



***ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, November 14, 2023***

The ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on *TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14th, 2023, at PDC Room 1203 (6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive; Austin, Texas 78752).*

Chair HANNA HUANG called the ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING to order at 6:09 pm CST.

Commissioners in Attendance:

***Hanna Huang (Chair)
Nayer Sikder
Padmini Jambulapati
Seonhye “Sonny” Sin
Pierre Nguyen***

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

***Sarah Chen (Vice-Chair)
Anna Lan
Kuo Yang
Fang Fang
Satyajeet Dodia***

Commissioners Absent:

***Lily Trieu
Mohsin Lari
Sabrina Sha
Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan***

Staff in Attendance:

***Alejandra Mireles – Community Services Program Coordinator, Equity Office
Jeremy Garza – Business Process Consultant, Equity Office***

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the COMMISSION's REGULAR MEETING on OCTOBER 17th, 2023.
The minutes from the meeting of OCTOBER 17th, 2023, were approved on COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN motion, COMMISSIONER NAYER SIKDER's second on a 8 – 0 unanimous vote. (Absent: *Lily Trieu, Mohsin Lari, Sabrina Sha, Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan*. Off camera because of Webex issues: *Anna Lan*)

STAFF BRIEFINGS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Discussion on updates from Jodi Schrobilgen, from the Hope Clinic.
Was not able to attend today's meeting.
3. Discussion on JIC budget workshops: October 24th and November 4th.
Summary – big take aways include investigating side walk development, (presentation and staff briefing was provided to the commission last year and could request an update); what about the 89% that was not included in the city's budget from the Community Investment Budget?

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

4. Discussion and possible action on appointing a primary and alternate representative to the Joint Inclusion Committee.
Discussion, COMMISSIONER SONNY SIN to replace COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG as the JIC primary representative for the Commission. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG moves, COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN seconds on an 8-0 unanimous vote (Absent: *Lily Trieu, Mohsin Lari, Sabrina Sha, Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan*. Off camera because of Webex issues: *Anna Lan*)
5. Review and discuss the scope of all current working groups and possible action to update membership.

See below.

6. Discussion on a Draft Recommendation from the Hispanic/Latino Quality-of-Life Resource Advisory Commission regarding city executive leadership vacancies and hiring of those positions, for possible action on writing a similar Asian American Quality-of-Life Advisory Commission recommendation.
Discussion: COMMISSIONER PADMINI JAMBULAPATI asked if we would cosign the same recommendation with the JIC or write one on behalf of the Commission. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG gave background information about the vacancy in executive leadership numbers. STAFF LIAISON ALEJANDRA MIRELES asked for information for the deputy city manager. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG shared that the recruitment firm has been hired and no new information. COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN gave background information that even if recruitment firm is contracted, they still need to advertise. The position does include descriptions from feedback from Commissioners and at this time it is “open until filled.” COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN brought up that there are a lot of open positions in the airport and that there are concerns. STAFF LIAISON ALEJANDRA MIRELES provided background information to Commission about other Commissions requesting a staff update from the director of HR. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG gave information that Commissioners need to follow up with their city council members about the vacancies, and upcoming mayor election. No action taken.
7. Discussion and possible action for scheduling a strategic Asian American Quality-of-Life Advisory Commission planning meeting(s) at the end of 2023 and/or in the beginning of 2024, January/February.
COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG described that the AAQOL can hold a special meeting, with break outs for strategizing. COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN asked a clarifying question about the time commitment for the strategizing session and COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG said it would be during a regular meeting and that the Commission should leave February open for budget recommendations. January meeting will be shortened to make strategic goals, planning, and workgroups. COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN asked if we could make it all in person meeting and COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG said the Commission could. COMMISSIONER SATYAJEET DODIA stated he would be traveling, and COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG reminded him about the attendance requirements for the Commission.

WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES

8. Budget Workgroup (*Commissioners Sarah Chen, Hanna Huang, Sabrina Sha, Mohsin Lari, Pierre Nguyen, & Sonny Sin*) – Updates on the FY25 Budget Recommendation Process.
COMMISSIONER SONNY SIN asked if there will be more meetings next year and COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG said that it depends on the focus or priorities,

needs or gaps from departments. The workgroup did not meet this month. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG asked if Commissioner Chen was available to meet before the next regular Commission meeting in December. COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN is traveling until the 5th of December and COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG until the 6th. COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN would reach out to provide a few dates for the workgroup to meet before the next meeting.

