



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Asian American and Pacific Islanders Commission

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Philjay Solar

Ekta Srinivasa

Tuyet Tran

Executive Director

Yasmin Padamsee

Forbes

One Ashburton

Place

12th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

aapicommission.org

Notes

AAPIC Program & Research Subcommittee Meeting

Meeting Link: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6603360175>

Meeting ID: 660 336 0175

April 2, 2025 - 2 to 2:30 PM EST

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

<p>Program & Research Subcommittee Team Members</p>	<p>AAPIC Staff Lead Shubhechha Dhaurali Commissioners P&R Subcommittee Li Morrison (Chair) Amy Goh Ekta Srinivasa Survey Karen Chen Saatvik Ahluwalia Danielle Kim Small Grants Moana Bentin Gary Yu Emma Chen-Banas Western MA Richard Chu Pacific Islanders Moana Bentin</p>
Aim	The aim of the Program & Research Subcommittee is to



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	<p>“Engage & Insight”; The subcommittee drives AAPIC’s community engagement and research efforts, ensuring that programs remain responsive to the evolving needs of AAPI communities across Massachusetts. Through intentional outreach, strategic partnerships, and data-driven analysis, we aim to amplify AAPI voices, foster meaningful connections, and inform policy and resource allocation.</p>
Strategic Priorities Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Elevating AAPI Voices (Strategic Priority 1)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Strengthening youth engagement through the Youth Council and integrating their perspectives into policy advocacy.● Increasing AAPIC Visibility (Strategic Priority 2)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Amplifying the Commission’s work through public discussions, listening sessions, and regional programming.● Building Strategic Partnerships (Strategic Priority 3)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Expanding collaborations with community organizations, research institutions, and state agencies to enhance outreach, data collection, and resource distribution.
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Youth Council★ Survey Research★ Western Mass Community★ Pacific Islander Community★ Community Programming Needs★ Listening Sessions★ Annual Community Grants◆ Tracking Impact of All Programs

In Attendance: Shubhechha Dhaurali, Li Morrison, Emma Chen-Banas, and Yasmin P. Forbes

Agenda

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Li motions to begin meeting. Commissioner Emma seconds.



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The motion passes unanimously. The meeting begins at 2:06 PM.

2. Quick Ice-breaker:

- a. If you could have any famous person over for dinner, who would it be and why?

Yasmin joins at 2:07 PM.

3. Meeting Schedule for P&R

- a. Our committee's previous schedule was monthly, then quarterly meetings, but before we could implement it, I believe as needed meetings were also something discussed.
- b. Please let me know what your thoughts are on this and anything else that comes up.
- c. Li, as the new chair, please feel free to email me to schedule when meetings are needed as well.
 - i. Li - depends on project/events we need to work on - if mostly check-ins; quarterly or bimonthly would be okay to connect and catch-up with others in Committee

4. Budget for FY26

- a. AAPIC Research & Programming
- b. Draft_FY2026 P&R Budget.xlsx

5. Retreat Dhaurali_P&R_StrategicPlanUpdates_2025

- a. Plan a statewide tour to connect with communities - let's discuss this further
 - i. Strategic plan has a Cape Cod listening session scheduled for August 2025
 - ii. Any connections to reach out to?
- b. Add resources to the website (e.g., mediation centers, immigration issues) - let's discuss this further
- c. Continue efforts on the survey, grants program, and community storytelling (film screening in May).
- d. Expand Western MA outreach further - what do we mean by this?

6. Updates on Programs & Research from Retreat-

Week of 03/24/2025

- a. Survey



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- b. Youth Council
- c. Pacific Islanders
- d. Western Mass
- e. Small Grants

7. Bhutanese Oral History Screenings coming up

- a. ☰ 3/25-Bhutanese Community of Western Massachusetts (BSW...)

8. Future Agenda Items

- a. Yasmin- When thinking about state-wide tour, Treasury is interested in participating in this
 - i. Look at an issue and collaborate it together with the treasury

9. Call to Close

Commissioner Li makes a motion to end the meeting. Commissioner Emma seconds.

The motion passes unanimously. The meeting ends at 2:30 PM.

