



Asian American Advisory Council

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

AAAC Minutes for May 25, 2022

Member Attendees: Nancy Rodriguez; Maggie Mui; Michelle L. Buckle

Excused Members: Sebastian Emmanuel; Stany D'Souza; Benny Kuriakose; Santhosh Kurian; Bino Simon; Saju Philip; Michael Chan; Jose Chacko; Thomas Linson; Jophia P. George; Ryann M. Unabia

Guests Present: Kimberly M. Willis; Suk M. Wong

Kara Hamilton: Associate Deputy Director, External Communications and Advisory Groups

Alix Young: DCFS Training Dept.

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

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 2:05pm by Nancy Rodriguez. Everyone was welcomed.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (tabled)

3-9-2022 Minutes

3-23-2022 Minutes

4-27-2022 Minutes

OLD BUSINESS:

Asian American Star

Articles were submitted on 4-8-2022. Nancy and Ada went over the list of article categories. Ada Tong stated that she will look into the consideration of shortening of the newsletter letters of the Council Chairperson, Newsletter Chairperson and letter from Ada Tong to accommodate all three. Ada anticipates final approval of the newsletter can occur in the first 2 weeks of July and then posted on the D-Net in August 2022.



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DCFS Asian American Advisory Council History

The history pages were submitted to Ada Tong on 5-3-2022. Ada Tong stated that she is working with Marjorie Moore to further amend the AAAC history pages.

Recruitment of New Council Members

Suk Man Wong was present and introduced herself. Wong was welcomed. Ada Tong provided Wong a brief description of the council. Nancy Rodriguez will send Wong the nomination form. Ada Tong plans to reach out to those non-participating council members.

Family Institute Day (June 24, 2022 / Ada, Chairperson)

Ada Tong reported that she plans to reach out to one potential **Keynote Speaker** of the list recommended.

Nancy Rodriguez sent Ada Tong a **budget form** to complete and submit to the DCFS Training Dept and Budget Dept for approval.

Nancy Rodriguez sent Ada Tong the form to complete to **invite the DCFS Director**. Also provided was the contact names in DCFS Communications of whom Ada Tong can obtain the DCFS Director Marc D. Smith letter for the Family Institute program book.

Ada Tong reported that **WebEx** will be used and not Zoom for the Family Institute event of 6-24-2022.

Ada is working on **Exhibitors**.

Ada Tong provided an update on the 6 **Workshops** for the event. Ada reported that 5 of the 6 Workshop presenters confirmed. The event schedule will remain the same as in 2021. Ada is working on obtaining volunteers for workshop facilitators / moderators.

Ada reported that no **Emcee** has been identified. Maggie Mui is the confirmed back-up Emcee.

Ada is following up on the **Save the Date** flyer for posting on the D-Net.

Ada reported that there are several options for the **Cultural** presentation. Ada will find out from Maggie Mui if any has been confirmed.

Alix Young reported that on 6-22-2022 at 11:30am to 12:30pm, she is available for the event **rehearsal**. Ada Tong and volunteers agreed to this date and time.

Professional Development (tabled)

Updates from the Chief of Asian American Services

Ada Tong introduced herself and thanked everyone. She is available for support if needed. Ada spoke about discussions held in management about the integration of Family Institute events of the 4 DCFS cultural councils. Ada will find out more about this integration of Asian American Advisory Council, African American Advisory Council, Latino Advisory Council, and the Indian Child Welfare Act Advisory Council.



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Officers Nominations and Elections (tabled)

Trainings for Council Members (tabled)

- OMA Training (<https://foiapac.ilag.gov/>)
- 2022 Ethics Training beginning 6-1-22 (<https://OneNet.Illinois.gov/MyTraining>)
- 2022 Harassment and Discrimination Prevention Training beginning 6-1-22 (One Net)

NEW BUSINESS

Special Guest: Kim Willis re: Birth Parent Information (tabled)

Fiscal Year 2023 AAAC Calendar of Meeting Dates

There were no concerns with the current calendar except November and December meeting dates may be changed due to the holiday months. This can be discussed on 6-22-22 meeting when more council members are present.

Next Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting is 6-22-2022

Any other matter (none)

Meeting Adjournment

Nancy Rodriguez
Secretary