Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Community Development

Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 6:30 pm

441 4th Street NW Room 721 North

Washington, DC 20001

Meeting Minutes

* Welcome/Introductions
  + Meeting was opened by Vice Chair Ben Takai
  + Commissioners offered introductions. In attendance
    - MOAPIA Staff: Ben de Guzman, Henry Duong, James Yu
    - CAPIA by Phone: Ben Takai, Karen Kwok, Ronak Desai, Niranjan Adhikari, Tiffany Hsieh, Elena Son, Bruce Leal, Jennifer Hara, John Tinpe, Bhavna Pandit
* Director’s Report, Director Ben de Guzman, MOAPIA.
  + Director de Guzman briefed the Commission on what MOAPIA has been doing for the past month
* COVID-19
  + Director de Guzman provided a situation update to CAPIA about the District response to COVID-19 and how MOAPIA is doing phone/online outreach to the AAPI community
  + Chair Tinpe asked what is the District’s response to help workers
    - MOAPIA said that the Dept. of Employment Services is streamlining the regular Unemployment Insurance process and is putting out videos guides for to help residents apply for benefits. MOAPIA is also helping to translate the most pertinent documents
  + Commissioner Kwok will share COVID-19 resources in different AAPI languages
  + Commissioners Kwok and Son shared information about a Mental Health Workshop they would like CAPIA to support
  + Commissioner Desai asked for a possible statement from the Mayor or CAPIA to push back against President Trump rhetoric of the “Chinese virus”. Commissioners Pandit, Desai, Hsieh, and Adhikari will confer offline.
* 2020 Census
  + MOAPIA has shifted our outreach to daily phone banking to remind our residents to complete the census
  + MOAPIA reminded Commissioners to send in selfie-style videos to help promote the census
* AAPI Heritage Month
  + Ongoing plans for the event celebrating AAPI Heritage Month were discussed and contingency plans are needed to plan around COVID-19
  + Commissioners discussed candidates that have been put forth and decided on the award recipients who will be notified in advance of the next meeting.

Meeting Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 15, 2020, 6:30 pm

Questions:

John Tinpe Chairman, [John.Tinpe@dcbc.dc.gov](mailto:John.Tinpe@dcbc.dc.gov)

Ben Takai, Vice Chair & Secretary [BenTakai@dcbc.dc.gov](mailto:BenTakai@dcbc.dc.gov)

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