Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Community Development

Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 6:30 pm

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=ma34c5525b6d0509f82ea00a0e67701ac>

Meeting number: 157 752 3519

Password: Ueq6wKPvg52

For those who wish to join in by phone;

+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

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Meeting Minutes

* Welcome/Introductions
  + Meeting was opened by Chair John Tinpe
  + Commissioners offered introductions. In attendance
    - MOAPIA Staff: Ben de Guzman, James Yu
    - COAPIA: John Tinpe, Jennifer Hara, Niranjan Adhikari and Bruce Leal
  + Special Guests: No special guests this month.
* Chair John Tinpe inquired about protests planned by members of ANC Commission 8C in front of an AAPI owned liquor store. MOAPIA has not received any calls from owner or MPD’s Special Liaison Unit. MOAPIA will follow up.
* Director’s Report, Director Ben de Guzman, MOAPIA.
  + Director de Guzman briefed the Commission on MOAPIA activities.
    - Update on COVID restrictions. Can find more information on the website.
    - May is AAPI Heritage Month. The office has held some community events and Director Guzman has participated in a various virtual events as well.
    - May 22 will be the second Day of Action across DC to ensure every DC resident gets an opportunity to receive vaccinations.
    - Still hiring a Community Outreach Specialist who is bilingual in Korean.
    - Still open positions on the Commission.
    - 2nd Hope Fest planned at Sala Thai for dinner on June 16.
    - Ongoing assistance to DCRA.
    - Community outreach with District partners and updates from the community.
  + Chairman Tinpe inquired how many people are vaccinated in DC.
  + Chairman Tinpe’s comments about the Ward 8 Liquor Store protests and any action that the Office needs to take.
  + Note from Commissioner Karen Kwok about a concern for AAPI restaurant workers given the pending re-opening and the vulnerabilities around vaccinations.
* Sub-Committee “Equity Report”
  + Commissioner Leal updated the Commission on the latest progress of our Annual Report. Augustn12th is the 35th anniversary of the Report so this is a deadline they are working toward. The Committee met last week and they are now speaking with the Office about a budget to produce and distribute the report.
* Sub-Committee “Pacific Islander Task Force”
  + This Committee met last month and had a deep conversation about why there is not any recognition of the community in the City. Guam Street – what happened to it? Continuing to work with Georgetown on a specialization for the Pacific Islands in their Asian studies program.
  + Also an idea of Oceania History month and as well other events that are worth sharing.
  + Pacific Night will be virtual this year again.
* AAPI Heritage Month
  + There have been a lot of activities.
  + Additionally, a few events acknowledging the Stop Asian Hate movement.
  + Service Award nominations update. Martha Watanabe has accepted the award. The office is preparing a short video to honor this award and it will be shared on our social media. Director De Guzman, Chair Tinpe and some past Commissioners will provide videos congratulating Martha.
* Miscellaneous
  + Discussion about a history project gathering all past and current commissioners to share the history and stories about the Commission.

Meeting Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 6:30 pm

Questions:

John Tinpe Chairman, [John.Tinpe@dcbc.dc.gov](mailto:John.Tinpe@dcbc.dc.gov)

Ben Takai, Vice Chair, [BenTakai@dcbc.dc.gov](mailto:BenTakai@dcbc.dc.gov)

Jennifer Hara, Secretary, [Jennifer.hara@dcbc.dc.gov](mailto:Jennifer.hara@dcbc.dc.gov)

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