Otter AI Notes Below:

Transcript

<https://otter.ai/u/QRXmmmj4vy4oBPgZS0ahYelSSHI?view=summary>

The P&R Subcommittee Meeting began with introductions and confirming subcommittee roles. Li Morrison was appointed as the chair. The committee discussed the budget for FY 2026-2027, including \$210,000 for various programs, a \$50,000 allocation for translations, and \$50,000 for mental health resources. They reviewed the budget for youth council wages, survey costs, Pacific Islander programming, and Western Mass community events. The meeting concluded with a motion to end the meeting and a reminder of upcoming Burmese oral history screenings.

Action Items

- [] @Shubhechha Dhaurali - Finalize the budget details, including the potential addition of funds for translations and mental health resources.
- [] @Shubhechha Dhaurali - Discuss the framing and approach for the Hmong 50th year celebration in Western Mass.



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- [] @Shubhechha Dhaurali - Develop the plan for the statewide tour, exploring opportunities to collaborate with other state organizations.
- [] Follow up on the feasibility of providing scholarships to students from the state treasury office.

Outline

Icebreaker and Introductions

- Shubhechha Dhaurali welcomes everyone and confirms the attendance of Li Morrison and Changier Education Foundation.
- Li Morrison apologizes for being late, and Shubhechha Dhaurali reassures her.
- Changier Education Foundation expresses uncertainty about which subcommittee to join and is advised to sign up for the small grants subcommittee.
- Shubhechha Dhaurali explains the roles of various subcommittees, including the youth council, survey subcommittee, and Western Mass community.

Meeting Start and Agenda Overview

- Li Morrison motions to start the meeting, and it is seconded by Changier Education Foundation.
- Shubhechha Dhaurali outlines the agenda, starting with an icebreaker question about who they would invite for dinner.
- Li Morrison chooses Leonard Cohen, explaining his admiration for Cohen's lyrics and talent.
- Changier Education Foundation chooses Lee Kuan Yew, citing his contributions to Singapore's efficient government and people-first policies.

Discussion on Meeting Schedule

- Shubhechha Dhaurali asks about the preferred meeting schedule for the subcommittee.
- Li Morrison suggests a quarterly or bi-monthly schedule, depending on the urgency of projects and events.
- Changier Education Foundation agrees with the proposed schedule, noting that smaller subcommittees might meet more frequently.
- Shubhechha Dhaurali confirms the decision to follow a quarterly or as-needed schedule.

Budget Discussion for FY 2026-2027



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- Shubhechha Dhaurali presents the budget documents, explaining the different sectors and strategic priorities.
- Yasmin Padamsee Forbes clarifies that the final budget will be determined in July, after the governor signs off.
- Yasmin raises a question about the survey budget, noting that it was previously given to UMass Boston and suggests not presenting it yet to avoid questions.
- Shubhechha Dhaurali agrees and discusses the possibility of community participatory research with other academic institutions.

Details of Youth Council and Survey Budget

- Shubhechha Dhaurali outlines the budget for the youth council, including wages for youth counselors and coordinators, and costs for dinners and miscellaneous expenses.
- Yasmin questions the inclusion of scholarships in the budget, noting the need to confirm eligibility from the state treasury office.
- Shubhechha Dhaurali explains the budget for Pacific Islander programming, including scholarships and the Pacific Islander gathering.
- Yasmin suggests checking the eligibility for scholarships and confirms the budget for the Pacific Islander gathering.

Western Mass and Community Support Budgets

- Shubhechha Dhaurali discusses the budget for Western Mass, including wages for coordinators, costs for meetings, and the 50th-year celebration for Hmong Americans.
- Yasmin suggests framing the celebration as listening sessions to align with the strategic plan.
- Shubhechdaurali outlines the budget for community support and talks, and the Commission's grants program, maintaining the same budget as last year.
- Yasmin emphasizes the importance of including translations and mental health resources in the budget.

Statewide Tour and Oral History Screenings

- Shubhechha Dhaurali mentions the suggestion from the retreat to plan a statewide tour to connect with community members.
- Yasmin suggests collaborating with the State Treasurer's Office and other state organizations for the tour.
- Shubhechha Dhaurali informs about two upcoming Burmese oral history screenings in Western Mass and Boston.



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- Li Morrison motions to end the meeting, and it is seconded by Changier Education Foundation.

Final Remarks and Next Steps

- Yasmin confirms the attendance of seven commissioners for the next meeting.
- Li Morrison praises Shubhechha Dhaurali's organization and efficiency.
- Yasmin suggests involving the State Treasurer's Office in the statewide tour and collaborating with other state organizations.
- Shubhechha Dhaurali confirms the upcoming screenings and ends the meeting.



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