



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2014**

The Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on Friday, September 12, 2014 at Asian American Resource Center, Texas.

Chair Richard Jung called the Board Meeting to order at 06:09 p.m.

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Vince Cobalis, Richard Jung, Miyong Kim, Sonia Kotecha, Thuy Nguyen, Shubhada Saxena, Richard Yuen

Staff in Attendance: Rey Arellano, Sarah Chen, Robin Otto, Marion Sanchez, Xavier Wan, Yvonne Lim Wilson

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There was no change/correction to the August 14, 2014 regular meeting draft minutes.

Recommendation to approve the August 14, 2014 regular meeting minutes as presented in draft form was approved on Commissioner Sonia Kotecha motion, Commissioner Thuy Nguyen second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Vince Cobalis was not present during the vote count.

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

There was no citizen communication at this meeting.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

Executive Liaison Rey Arellano reported that based on feedback last month, the UT team was committed to bringing resources to accomplish the study, and that the City Council approved a budget of \$100,000 for the study. Chair Richard Jung commented on budget amount and encouraged Commission Members to consider ways to augment the budget. UT team member Matt Kerwick envisioned a partnership within the UT community pool of potential participants with Social Studies or Asian background, a broad coalition of City of Austin, UT and the Asian American community.

Executive Liaison Rey Arellano introduced CPIO Community Engagement Consultant Marion Sanchez and intern Xavier Wan to present the City's Outreach and Engagement Preliminary Strategy. She discussed the challenges and opportunities, engagement goals, approach, outreach tools and engagement tools to be used for the process. Commissioners were very receptive of the strategy and provided feedback for inclusion of cultural and interactive methodology, focus on unmet needs and isolated populations. Commissioners were also interested in the ownership of data collected for the study.

Commission Members requested review of reports for the African American and Hispanic Quality of Life studies. Marion Sanchez will provide links to reports for the African American Quality of Life Study and the Hispanic Quality of Life Study. Chair Richard Jung reminded Commission

Members to check their City email accounts on a regular basis for communication, and will provide step-by-step instructions on receiving City email on smartphones to Sarah Chen to disseminate to Commissioners.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **a. Discussion and action on outreach to the community**

Commissioners discussed not using Facebook for outreach, since the City of Austin Policy on Business Usage of Social Media requires a staff member serve as the administrator of a Facebook account, and that the account be used for information sharing only. Commissioners discussed other options such as the AARC newsletter, meeting at different parts of the City, enlisting translation services which will require funding, and agreed to table this topic. Recommendation indefinitely tabling this item was approved on Commissioner Sonia Kotecha motion, Commissioner Richard Yuen second on a 7-0 vote.

##### **b. Presentation, discussion and action on ICE Detainer and Secure Communities**

Due to time constraint, this item has been moved to the next meeting. Recommendation moving this item to the October regular meeting was approved on Commissioner Richard Jung motion, Commissioner Richard Yuen second on a 7-0 vote.

##### **c. Report on Whitehouse initiative on Asian Pacific Islander Initiative**

Commissioner Sonia Kotecha reported she was not able to secure confirmation from Linda Phan to speak at this meeting and will send future meeting dates to her. This item has been postponed to a future regular meeting.

##### **d. Presentation and discussion of Austin Voices for Education and Youth**

Chair Richard Jung reported the Executive Director of Austin Voices for Education and Youth was not present at the meeting. This item has been postponed to the next regular meeting.

##### **e. Presentation and discussion on APD Booking Center**

Chair Richard Jung reported that APD planned to build a booking center next to the AARC and it presents a potential problem since the AARC is a public facility. Commissioners discussed possibly passing a resolution to Council. Recommendation moving this item to the October regular meeting and inviting APD representative to attend and educate the Commission on the new booking center to be built next to the AARC was approved on Commissioner Richard Jung motion, Commissioner Miyong Kim second on a 7-0 vote.

#### **Information Sharing (Standing Agenda Item)**

- Commissioner Sonia Kotecha shared the National Day of Service on 9/27/2014.
- Commissioner Thuy Nguyen shared the Vietnamese Mid-Autumn Festival at Summit Elementary on 09/19/2014.
- Commissioner Shubhada Saxena shared the A+ Vote, a four-hour phone bank event.
- Commissioner Vince Cobalis shared the CAN Cultural Diversity on 09/03/2014 was well attended. He also shared that the AARC workgroup met with AARC Cultural Facility Manager Taja Beekley on the breakdown of information on population served and setting up of protocol for information gathering at the AARC. Commissioner Richard Jung shared that at the AARC Kitchen Expansion meeting City staff reported some of limitations on the AARC Kitchen were due to policy.
- Commissioner Richard Jung shared the AARC Non-Profit Autumn Ball at the Hyatt Regency on 10/24/2014.

- During the last meeting, Commission Members asked if they would be allowed to speak at community events as individuals. Staff Liaison Sarah Chen checked with the City Clerk's Office and reported that as long as Commission business is not discussed during community events, Commissioners are free to speak.

**g. Future Agenda Items**

Commission Members discussed agenda items for the October 21, 2014 meeting. Five items have been placed on the agenda:

- 1) Presentation, discussion and action on ICE Detainer and Secure Communities.
- 2) Report on Whitehouse initiative on Asian Pacific Islander Initiative.
- 3) Presentation and discussion of Austin Voices for Education and Youth.
- 4) Presentation and discussion on APD Booking Center.
- 5) Information sharing (standing agenda item)

Commissioner Vince Cobalis proposed standing agenda items on the AARC workgroup and the AAQOL Community Assessment Committee meetings. Since the Committee has not met, Chair Richard Jung appointed Commissioner Richard Yuen to chair the Committee. There is a possible Committee membership change. Sarah Chen to check with the City Clerk's Office for process.

**6. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

There were no staff briefings at this meeting.

**7. ADJOURN**

Recommendation adjourning the meeting was approved on Commissioner Richard Yuen motion, Commissioner Shubhada Saxena second on a 7-0 vote. Chair Richard Jung adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.