

Asian American Commission
8/14/07 Meeting Minutes (Paul Shaw and Mary Wong)

11:06am- Chairwoman Neelam Wali called the meeting to order.

The 6/12/07 meeting minutes were presented and Howard Wayne moved the minutes to be accepted as presented. G.Hartigan seconded. The motion was passed.

The Chairwoman's Report:

The Chair reported that the Retreat held on Friday, July 13th with Paul Wantanabe was a success and commended all who attended.

The Chair reported that the Commission's meeting with the Governor has yet to be schedule and that Leverett Wing would try to schedule a time in September.

The Chair reported on upcoming events:

1. The India Day event held at the Esplanade on Sunday 8/13 was a great success with 20,000 attending. The AAC was well represented with Grace Lee, Leverett Wing and the Chair addressing the attendees.
2. The AAC has scheduled a Candidates Forum with the 5th Congressional District Candidates on Saturday, August 25th, 10am-12:30pm, at Pailin City Restaurant, 6 Branch St., Lowell, MA 01851. Leverett Wing will moderate the Forum and will circulate the questions in advance of the Forum
3. The Lowell Water Festival takes place Saturday, August 18th and the AAC will hand out flyers about the Candidates Forum.
4. The AAC has proposed a fundraiser on Saturday, November 10th at the Lowell Hellenic Cultural Center. We will ask for individual contributions of \$25-\$30. We will honor one Asian American at the event, find a guest speaker, and have two cultural performances.
5. The Unity Dinner will be the event with a high profile speaker and the Chair urges all the Commissioners to help with fundraising.

The Chair reminded the members that the by-laws allow for 3 absences and asks the Commissioners to inform staff of their schedules.

The Executive Director's Report:

The ED reported that he attended the Chinatown August Moon Festival on August 5th and spoke following Boston Mayor Menino. Commissioner Tony Yee was the organizer for this event.

He also attended the National Conference of State Legislators on Wednesday, August 8th.

The ED also attended and spoke at the India Day Festival. The Chair was an organizer for this event.

The ED announced that the AAC will hold its first Community Public Hearing in Lowell. The Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, September 27th, at the Mayor's Reception Room in City Hall, 375 Merrimack St, Lowell, from 4pm to 7pm.

The ED plans to attend and (possibly speak) at both the Lowell Southeast Asian Water Festival on Saturday, 8/16, and the Quincy August Moon Festival on Sunday, 8/19.

The ED reported that he has been meeting with Advisory Board members; working with the Outreach Committee on e-mail, newsletter and the website; and with the Fundraising Committee on the November 10th event in Lowell and the May 2008 Unity Dinner.

The Committees' Report

Kao Li, Chair of the Outreach Committee reported that he had designed a template for Commissioners to use as requests are made of the Commission.

Guest Presentation

Vesna Nuon from Lowell Zoning Board of appeals presented Lowell community concerns regarding actions of city inspectional services. AAC will clarify procedure and process to possibly review this concern.

12:15 pm- Meeting adjourned