9. Community Stakeholder Workgroup (*Commissioners Fang Fang, Sabrina Sha, & Mohsin Lari*) –
The workgroup is dissolved. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG asked for possible new workgroup for COMMISSIONER FANG FANG to create and be a part of.
10. Asian American Resource Center (AARC) Workgroup (*Commissioners Hanna Huang, Kuo Yang, Lily Trieu, Anna Lan, Satyajeet Dodia, Kirk Yoshida & Vincent Cobalis*) –
Updates & discussion on Phase II, staffing & budget, friends of AARC group development.
COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG updated COMMISSIONER ANNA LAN and she should be receiving updates. The last workgroup meeting was productive on 11/13. Staff are in good spirits, motion detection light installed and no hygiene issues; are having AC issues. COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN asked follow up about the air conditioning; and COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG said that they are on the wait list for PARG's FY25 and partition the building into 3 in June. HVAC should not be paid by AARC; Coordinator position is in the works. COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN shared information about the “purple pipe initiative” to use treated wastewater for the AC, rather than drinking water. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG said that the workgroup meeting for Phase II was moved to December 6th and she will be out. COMMISSIONER KUO YANG volunteered to attend and take notes for the December 6th. STAFF LIAISON JEREMY GARZA or ALEJANDRA MIRELES will email COMMISSIONER KUO YANG to ask for the notes. COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN shared that it was a pleasure to volunteer at the 10th anniversary and highly recommends volunteering. The next big event is the Lunar New Year Celebration.
11. Public Health & Safety Workgroup (*Commissioners Lily Trieu, Kuo Yang, Pierre Nguyen, Padmini Jambulapati, and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan*).
There were no meetings this month. Discussion on any outcomes, brought up in the public safety on language access. COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN shared that what makes it difficult because asking for a ride along, safety item and health with Austin & Travis County EMS. The workgroup may want to focus on one component (public health or safety) versus the other. Perhaps at the next meeting, the Commission can make a motion because the workgroup will dissolve next month.
12. Joint Inclusion Committee (*Commissioners Hanna Huang, Nayer Sikder, & Sonny Sin*) –
General update and discussion on the coalition building work of the JIC.

COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG shared updates on the last JIC meeting, on October 25th. The JIC heard from an APD Community Liaison. Update about the budget town halls – including that Commissioners need additional report after the city makes the final recommendation. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG updated that the final recommendation report would help drive the recommendations and historical tracking. COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN said that it may be important to keep track of what the budget office is telling departments as far as what funding is available. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG asked if the Commission could ask for the report and request Budget office guidelines for the department to help strengthen the relationship. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG asked what the best way is to get the information and emailing the Equity Office to request from Budget Office would be the best update. JIC is also working on a guiding document for the Committee.

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Follow up: how to approach discussion on airport vacancies/safety.

Immigration presentation – reach out to the demographer Ryan Robinson to get an update. Who is the new one?

COMMISSIONER NAYER SIKDER met with interim Robinson – potential speaker (public safety); Interim assistant manager Bruce Mills – potential speaker (airport infrastructure[traffic challenges/before getting on the plane issues] – COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN would like for specific follow up about this. COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN asked about the FAA and COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG responded with that the Commission could ask questions about 2 city staffs dying, recruitment, fuel environment; & the Mayor would like to name LBJ.

COMMISSIONER PADMINI JAMBULAPATI asked “*Warn Central Texas*” campaign – specifically the accessibility of different languages for the campaign. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG said the AAQOL worked hard in the past to get additional funding for language access and were able to get \$150K and the emergency department does not have a commission they are responsible to. COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN said that it could be under public safety – is there a recommendation there that other. Public safety is not just APD, it is also emergency. COMMISSIONER HANNA HUANG shared that the commission could ask emergency responder depart/management in regards how they address Asian American community in emergency response.

Communications and Public Information Office Update on Language Access Audit with Marion Sanchez, Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 FOLLOW up.

Staff Briefing from the Intergovernmental Affairs Office, February 20th, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:23 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the JANUARY 16, 2024 meeting on COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN's motion, COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's second on a 14-0, unanimous vote.