

MEETING MINUTES



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 21st, 2023**

The ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on **TUESDAY, MARCH 21st, 2023, at AUSTIN CITY HALL - BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ROOM #1101, 301 W. 2ND STREET in AUSTIN, TEXAS.**

Chair KIRK YOSHIDA called the ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING to order at 6:07 pm CST.

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

**Kirk Yoshida (Chair)**

**Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:**

**Sarah Chen (Vice-Chair)**

**Azra Siddiqi**

**Fang Fang**

**Hanna Huang**

**Kuo Yang**

**Meena Mutyala**

**Mohsin Lari**

**Pramod Patil**

**Vincent Cobalis**

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Lily Trieu**

**Anna Lan**

**Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan**

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

The first ten speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

**NONE.**

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes of the COMMISSION'S REGULAR MEETING on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

**Tabled to next month at the request of the Chair.**

**STAFF BRIEFING**

2. Housing & Planning Department – Presentation on the 40-day Community Needs Assessment to gather input from the community on housing needs and issues for HPD's FY 23-24 Action Plan

**The presentation was made by: Chris Duran – Housing & Planning Department**

**Income restricted housing, \$350 Million investment approved by voters in November 2022. Housing assistance provided for profit & non-profit developers. Follow-up discussion requested by Hanna Huang & Kirk Yoshida, about increasing awareness about assistance programs for Austin's Asian American communities.**

3. Austin Asian Community Health Initiative – Presentation on ongoing work, new City contracts, and funding needs.

**The presentation was made by: Hailey Easily - AACHI**

**Updates on on-going services. Push on educating Asian American communities on the May 11<sup>th</sup> ending of the Covid emergency healthcare services & more.**

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

4. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on the AARC Front Desk Administrative FTE

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on the AARC Front Desk Administrative FTE* was approved on COMMISSIONER VINCENT COBALIS's motion, COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's second on a 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Lily Trieu, & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

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5. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on AARC Senior Language Access

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on AARC Senior Language Access with an amendment specifically recommending an increase in \$44,000 in PARD's authority for language access funding* was approved on COMMISSIONER VINCENT COBALIS's motion, COMMISSIONER KIRK YOSHIDA's second on a 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Lily Trieu, & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

6. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on AARC Ballroom Lighting Installation.

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on AARC Ballroom Lighting Installation* was approved on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER VINCENT COBALIS's second on a 9 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Azra Siddiqi, Lily Trieu, & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

7. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on Immigrant Legal Services (APH)

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on Immigrant Legal Services* was approved on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's second on a 9 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Azra Siddiqi, Lily Trieu, & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

8. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on Community Health Navigators.

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on Community Health Navigators* was approved on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER FANG FANG's second on an 8 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Azra Siddiqi, Lily Trieu, Pramod Patil & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

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9. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on Community Health Worker/Navigator Language Access

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on Navigator Language Access with an amendment that specifies allocating supplemental dollars to APH contracts serving AAPI populations that are designated for language access activities such as interpretation, language line, and bilingual pay* was approved on COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's motion, COMMISSIONER FANG FANG's second on an 8 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Azra Siddiqi, Lily Trieu, Pramod Patil & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

10. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on Mental Health Services

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on Mental Health Services* was approved on COMMISSIONER FANG FANG's motion, COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's second on an 8 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Azra Siddiqi, Lily Trieu, Pramod Patil & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

11. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations on APH Contracts Specialist FTE

**The motion to approve *the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation on APH Contracts Specialist FTE* was approved on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER VINCENT COBALIS's second on an 8 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off Dais: Anna Lan, Azra Siddiqi, Lily Trieu, Pramod Patil & Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)**

12. Discussion and possible action on FY23-24 Budget Recommendations that should be sent to the JIC for joint endorsement under the priorities of Affordability, Health Public, Safety, and Transportation.

**No action taken.**

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13. Discussion and possible action on reappointments for at-large stakeholder positions including, Hanna Huang, Sarah Chen, Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan, and the two remaining vacant stakeholder at-large position.

**Appointments of the vacant stakeholder positions has been tabled to next month at the request of the Chair.**

14. Discussion and possible action on the retirement of Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano, and the now vacant Executive Liaison for the Commission.

**Commission action for recommending the City Manager's Office appoint a new Executive Liaison for the Commission is tabled to next month at the request of the Chair. Kirk will work with Hanna and Vince on this issue.**

15. Discussion and possible action on organizing a social event for the Asian American Quality-of-Life Advisory Commission.

**At the request of Lily Trieu, who is absent today. Kirk and Lily want to schedule a social event for all commissioners, which will require posting a community interest announcement stating no commission business will take place. Vince, Hanna & Sarah agree it's a good idea to get together, maybe have a shortened commission meeting, followed by a get together. Confirmed date is April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Please contact Kirk & Jeremy for suggestions on locations/venues.**

**WORKING GROUPS/COMMITTEE UPDATES**

16. Budget Workgroup – Updates on the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation Process. JIC budget priorities include: Affordability, Public Safety, Health, & Transportation.

**No action taken.**

17. Community Stakeholder Workgroup – Updates on commissioner vacancies and marketing strategy to solicit applications to fill stakeholder vacancies.

**No action taken.**

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18. Spring/Phase II AARC Workgroup – Update on AARC Master Plan and Update on upcoming meeting with Laura Esparza to discuss fundraising for AARCH Phase II

**No action taken.**

19. Joint Inclusion Committee – General Update on Current Work, including QoL Study Joint Workshop that was cancelled on February 5<sup>th</sup> due to the winter storm.

**No action taken.**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

20. Call for items from Committee members:

**Staff Presentation from Project Connect & the Austin Transportation Partnership**

**Approve the minutes of the COMMISSION’S REGULAR MEETING on February 21st, 2023.**

**Officer Elections – Voting on a new Chair & Vice-Chair of the Commission**

**Discussion and possible action on appointing at-large community stakeholder vacant position on the commission.**

**Laura Esparza – Fundraising training (TBD)**

**Staff Presentation from the Housing & Development Department on Affordable Housing, the AHFC Program, and GO Bond Review – James May & Erica Leak (May 2023)**

**Staff Presentation from Nefertitti Jackmon, Community Displacement Prevention Officer in the Displacement Prevention Division of the Housing & Planning Department. Also Presenting: Marla Torrado & Susan Watkins (July 2023)**

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**Intergovernmental Relations – Brie Franco (After the legislative Session, in June, July or August 2023)**

**Human Resources Department Staff Report Update (TBD)**

**Activation of the Joint Cultural Committee (TBD)**

**YWCA – Mental Health Contract with APH for Asian American Mental Health Services (TBD)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

21. The meeting is adjourned at: **8:43pm**

**The motion to Adjourn was approved on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's second on an 8 – 0 vote.**

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The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access, and hybrid virtual meeting attendance is now available. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice of at least two days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call the Equity Office Commission Liaison, Jeremy Garza, at (512) 978-1797, or email at [jeremy.garza@austintexas.gov](mailto:jeremy.garza@austintexas.gov), for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

**For more information on the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission, please contact the Equity Office's Community Services Program Coordinator, Jeremy Garza, by phone at (512) 978-1797, or (preferably) via email at [jeremy.garza@austintexas.gov](mailto:jeremy.garza@austintexas.gov).**

**\*The minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 on COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's motion, COMMISSIONER FANG FANG's second on an 11 – 0 vote.**