



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Asian American and Pacific Islanders Commission

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Danielle Kim

Mary KY Lee

Bethany Li

Marilyn Park

Jennifer Rubin

Philjay Solar

Executive Director

Yasmin Padamsee Forbes

One Ashburton Place

12th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

aapicommission.org

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2023, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83421971270>

*Please note that this meeting will be recorded

The meeting will be held via teleconference in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order on the Open Meeting Law and COVID-19.

Attachments:

- Draft meeting minutes: January 24, 2023
- Reports
- Bills (See zip file esp the four bills endorsed by the Commission last year)
- Regional Coordinator
- Comms and Policy Coordinator
- Budgets/Finance

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Gary Chu, Commissioner Richard Chu, Commissioner Ekta Saksena, Commissioner Saatvik Ahluwalia, Commissioner Danielle Kim, Commissioner Meena Bharath, Commissioner Amy Goh, Commissioner Nate Bae Kupel, Commissioner Philjay Solar, Commissioner Mary Chin, Commissioner Cinda Danh (11)

Staff Present: Executive Director Yasmin Padamsee Forbes, Communications & Outreach Manager Jennifer Best, Program & Research Director Esther Kim, Youth Coordinator Ashley Shan, Governance & Policy Coordinator Benjamin Wang, Development & Communications Coordinator Bonnie Chen, Health Coordinator Siale Teauapa

1. Call to Order

The meeting is called to order at 6:37pm.

2. Commissioners Check-in

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: 3 minutes

January 24, 2023 (VOTE)

VOTE: Commissioner Goh moves to approve the minutes. Commissioner Gary Chu seconds.

Yes: Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Ahluwalia, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Kupel, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner R. Chu

The motion passes unanimously.

Old Business:

4. EC Elections: Chair and Secretary (VOTE)

VOTE: Commissioner Bharath moves for Gary Chu to be the next Chair. Commissioner Kim seconds.

Yes: Commissioner Ahluwalia, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner



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Goh, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Kupel, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner R. Chu, Commissioner G. Chu

The motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner Mary Chin joins at 6:42pm.

VOTE: Commissioner Kim moves for Saatvik Ahluwalia to be the next Secretary.

Commissioner Bharath seconds.

Yes: Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Ahluwalia, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Kupel, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner R. Chu, Commissioner Chin

The motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner Cinda Danh joins at 6:44pm.

Commissioner Nate Bae Kupel leaves the meeting at 6:47pm.

5. Four bills endorsed by the Commission and resubmitted this session (VOTE)

VOTE: Commissioner Solar moves to vote in support of the Hate Crimes Bill 2023.

Commissioner Ahluwalia seconds.

Yes: Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner Ahluwalia, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Chin, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner R. Chu, Commissioner Danh

The motion passes unanimously.

VOTE: Commissioner Solar moves to vote in support of the Data Equity Bill 2023.

Commissioner Danh seconds.

Yes: Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner Ahluwalia, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Chin, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Danh, Commissioner R. Chu

The motion passes unanimously.

VOTE: Commissioner Solar moves to vote in support of the Care Bill 2023. Commissioner Kim seconds.

Yes: Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner Ahluwalia, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Chin, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Danh, Commissioner R. Chu

The motion passes unanimously.

VOTE: Commissioner Solar moves to vote in support of the Language Access Bill 2023.

Commissioner Goh seconds.

Yes: Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner Ahluwalia, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Chin, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Danh, Commissioner R. Chu

The motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner Ahluwalia leaves the meeting at 7:11pm.



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Old Business:

6. **Unity Dinner: Up to \$20,000 of appropriations for Unity Dinner costs. Money received via fundraising and ticket sales will be drawn down as received (VOTE)**

This item will go back to the sub-committee and Executive Committee to discuss alternatives. It was approved in previous Commission Meetings to use non-profit funds for the Unity Dinner.

7. **New Intern: Regional Coordinator JD, (Hannah Ku) and salary (VOTE)**

VOTE: Commissioner Bharath moves to approve the candidate for Regional Coordinator. Commissioner Kim seconds.

Yes: Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Chin, Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner Danh, Commissioner R. Chu

The motion passes unanimously.

8. **New Intern: Comms and Policy Coordinator JD (Dianne Li) and salary (VOTE)**

VOTE: Commissioner Bharath moves to approve the candidate for Comms and Policy Coordinator candidate. Commissioner Goh seconds.

Yes: Commissioner Bharath, Commissioner Chin, Commissioner G. Chu, Commissioner Saksena, Commissioner Goh, Commissioner Kim, Commissioner Danh, Commissioner Solar, Commissioner R. Chu

The motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner Chin leaves at 7:21pm

9. **Training for Youth Council \$2000**

Esther gives an overview of the workshop proposal for the Youth Council members.

Commissioners discuss that it is not required to vote on expenses that have already been budgeted for, such as the \$2,000 for Youth Council training, which is coming from the \$4,000 previously approved for Youth Council training in the most recently approved budget.

Commissioner Kim leaves at 7:28pm.

10. **Swearing-In Ceremony, February 22, 1:00 – 2:00 pm**

ED Forbes invites all Commissioners and their family and friends to join the Swearing-In Ceremony.

New Business:

11. **Speaker: Andrew Yang and Team proposed an Act concerning [Asian Pacific Islander Desi American History Education](#)**



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Andrew Yang gives context about APIDA and speaks about Bill HD 2671.

12. Introductions to New Commissioners

13. Strategic Planning Retreat March 5 at Hilton in Worcester

ED Forbes reminds Commissioners about the upcoming retreat on March 5, 2023.

14. Reports

- a. Sub-committees
- b. EC Report
- c. Commissioners
- d. Staff Reports

15. Future Agenda Items Suggestions

16. Next Commission Meeting: March 21, 2023

The meeting is adjourned as of 8:00pm.