



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION (AAQOLAC)  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018**

The AAQOLAC convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at City Hall in Austin, Texas.

Chair Vince Cobalis called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**Commission Members in Attendance:**

Vince Cobalis, Shubhada Saxena, Aporajita Ahmed, Pramod Patil, Pooja Sethi, Kirk Yoshida, Molly Wang, Debasree DasGupta, and Kavita Radhakrishnan

**Staff in Attendance:**

Taja Beekley, Rey Arellano, Stephanie Hayden and Hanh Thai

**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Elizabeth Colvin, Hai Li, and Lacey (?) asked the Commission to support Insure Central Texas

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Yoshida made a motion to approve the minutes of March 20 meeting. Commissioner DasGupta seconded. The vote was 9-0.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Commissioner Yoshida presented the nomination of Sara Chen to fill a vacancy. Commissioner DasGupta made a motion to approve the nomination and Commissioner Patil seconded. The vote was 9-0.

b. Rey Arellano updated on Quality of Life Initiative. The final version of the report is expected by the end of the month.

c. Commissioner Yoshida presented the FY 2018-2019 City budget. June 8<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for budget recommendation to Council. Commission will be asked to approve final recommendations at the May 15 agenda for submission to the City Manager by May 21.

d. Chair Cobalis introduced this item.

Commissioner Patil updated on Arts and Culture workgroup

Commissioner Saxena shared information about several grant funding opportunities

Staff Taja Beekley informed about CelebrAsia event on May 12

e. Chair Cobalis asked Commissioners to report their workgroup involvements. A preliminary list was developed and will be finalized at the May 15 meeting.

f. Chair Cobalis shared information about World Tai Chi Day event on April 28

Commissioner Wang shared information her departure from the Dell Community Strategy Team (health) and encouraged others to apply for the new cohort.

Vice Chair Saxena shared some information about various cultural activities

**4. STAFF BRIEFING**

- a. Stephanie Hayden, Austin Public Health Director, presented on Asian American staffing and services, including contracted services.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Chair Cobalis introduced this item. He would check back the date and inform other Commissioners who may have interest
- b. No presentation or action needed because the Asian American Quality of Life survey is open to public and access is granted by City staff.
- c. Rama Tiru presented on Pune Sister Cities program. A resolution would be drafted and presented in May regular meeting
- d. Chair Vince introduced this item. Cobalis was designated to represent the Commission at this event (Community Journalist Conference, April 30, 2018. Commissioner Sethi offered to be backup.
- e. Taja Beekley and Hailey Easley presented this item to the Commission. AARC Nonprofit requested a letter of support for a grant from Austin Parks Foundation. Vice Chair Saxena made a motion to provide the letter of support. Commissioner Patil seconded. The vote was 9-0

**6. FUTURE AGENDA**

- a. Chair Cobalis introduced this item and asked Commissioners to send questions to him
- b. Chair Cobalis asked Commissioner Patil to draft a resolution to support the Austin Veterans Arts Festival
- c. This item will be put on June meeting

**7. ADJOURN**

Commissioner Patil made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner DasGupta seconded. The vote was 9-0. Chair Cobalis adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.