



AAAC Minutes for July 10, 2024
2:00pm to 3:00pm
SPECIAL MEETING

Conducted Virtually and In Person: DCFS 1755 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL

Present:

Sebastian Emmanuel; Stany D'Souza; Nancy Rodriguez; Suk M. Wong; Sofia K. Dumlao; Ryann Unabia; Najma Adams; Jose Thomas; Santhosh Kurian; Joseph Antony; Beaulu Varghese; Jophia P. George; Bino Simon; Linson Thomas

Excused:

Saju Philip; Michelle Buckle; Khushbu Dalal; Michael Chan; Benny Kuriakose; Jose Chacko; Michelle Buckle

Ada Tong: Chief of Asian American Services and Director's Liaison

Guests: Amir Sharif

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Sebastian Emmanuel called meeting to order. Sebastian welcomed everyone.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes for 5-29-2024

Minutes for 5-29-2024 AAAC meeting was reviewed. Stany D'Souza motioned and Suk M. Wong second the motion to approve the minutes. Minutes approved. None opposed.

Asian American Star, Issue 5 for 2024 (Chairperson, Nancy Rodriguez)

Ada Tong stated that the Star newsletter, issue 5 was posted on the D-Net today, July 10. Nancy Rodriguez observed newsletter in D-Net.



Asian American Star, Issue 6 for 2024

Nancy Rodriguez recommended that for newsletter issue 6, that it be posted in the D-Net early November or early December 2024, before the holidays. Council members agreed. DCFS Communications needs at least 2 months prior to posting to review, amend, issue draft for council to review. The Star newsletter committee intends on submitting the articles to council members and to DEI and Communications Dept in August or September. Star newsletter committee welcomes new articles from AAAC.

2024 AAAC Handbook Updating

Ada Tong is working on updating the Asian American community agencies to add to the handbook.

DCFS Joint Advisory Council / 7-24-24 or 8-28-24 at 1:00pm at DCFS – Deerfield. AAAC is host **(Pending other councils response and date approval)**

Nancy Rodriguez stated that Ada Tong was included in email to council chairs. The Latino Advisory Council responded and accepted the 8-28-24, 1:00pm date and time for the DCFS Joint Advisory Council meeting. Nancy Rodriguez stated that a chairpersons meeting is needed before the 8-28-24 joint meeting. Sebastian stated that he will send the council chairpersons an email to get response from all.

2025 AAAC Family Institute (Chairperson TBD)

Chairperson is needed to lead the 2025 AAAC Family Institute event. More time is available to volunteer to be Family Institute Chairperson.

Updates from the Chief of Asian American Services (Ada Tong)

Ada Tong stated that as of 6-28-2024, DCFS has a total of 74 Asian American staff. There are 15 Asian American DCFS PSA and 5 Asian American DCFS SPSA.

Ada Tong stated that the Dragon Boat Race event occurred from 8:00am to 3:00pm. There were ample participants. Ada Tong plans to discuss with CMS a recommendation to allow all state agencies staff to be notified of the 2025 event so they too can participate.



2025 Professional Development (Chairperson, Beaulu Varghese) (tabled)

Amendment to Constitution (AAAC Bylaws) (tabled)

Outstanding OMA Certificates of Council Members

Nancy Rodriguez stated that there are council members who have not yet submitted their OMA training completion certificates.

Council Members Attendance and Removal of Non-Participating Council Members

Stany D'Souza stated that some council members are not adequately attending. Bino Simon stated that he will find out and clarify if one council member is no longer employed at Child Welfare Contributing Agency.

NEW BUSINESS

Fiscal Year 2025 AAAC Calendar posting to D-Net on 6-26-2024

Council members can now access the fiscal year 2025 AAAC monthly meeting dates calendar in the D-Net.

Next Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting is 7-24-2024.

Any other matter (none)

Meeting Adjournment

Nancy Rodriguez
Secretary