

MEETING MINUTES



ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 16th, 2023

The ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on **TUESDAY, MAY 16th, 2023, at AUSTIN CITY HALL - BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ROOM #1101, 301 W. 2ND STREET in AUSTIN, TEXAS.**

Chair HANNAH HUANG called the ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING to order at 6:05pm CST.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Hanna Huang (Chair)

Nayer Sikder

Pierre Nguyen

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

Sarah Chen (Vice-Chair)

Kymberlie Quong-Charles

Kuo Yang

Lily Trieu

Fang Fang

Anna Lan

Mohsin Lari

Commissioners Absent:

Azra Siddiqi

Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan

Staff in Attendance:

Jeremy Garza – Business Process Consultant, Equity Office

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PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Vince Cobalis – Asian hate will be discussed at the next Public Safety Commission.

WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONERS

Pierre Nguyen – At Large Member (First official meeting, filling long vacant seat)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the COMMISSION's REGULAR MEETING on April 18th, 2023.

The minutes from the meeting of April 18th, 2023 were approved on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER LILY TRIEU's second on an 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off the Dais: Azra Siddiqi and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)

STAFF BRIEFING

2. Housing & Development Department on Affordable Housing, the AHFC Program, and GO Bond Review – James May & Erica Leak

The presentation was made by: James May – Housing and Community Development Officer at the Austin Housing Finance Corporation & the City of Austin's Housing and Planning Department

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

3. Discussion and possible action on officer elections; appointing a new chair and vice chair of the Asian American Quality-of-Life Advisory Commission. Action required again at the request of the City Clerk.

The motion to elect Hanna Huang as Chair of the Asian American Quality-of-Life Advisory Commission was approved on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER ANNA LAN's second on a 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off the Dais: Azra Siddiqi and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)

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The motion to elect Sarah Chen as Vice-Chair of the Asian American Quality-of-Life Advisory Commission was approved on COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's motion, COMMISSIONER MOHSIN LARI's second on a 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off the Dais: Azra Siddiqi and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)

4. Discussion and possible action on appointing a new primary and alternate representative for the Commission on the Joint Inclusion Committee (JIC).

No action taken. Item tabled to next month. Commissioners Nayer Sikder and Pierre Nguyen will attend and observe the next meeting of the Joint Inclusion Committee on May 24th, 2023.

5. Discussion and possible action on how the Interim City Manager Jesus Garza's recommendation to hold off bonds until 2026 will affect the cultural centers master plans (including AARC).

Commissioners will reach out to other cultural centers and bring this item to the Joint Inclusion Committee. Chair, Hanna Huang, will provide a report for next month with updates on this topic.

6. Discussion and possible action on workgroups, commission priorities and re-establishing commissioner commitments to workgroups, with possible action on dissolving any existing, or establishing new workgroups, as needed by the Commission.

Commissioner Kuo Yang: Interested in forming an Arts & Culture Workgroup.

Commissioner Lily Trieu: Interested in Public Health & Safety; Language Access; Data aggregation; and Education & Youth.

Commissioner Fang Fang: Interested in economic related activities, especially small business in the Asian American community; also interested in direct flights at the Bergstrom Airport for direct flights to Asia. Also interested in intergovernmental relations & the effect of state legislation on the Asian American community in Austin.

Commissioner Sarah Chen: Interested in public safety and Asian crime in our neighborhoods.

Commissioner Kymberlie Quong-Charles: Interested in refugee aid and immigrant services.

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Commissioner Nayer Sikder: Interested in economic development in the Asian community, Austin transportation.

Commissioner Pierre Nguyen: Interested in Public Health & Safety. Xenophobia and hate crimes against the Asian community in Austin. Migrant & refugee issues, including workforce development.

