “Beyond the Model Minority Myth” or “Celebrating Change Agents”. We will vote on theme ideas.
- Discussion of sponsors or corporate support for the event. We will look into past sponsors from 2-3 years prior.

Item #9: Subcommittee Updates:

- Unity Dinner/Fundraiser – (Vira, Chair)
- PR/Legislation – (Evelyn, Chair)
- Finance/Admin – (Wingkay, Chair)
- Program – Health and Human Services (Elisa, Chair)
- Program – Young Leaders Symposium (Chris, Chair)
- Program – Economic Development (Gilbert, Chair)

Item #10: Old Business

- Problem Gambling Initiatives: Please refer to the MassGaming meetings minutes

Item #11: New Business

Debrief and recap of the following events:

- Young Leaders Symposium – Saturday, October 15th
 - With fiscal support from Kenneth An, who mentioned that he liked the structure of the program without having break-out sessions
 - Will consider sending out evaluations to the attendees
- Asian American Civil Rights Forum – Friday, October 21st
 - Comment from Kay: excellent program, good networking opportunities; however, she found it difficult to choose which panel to attend
 - Comment from Elisa: it was difficult to attend on a weekday, and she suggested for a future forum to have the panels thematically linked. Also not much South East Asian representation?
- Boston Asian American Film Festival events 10/20 – 10/23 (and the post film festival screening of “14” at the Old South Meeting House)
 - Thought to be a “fantastic return on investment” since as a sponsor, the ACC had ad placement on screen before every film
- Asian Traditional Medicine at Lowell General Hospital – November 5th
 - Evaluations from the CEU’s: 4.5/5, and a specific comment from one attendee: “learned more today than grad school”
 - Consider ordering less food for future events?

Item #12: Next Commission meeting: Every second Wednesday, next meeting, December 14, 2016

Item #13: Other Community updates & Meeting adjourned