



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Asian American and Pacific Islanders Commission

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Gary Yu

Executive Director

Yasmin Padamsee Forbes

One Ashburton Place
12th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
aapicommission.org

Agenda

Time: 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8137177787>

*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.

Commissioners present: Meena Bharath, Tuyet Tran, Moana Bentin, Gary Yu, Philjay Solar
Staff present: Jennifer Best, Lizette Sta. Maria

1. Review of UMB site visit

Reservation from Commissioner Meena Bharath: under impression that location was still up for discussion

Worried about the look and feel seeming like a downgrade from the Kennedy Institute from last year (given increase in budget)

Need confirmation that the deposit was due today 1/31

Floor is open to discussion about the space:

Commissioner Tuyet Tran: "It's a done deal" - would like to see pictures of the space
PCD Jennifer Best provides a link for pictures

Commissioner Moana Bentin thinks the space is nicer than the Kennedy Institute
Would like to work more with UMass Boston friends

Commissioner Philjay Solar approves.

Commissioner Gary Yu's only concern was parking (However, a new lot has opened)

After seeing photos of the space, All 5 Commissioners are in favor of UMass Boston Campus Center ballroom.

2. **Discussion of tickets: potential limit of 250 seats**

Big question: Is the venue able to take more than 250?

Still waiting on diagram of the room layout

Commissioner Tuyet Tran suggests sliding scale

PCD Jennifer Best explains the previous agreement to increase discount codes

Commissioner Philjay Solar is okay with the pricing as is
Biggest challenge is bringing in sponsors - It needs to feel like a hundred-dollar event

For tiered approach (discount codes), Commissioner Meena Bharath suggests including a



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rationale for each discount, i.e. nonprofit, student, etc.

PCD Jennifer Best explains that last year, we explicitly noted the term “need-based” in the discount code

Should we go for sliding scale or go for tiered approach (discount codes)?

All in favor of tiered approach: Moana Bentin, Tuyet Tran, Gary Yu, Philjay Solar

Commissioner Meena Bharath suggests noting the percent increase from last year’s discount codes

Potential future topic to discuss: silent auction of tickets

3. Performances

- a. Youth Council to meet this weekend to provide recommendations to A&C Subcommittee
 - i. Commissioner Moana Bentin suggestion: Hawaiian students who can do Oli chant
 - ii. Commissioner Philjay Solar suggestion: Filipino Culture Club at UMass Boston
 - iii. Commissioner Meena Bharath suggestion: Odissi dance group

Miscellaneous: Commissioner Meena Bharath asks Commissioner Gary Yu for help in inviting Boston Mayor Michelle Wu
Gary would need invitations



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