



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION (AAQOLAC)  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020**

The AAQOLAC convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 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, Sarah Chen, Peter Chao, Kuo Yang, Kirk Yoshida, Nguyen Stanton, Kavita Radhakrishnan, Hanna Huang, Molly Wang, and Pooja Sethi

**Staff in Attendance:**

Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager  
Laura Esparza, Division Manager (Parks & Recreation)  
Cara Welch, Public Information Specialist (Communications & Public Information Office)  
Joshua Robinson, Commissions Liaison (Equity Office)  
Brandon Kroos, Business Process Specialist (Equity Office)

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:**

Lora Petty – Fiscal Year (FY) Budget 2020-21  
Carmen Llanes Pulido – Land Development Code (LDC)

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Commission moved to approve minutes from AAQOLAC meeting on January 21, 2020. Commissioner Yoshida made the motion. Commissioner Chen seconded. Vote was 10-0. Commissioner Sethi was not present to vote.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Workgroup Reports:

1. Asian American Resource Center (AARC) Workgroup: Commissioner Cobalis provided an update and referenced AARC Workgroup meeting notes.
2. Health and Community Engagement Workgroup: Commissioner Yoshida provided an update and referenced the Health and Community Engagement meeting notes. Commissioner Yoshida provided a summary over the Community Budget Forum that was held on Thursday, February 13, at the Asian American Resource Center.
  - Budget Community Engagement event:
3. Arts and Culture Workgroup: No update provided
4. Business Planning Workgroup: Commissioner Yoshida discussed how the workgroup will approach FY21 Budget Recommendations.
  - Budget timeline/process

b. Joint Inclusion Committee (JIC): Commissioner Cobalis provided an update. JIC has expanded to include the Early Childhood Council within the committee.

c. Follow-up Items:

1. Update on AARC Masterplan: Division Manager, Laura Esparza provided an update on the AARC Masterplan and the construction of the bridge. Esparza read a memo from Parks & Recreation Dept. (PARD) Director Kimberly McNeeley in response to the Commission response action on 1-21-2020.
  - a. (PARD) response to Commission action on 1-21-2020: PARD Director Kimberly McNeeley provided a memo in response to the Commission action on 1-21-2020.
  - b. Projected timeline
  - c. Workgroup recommendations: Commissioners Cobalis and Yoshida elaborated on the AARC Workgroup recommendations to not have the construction of the bridge be funded through the bond funds, consistent with the Commission resolution passed in January. The commission will speak with the Watershed Protection Dept. for the construction of the bridge.

### **3. STAFF BRIEFING**

- a. Strategic Planning follow-up and tracking (Marion Sanchez): Public Information Specialist, Cara Welch provided a presentation over the spreadsheet tool “Airtable,” where Commissioners can view their Strategic Planning Session notes.
- b. Update on upcoming Equity Mini-Grant application and timeline: Business Process Specialist, Brandon Kroos provided background/history on the Equity Mini-Grant, the anticipated revisions to the application process, and when the Equity Mini-Grant application will open.

### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Early Childhood Council Strategic Plan (Cathy McHorse): United Way for Greater Austin Vice President, Cathy McHorse provided a presentation on “Success By 6 Coalition Strategic Plan,” which is designed to make Austin / Travis County a healthier place for families and young children.
- b. Information Sharing - Commissioners Cobalis, Huang, Chen, and Sethi provided information to share.

### **5. FUTURE AGENDA**

- a. Status of the Immigrant Affairs position
- c. FY2021 Budget Recommendations

### **6. ADJOURN**

Chair Cobalis adjourned the meeting without any objections at 8:20 p.m.