



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2016**

The Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at City Hall in Austin, Texas.

Chair Richard Jung called the Board Meeting to order at 06:26 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Nu Chanpheng, Vince Cobalis, Janki DePalma, Richard Jung, Thuy Nguyen, Ann Okamura, Pramod Patil, Sonemaly Phrasavath, Shubhada Saxena, Kara Takasaki, Kirk Yoshida

Staff in Attendance: Sarah Chen, Marion Sanchez, David Taylor, Esther Martin, Hanna Huang, Veena Viswanathan

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There was no citizen communication.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was no change to the November 15, 2016 meeting draft minutes. Recommendation to approve the November 15, 2016 meeting minutes as presented in draft form was approved on a 10-0 vote.

3. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Dusty McCormick of Economic Development was invited to report on process and progress for department spending of a one-time funding award of \$50k. City Council approved the award toward GAACC in fiscal year FY17, the timing for implementation has yet to be formally proposed to council.

ED will report to council on Jan 9th to approve planned negotiations to execute the contract. A response will be expected at City Council Hearing by Feb 16th, 2017. ED will then go to GAACC to discuss spending, which must be between Mar 1st 2017 and Feb, 28th 2018 only, per contract law.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. AAQOL initiative update was provided by ACM Arellano. Three reports: Asian American Health Assessment Report; Asian Community in Austin; and Asian Americans in Austin (Report of the Asian American Quality of Life) are now widely available for public review and comment. Marion Sanchez is compiling a final report from feedback collected which will be reported to stakeholders from Feb 2017.
- b. The new Joint inclusion committee gathers the 4th Tuesday of each month. It is a diverse committee that learns from cross commission best practice and is comprised of one member from each existing commission e.g. African American, Aging, LGBT, AAQOL etc. This commission has proven particularly useful in budget discussions previously. Commissioner Debasree has been nominated as the AAQOL member of the joint inclusion committee – all in

favor, 0 opposed. Commissioner Cobalis has been nominated as the alternate or backup Joint inclusion committee member.

d. Working Group Reports

Commissioner Pramod Patil of the Arts & Culture Working Group proposes a cultural calendar of events for 2017, where each month will showcase a different country or culture in order to share culture to the mainstream. Hosted events would be proposed year-round with individual Commissioners invited to sign up and host festivities.

It is hoped this will increase general awareness of the commissioners and commission; by integrating into cultural/non cultural events this way AAQOL commission can be recognized, promoted, introduced into the community.

This work group would like more time allocated at the Commission meetings to discuss actual work & related items, not just status updates.

Commissioner Patil would like more diverse representation within the arts and culture group, currently only Indian members are on the panel. Opportunity to trade members exists.

Arts & Culture Mission Statement: work together with folks from different backgrounds by sharing & celebrating different cultures

Commissioner Cobalis of the Health Working Group – provided a handout containing HHSD response to working group questions, HHSD will attend a future meeting (possibly February).

Meeting at International Welcome Center – guided tour. Center Director expressed a need for additional mental health services, case worker, PSS position to support families beyond initial 3-6 months.

Working group is getting ready to submit budget requests for FY18, CPIO talk plans for 250K budget allocation

5. NEW BUSINESS

Confirmation of 2017 AAQOL meeting dates: Same 3rd Tuesday of the month meeting date proposed – Commissioner Cobalis proposed and approved by all present.

Thanks to Sarah Chen for helping AAQOL.

7. ADJOURN

Recommendation adjourning the meeting was approved. Chair Richard Jung adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.