The motion to update membership of the Budget Workgroup to include Commissioner Sarah Chen, Hanna Huang, and Kymberlie Quong-Charles was approved on COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's motion, COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN's second on a 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off the Dais: Azra Siddiqi and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)

The motion to update membership of the Community Stakeholder Workgroup to include Commissioner Sarah Chen, Fang Fang, and Kymberlie Quong-Charles was approved on COMMISSIONER FANG FANG's motion, COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's second on a 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off the Dais: Azra Siddiqi and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)

The motion to update membership of the AARC Workgroup to include Commissioner Kuo Yang, Hanna Huang, Lily Trieu, Kirk Yoshida & Vincent Cobalis was approved on COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG's motion, COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN's second on a 10 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off the Dais: Azra Siddiqi and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan)

WORKING GROUP UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

7. Budget Workgroup – Updates on the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation Process. JIC budget priorities include: Affordability, Public Safety, Health, & Transportation.
8. Community Stakeholder Workgroup – Updates on commissioner vacancies and discussion on the marketing strategy to solicit applications to fill stakeholder vacancies.
9. AARC Workgroup – Updates & discussion on Phase II, staffing & budget, friends of AARC group development.
10. Joint Inclusion Committee – General update and discussion on the coalition building work of the JIC.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. Call for items from Committee members:

Discussion and possible action on appointing a primary and alternate representative to the joint inclusion committee.

Discussion and possible action on appointing an at-large commissioner to the open/vacant position.

Updates on Interim City Manager Jesus Garza's recommendation to hold off bonds until 2026 will affect the cultural centers master plans (including AARC).

Discussion and possible action on adding members to existing workgroups, or authorizing any new workgroups as needed by the Commission.

Discussion and possible action on how the Interim City Manager Jesus Garza's recommendation to hold off bonds until 2026 will affect the cultural centers master plans (including AARC).

Vanorda Richardson, PARD Financial Manager III PARD's FY24 Financial Forecast/Proposed Budget. No staff briefing. Now seeking one-pager email update from Vanorda.

Staff Briefing from Austin Code Department (ACD), regarding their June 2023 Summer Ready campaign, a quarterly ACD outreach effort about safety in the summer (rest break ordinance, tall weeds/grass, illegal dumping, air conditioning rebates, etc.) – Tara Long (Scheduling TBD)

July meeting to be hosted at the AARC.

ATP Staff Briefing (at the request of Commissioner Anna Lan) in June or July for a follow up from today's presentation.

Staff Briefing from Nefertiti Jackmon, Community Displacement Prevention Officer in the Displacement Prevention Division of the Housing & Planning Department (Scheduled for July 2023)

Staff Briefing on the I-35 Cap & Stitch from Shannon Riley, Project Coordinator for "Our Future 34 – Austin Cap & Stitch Program) (Scheduled for July 2023)

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Laura Esparza – AARC Fundraising Training (Scheduling TBD) Pushing the discussion to the July agenda 2023? Fundraising training is about parameters of non-City groups fundraising for City CIP projects. (IN JULY)

Intergovernmental Relations – Brie Franco (Tentatively scheduled for after the legislative session (Tentatively schedule for August 2023) Inquiry from Commissioner Fang Fang about Senate Bill 147.

Human Resources Department Staff Report Update (Scheduling TBD) ask Interim Director, Rebecca Kennedy

Activation of the Joint Cultural Committee (Scheduling TBD)

Cultural arts division about new cultural arts programs and the new second pilot they are rolling.

YWCA – Metal Health Contract with APH for Asian American Mental Health Services (Scheduling TBD); Follow-Up Summary of how it has gone. Update on the status of all the contracts, and any findings or reports that have gone out Mental Health Services Update on any and all Asian mental health contracts since 2020 (esp., after North Austin Universal Health).

ADJOURNMENT

12. The meeting is adjourned at: **7:47 pm**

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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.

***The minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting on June 20th, 2023 on COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's motion, COMMISSIONER KYMBERLIE QUONG-CHARLES's second on a 9 – 0 vote. (Absent/Off the Dais: Anna Lan, Azra Siddiqi, Pierre Nguyen, and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan).**