Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2020, 6:30pm to 8:00pm
Register in advance for this meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUvc--hpzguHpzguHpzguHpzguHpzguHpzguHpzguHpzguHpzguHpzguHpzgu
*Please note this meeting will be recorded

Meeting will be held via teleconference in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order on the Open Meeting Law and COVID-19

Absent Commissioners are highlighted and remote participants are indicated by an asterisk*. Quorum was reached by attendance.

Attachments:
- Meeting minutes from 6/16/20, 6/29/20, 7/8/20, 7/21/20, 8/25/20
- Executive Committee and Staff Reports
- Nonprofit and State Budgets

Staff Present: Jenny Chiang, Jessica Wong, Brooke Yuen, Sheila Vo, Lily Tang
Guests Present: Tran Le

Vira asks Mabel to help Chair the meeting today.
Mabel calls the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

1. Approval of minutes from 6/16/20, 6/29/20, 7/8/20, 7/21/20, 8/25/20 – VOTE

   **June 16 Minutes**
   - Betty notes a correction to 6/16 minutes to strike out “essence of age” and replace with “but we have to treat each other with respect and dignity”
   - Vira motions to approve the 6/16 minutes with Betty’s corrections. Danielle seconds.

   **Vote:**
   - Yes: Vira, Bora, Philjay, Vanna, Sam, Pralhad, Danielle, Mary L., Mabel
   - Abstain: Meena, Betty

   Motion passes

   **June 29 Minutes**
   - Vira motions to approve the minutes from 6/29. Meena seconds.

   **Vote:**
   - Yes: Vira, Bora, Philjay, Meena, Sam, Pralhad, Danielle, Betty, Mary L., Mabel
   - Abstain: Vanna

   Motion passes

   **July 8 Minutes**
   - Danielle notes correction under attachments regarding “Commission on Status of African Americans”
   - Sam motions to approve the 7/8 minutes, Bora seconds

   **Vote:**
   - Yes: Vira, Bora, Sam, Pralhad, Danielle, Betty, Mabel, Philjay, Vanna
Abstain: Meena, Mary L.
Motion passes

**July 21 Minutes**
- Mary L. notes a correction regarding language on approving minutes.
- Betty states that tabling the approval of minutes on 7/21 was procedurally wrong.
- Sam motions to approve the 7/21 with Mary L.’s amendment. Ying seconds

**Vote:**
- Yes: Vira, Philjay, Sam, Pralhad, Danielle, Betty, Mary L., Ying, Mabel
- Abstain: Bora, Meena, Vanna

**August 25, 2020**
- Betty requests changing the word “targeted” to “discussed” under Executive Session.
- Vira shares that the original agenda included this wording.
- Mary L. proposes removing the wording “where Staff and Commissioners were targeted” under Executive Session. Danielle shares that the wording was copied verbatim from the original agenda.
- Meena suggests removing the phrase under the agenda item.
- Mary L. proposes the following corrections:
  - Strike out “approval of minutes” and replace with “minutes to be approved”
  - Remove “vote” from agenda item
  - Remove general law language
- Bora motions to approve 8/25 minutes with amendments. Vira seconds.

**Vote:**
- Yes: Vira, Bora, Philjay, Meena, Sam, Pralhad, Danielle, Betty, Mary L., Mabel
- Abstain: Vanna, Ying

**2. Executive Committee & Staff Reports (Staff, 5 mins)**
- Jenny provided an overview of the Executive Committee report
- Jay, Brooke, and Sheila provided an overview of the staff reports.

**3. Subcommittee updates (if any): max time 3 mins each**

**Development (Vanna, Chair)**
- No updates to report at this time. Will hopefully work on having an in-person event next year.

**Government Relations, Advocacy, & Civil Rights**
- Governments Relations (Sam, Chair)
  - No updates at this time. Sam hopes to be able to convene the committee soon to discuss.
- Civil Rights (Bora, Chair)
  - Deferred for subsequent discussion

**Governance, Finance, & Communications**
- Governance (Nate, Chair)
  - Deferred for subsequent discussion
- Finance (Bora, Chair)
  - Deferred for subsequent discussion
- Communications (Danielle, Chair)
  - Vira shares that there is some work going on around the State seal as we do use the seal in our letterhead.
  - Danielle proposes connecting with Sam and legislative committee regarding the proposed bill.

Education & Leadership Development
- Education (Meena, Chair)
  - Meena shares that they will bring forth a possible pilot program for a youth council.
  - The interns will continue to help. They are putting together a database for dissemination of surveys. Meena suggested they join upcoming Commission meetings.
- Leadership Development (Philjay, Chair)
  - This year’s Young Leaders Symposium will be virtual. Possible dates: 10/24 or 10/25.
  - The committee will meet next week.

Health and Human Services (Mabel, Chair)
- Meeting last Friday with MA Council on Problem Gambling with community leaders.
  - Discussion about forming a task force to keep DPH and casinos accountable to the Asian community.
  - The work will involve all communities, not just Asian communities.
  - We are awaiting on any upcoming meeting opportunities.
  - The Council was very interested in getting contacts from Western MA.
- Asian Women for Health will be hosting their annual CelebASIAN event. AAC will be able to take out an ad opportunity in their program book.

Small Business & Economic Development (Nina, Chair)
- Deferred for subsequent discussion

4. Old business

5. New Business
   a. National Filipino American History Month (October)
      i. Philjay would like to organize a feature about Filipinos in the Boston area.
   b. National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October)
      i. Possible collaboration with ATASK. There has been a surge of domestic violence due to the pandemic.
      ii. Mabel would like to collaborate with the health and human services committee. There is also another organization, Saheli, that deals with domestic violence.
   c. Meena proposes organizing a space for Commissioners to meet in person taking account everyone’s comfort level. Mabel proposes sending out a doodle to get everyone’s availability and feedback.
d. Vira shares there is currently a petition regarding a store in Huntington, MA referring to COVID-19 as the China virus. Vira participated individually in an action with community members.

e. Meena shares there is a petition regarding Dewali to allow for use of sparklers to celebrate the holiday.

6. Next Commission meeting

7. Other Community updates & Meeting adjourned
   - Sam motions to adjourn. Meena seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
   - Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm