



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ASIAN AMERICAN COMMISSION

One Ashburton Place Room 810, Boston, MA 02108

COMMISSIONERS

Ramesh Advani
Hung Goon
Eugene A. Hartigan
Debbie Ho
Kija Kim
George King
Kai C. Lau
Grace Lee
Paul W. Lee
Malisa Schuyler
Paul D. Shaw
Karen Tseng
Howard J. Wayne
Geoffrey G. Why
Joseph Y. Wong
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jason Chou

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Meeting Agenda

State House Room 511

Tuesday, April 12th, 2011

- 1) 2011 Unity Dinner – Thursday, May 12th, 2011 at Hei La Moon
 - a. Presently, we have a commitment of \$34,500, which includes Table Captains and Corporate Sponsors. That amounts to 195 attendees. We need to shift our concentration on attracting more attendees.
 - b. What should be included in the program booklet?
 - c. What are the roles of each Commissioner at the dinner?

- 2) Commissioner membership
 - a. Understanding the Open Meeting Law (OML) and signing the Certificate of Receipt form.

- 3) Goals for the Commission to pursue, see the list below
 - a. What would you like the Commission to do and what can you offer to make that happen?
 - b. Given our limited resources, we must pursue goals that satisfy three criteria: high feasibility, high-impact returns, & low labor intensity.

Next meeting: **Tuesday, May 10th, 2011 at 12:00pm**

Goals/Ideas to pursue

- 1) **Economic Development.** Build upon our Asian American Business Owners report by finding ways to address the concerns. Initiative for a New Economy (INE) helps small MA businesses make the connection with big businesses. They have trouble getting Asian clientele and the Commission can bridge this gap.
- 2) **Health.** Work with MAP for Health to set up a legislative briefing for Hepatitis B awareness.
- 3) **Young Adult Event.** Create an event to recognize all the organizations in MA that works with young people. Each organization would be part of the programming by providing acts such as slam-poetry, dance, skits, etc.
- 4) **Legislation.** Decide whether to lobby legislation. See examples of MIRA Coalition 2011-2012 bills. Instead of filing our own, we can partner ourselves with organizations and support their bills.
- 5) **Statewide Needs Assessment.** Relaunch the Statewide Needs Assessment, Tackey Chan says there's about \$20k still sitting in the account with Charles River Neighborhood Foundation. We need to figure out how to withdraw it.
- 6) **State Outreach.** Conduct smaller events in all parts of the state and try to tie them in with public hearings (such as in Springfield that could be held the hour before the fundraiser).
- 7) **Nexus.** Establish a mechanism to have different Asian groups from different parts of the state to be able to converse and share ideas. Create a clearinghouse for people to be able to communicate ideas together.
- 8) **Website.** Create our own personalized website that links to our state website. It is more customizable and easier for others to find us.
- 9) **Committees.** Create various committees to address different areas, this will get all Commissioners engaged. Committees include outreach/communication, fundraising, economic development, education, healthcare, housing advocacy. The committees in the past were not successful since no proper guidelines were in place, perhaps we just start with one? We need to decide clearly how to administer and operate the committees, who is overseeing the committees and who is responsible on their work?



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Meeting Minutes

State House Room 511

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Absent Commissioners are highlighted as shown on the left.

1) 2011 Unity Dinner

- We will keep reminding all Commissioners of the May 12th Unity Dinner on all correspondents.
- Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge can help defray printing cost by using their in-house printers.
- The cost of each dinner attendee is \$25 and includes gratuities.
- Hei La Moon has two levels, Debbie Ho said that one level can seat up to 500 people.
- Kai Lau has volunteered to ask EastWest Bank for Corporate Sponsorship.
- Grace Lee suggested looking into the Treasury department to set up an electronic payment option.

2) Commissioner membership

- Grace and Karen have volunteered to work with Malisa and Jason to review the statute and application process.
- The process for filling vacancy may be different than continuing the remainder of a person's term.
- Our Bylaws state that the Commission is established under Chapter 3, section 67. Karen stated that it should be section 68.

3) Goals for the Commission to pursue

- Jason presented several ideas for the Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 1:02pm

Next meeting: **Tuesday, April 12th, 2011 at 12:00pm**