

MASSACHUSETTS ASIAN AMERICAN COMMISSION
State House – Room 222

Meeting Minutes April 14, 2009

Present: Tackey Chan, Howard Wayne, Paul Lee, Debbie Ho, Geoff Why, Kija Kim, Malisa Brown, Kia Lau, Gene Harrington, Joseph Wong, Kao Li.

The meeting was called to order at 12:13 pm by Tackey Chan, Chairperson.

Approval of the March 10, 2009 Meeting Minutes:

Commission members reviewed the minutes. Malisa Brown motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Howard Wayne seconded the motion. 10 in voted favor and 0 voted against, the motion was approved.

AAC 2009 Dinner Update:

Debbie Ho reported that the invitations have been printed and the date of the dinner has been moved to May 14. The location is still the same. The keynote speaker is Ilyas Bhatti, whose biographical information was distributed to the commission members. Also, Dartmouth President Dr. Jim Yong Kim will be speaking and the Commission will present an award yet to be named. Geoff Why and Diana Wong were able to contact him and the date change for the dinner was to accommodate his attendance. Diana Wong is also helping to organize this year's dinner.

Also, the Commission will recognize Dr. Kim for his past work at the World Health Organization and at Partners for Health. Award name suggestions will be vented at the dinner committee with any Commissioner looking to provide input. The award name will be presented at the next Commission meeting for approval.

This year's dinner is heavily reliant on ticket sales and the silent auction. The hope is for each Commissioner to be able to sell 2 tables and get 2 silent auction items. The Dinner Steering Committee is aware of the need for accountability and Tony Yee has been working making sure that they can demonstrate there was a review for best price available for the Committee's vendor choices.

The next Dinner Steering Committee meeting date and place will be e-mailed this month.

Asian Health Care Forum:

George King was unable to attend. A flier has been provided regarding the May 9 event at Umass. George King is looking for Commission's co-sponsorship of the event. It is expected that 20 to 25 community health providers will attend from the Greater Boston area. The first step is getting the needs of the community on the table. Outcomes will

come after getting past this first step. The Commission will ask about who the invitees are.

Kao Li motions to have the Commission co-sponsor the Asian Health Care Forum proposed by George King. Kija Kim seconded the motion. 10 in voted favor and 0 voted against, the motion was approved.

APA Month Kick Office and Exhibits in the State House

Reminder that Asian Pacific Island Month kickoff is on May 1, 2009 in the State House Great Hall. In addition, Asian American Designers Forum will have exhibits in Doric Hall from May 26, 2009 to June 6, 2009 featuring Asian American designers work.

Close of Meeting:

Motion to adjourn by Debbie Ho, and seconded by Howard Wayne. 10 voted in favor and 0 voted against. Motion is approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:53 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Tackey Chan, Acting Secretary.