



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION (AAQOLAC)  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY, August 20, 2019**

The AAQOLAC convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at City Hall in Austin, Texas.

Chair Vince Cobalis called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

**Commission Members in Attendance:**

Vince Cobalis, Pooja Sethi, Kirk Yoshida, Debasree DasGupta, Nguyen Stanton, Shubhada Saxena, Catherina Conte, Elizabeth Krause, Ketan Patel, Pramod Patil, Sarah Chen, Ketan Patel, and Kavita Radhakrishnan

**Staff in Attendance:**

Joshua Robinson, Joe Silva, Marion Sanchez, and Cara Welch

**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**Schiller Liao** –Asian American Resource Center Master Plan

**Mei Fung** - Neighborhood Liaison program, Austin Police Department

**Fire Chief Joel Baker** – Introduction and representation of Asian Americans in the Austin Fire Dept.

**Councilmember Jimmy Flannigan** – Asian American Resource Center Master Plan

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The commission moved to approve minutes from AAQOLAC meeting on June 18, 2019 with some corrections. Commissioner Yoshida made the motion. Commissioner Chen seconded. Vote was 12-0

The commission moved to approve minutes from AAQOLAC meeting on July 16, 2019, with some corrections. Commissioner Yoshida made the motion. Commissioner Saxena seconded. Commissioner DasGupta abstained. Commissioner Radhakrishnan absent. Vote was 11-0-1

**3. Strategic Planning Workshop**

Commissioner Chen made a motion to suspend Roberts Rules of Order to conduct the Strategic Planning Workshop. Commissioner Yoshida seconded. Vote was 12-0

Recording of the meeting stopped at 6:55 p.m.

Commissioners discussed the purpose and the five pillars of the commission, along with accomplishments and challenges the commissioners have experienced. Commissioners also discussed long-term projects/initiatives to be completed in the future. Marion Sanchez and Cara Welch from the Communications and Public Information Office lead the Strategic Planning Workshop.

Commissioner Krause made a motion to reinstate Roberts Rules of Order to close the Strategic Planning Workshop. Commissioner Saxena seconded. Vote was 12-0

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **a. Workgroup Reports:**

1. Asian American Resource Center: No update
2. Health and Community Engagement Workgroup: Commissioner Conte provided an update. The work group would like to partner with the Office of Police Oversight on an upcoming Community Engagement event for Thursday, September 12, 6:30 – 8:30, at the Asian American Resource Center. The Office of Police Oversight would like to discuss ways to better engage the Asian American community and budget recommendations that were submitted to the office.
3. Arts and Culture Workgroup: Update was placed in the packet.
4. Business Planning Workgroup: No update

b. Joint Inclusion Committee (JIC): Commissioner Stanton provided an update. The next JIC meeting was moved to Saturday, August 24, to accommodate budget hearings. The committee approved the Joint Inclusion Committee “Annual Internal Review.”

##### **c. Follow-up Items:**

1. Discussion and possible action on Asian American Resource Center Master Plan recommendations – Citizen Communications: Christine Hoang spoke about the importance recognizing “Performing Arts” in the Asian American Resource Center Master Plan. Commissioner Yoshida motioned to recommend to the City Council the adoption of the Asian American Resource Center Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stanton. Commissioner Krause absent. Vote was 12-0
2. Discussion and possible action on 2020 Budget recommendations: Reviewed the Budget Recommendations in preparation for the Quality of Life Budget Workshop.

#### **5. Staff Briefing**

- a. Review the AARC Master Plan Recommendations (Parks & Recreation Department) – Greg Montes, Project Manager (Parks and Recreation Department) and Patrick Smith and Johnathan Pierce (Studio 8) discussed the status of the AARC Master Plan and addressed the concerns the Commissioners and the Network of Asian American Organizations had about the Asian American Resource Center Master Plan.

#### **6. New Business**

- a. Discussion and possible action on funding to support 2020 Census – Commissioner Sethi made a motion to approve with edits the 2020 Census Resolution. Commissioner Yoshida seconded. Vote was 11-0.
- b. No information to share

#### **6. FUTURE AGENDA**

- a. Recommendations for First Responder Mental Health Calls for Service report, Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager and BJ Wagner, Meadows Mental Health Initiative
- b. Discussion and possible action in support of the Land Development Code and Austin Strategic Mobility Program. (Pooja Sethi)
- c. Strategic Planning Session 2

#### **7. ADJOURN**

Chair Cobalis adjourned the meeting without any objections at 9:16 p.m.