

DC Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
Commission Meeting Notes
May 25, 2017 from 6:30 PM to 7:45 PM

- **Welcome/Introductions**

- Meeting was opened by Chair John Tinpe
- Commissioners offered introductions. In attendance:
 - CAPIA
 - Martha Watanabe; Ronak Desai, Helen Lee, KJ Bagchi; on the phone: Ben Takai
 - MOAPIA
 - Phuong Nguyen
- Representatives from the Embassy of Japan were in attendance:
 - Mr. Takuya Sasayama, Minister and Head of Chancery
 - Mr. Shige Watanabe, Minister-Counsellor, Economic Section
 - Mr. Takayuki Nemoto, First Secretary, Public Affairs Section
 - Ms. Fumiyo Tsuda, First Secretary, Management and Coordination Section

- **Community Announcements and Presentations**

- Representatives from the Embassy of Japan expressed interest in collaboration opportunities with the DC government and ways in which the government of Japan could support the AAPI community in DC and provide education about Japanese Culture, History, and Economy for DC residents. Ideas discussed included:
 - DC public schools visiting the old Japanese Ambassador's residence and learning the Japanese national anthem
 - Having calligraphy demonstrations at DCPS
 - Providing a link to the Japanese Cultural Center on the MOAPIA website
 - Martial arts performances
 - Having the embassy suggest performances at the AAPI heritage month celebration
 - Movie festivals
 - The DC public schools coming to see a tea ceremony
 - Using the old Ambassador's residence to host events
- On behalf of Director Do, Ms. Phuong Nguyen provided updates regarding the May AAPI Heritage Month activities, the upcoming Chinatown Community Picnic on June 3rd and the Chinatown Park Series and the 2017 Capital Pride Parade.

- **Chinatown Neighborhood Watch Program**

- Chair Tinpe provided updates regarding changes to the Chinatown Community (i.e.: businesses that have recently closed in the Chinatown area and new businesses that have opened.), Apple Flagship store that is scheduled to open in Spring 2018, DDOT's new Chinatown parking plan.

- **Next Commission Meeting:** Thursday, June 29, 2017 at 6:30 pm