



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Asian American and Pacific Islanders Commission

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Tuyet Tran

Interim Executive

Director

Meenakshi Bharath

One Ashburton

Place

12th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

aapicommission.org

Meeting Minutes

AAPIC Program & Research Subcommittee Meeting

Meeting Link: Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 660 336 0175

September 8, 2025 at 6:00 – 6:45pm EST

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

In Attendance:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Li Morrison at 6:04 PM EST. Ekta Srinivasa seconds.

2. Quick Ice-breaker:

- a. Highlight of your summer?

3. Updates on Programs & Research

a. Youth Council


- i. Selected 14 new YC members

 Youth Council 2025-2026 Apps Data Analysis

- ii. Delay with voting + approval to get onboarded but going to continue onboarding as Meena's looking into certain internal processes and clarifications with TRE; delay with timesheet, so having youth council keep track of worked hours once resolved.

1. For now, planning orientation in September (virtual) + in-person event in October

- iii. Hope more more Commissioner involvement

 2024-2025 Youth Council Evaluation Analysis

1. Major point of feedback from last year: More



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relationships + mentorship with Commissioners

a. Ashley + I working on what this looks like

b. Western MA Community

- i. Next Quarterly Meeting: October
- ii. Cha working on Community Guide, Directory
- iii. Hoping to plan a Western MA retreat - reached out to Interim ED for potential in budget

c. Pacific Islander Community

- i. Brissa + Moana in talks for potential Pacific Islander community gathering
 - 1. **October 11th** - Gathering with Pacific Islander community members
 - a. Interest for potential financial literacy programming
- ii. Brissa working on PI Representation posts on social media
- iii. Brissa also serving as Interim Comms Coordinator - most time being spent to that (newsletters, social media)

d. Survey & Research

- i. ADAPT Community Meeting
 - 1. ADAPT Community Meeting: No Longer Invisible - 2025 MA APIA Community Survey - Time: Sep 10, 2025 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
 - 2. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://wellforce.zoom.us/j/96163223818?pwd=o7MoJrsjOpxxbbr5TXIa4b0WnvQE9p.1>

Password: 306809



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- ii. From Data to Dialogue: Listening, Learning, and Leading to Strengthen AAPI Voices Across Massachusetts -

- ☰ Statewide Community Listening Sessions and Engag...

- a. Statewide events, county/community specific - **15 total**
 - b. Present and discuss key findings from the 2025 APIA Survey Report.
 - c. Collect community feedback on pressing issues impacting Asian American and Pacific Islander residents.
 - d. Strengthen relationships between AAPIC, local communities, and key stakeholders.
 - e. Foster meaningful engagement with local elected officials and state legislators, creating opportunities for dialogue and collaboration with AAPI residents.

- e. Small Grants**

- i. Talked to Meena about Small Grants in the past, my role primarily being data analytics related

- f. Meeting on More Regular Basis (Monthly)**

- i. Mondays at 6:00 PM- Every 8 weeks

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM EST.

Subcommittee Members

Program & Research Subcommittee Team Members	<u>AAPIC</u> <i>Staff Lead</i> Shubhecchha Dhaurali, Program & Research Director
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	<p><i>Coordinators</i> Ashley Shan, Youth Council Coordinator Brissa Hunter, Pacific Islander Community Coordinator; Interim Communications Coordinator Cha Lor, Western MA Community Coordinator</p> <p><i>Commissioners</i> <u>P&R Subcommittee</u> Li Morrison (Chair) Amy Goh Ekta Srinivasa</p> <p><u>Survey</u> Karen Chen Saatvik Ahluwalia Danielle Kim Moana Bentin Rakashi Chand</p> <p><u>Small Grants</u> Moana Bentin Gary Yu Emma Chen-Banas</p> <p><u>Western MA</u> Richard Chu Emma Chen-Banas</p> <p><u>Pacific Islanders</u> Moana Bentin</p>
Aim	<p>The aim of the Program & Research Subcommittee is to “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</p>



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	connections, and inform policy and resource allocation.
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



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