



Asian American Advisory Council

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

AAAC Minutes for November 16, 2022

2:00 pm-3:30pm

Council Members Present: Stany D'Souza; Nancy Rodriguez; Suk M. Wong; Michael Chan; Maggie Mui; Margaret S. Smith; Michelle L. Buckle; Ryan Unabia

Council Members Excused: Sebastian Emmanuel; Benny Kuriakose; Santhosh Kurian; Linson Thomas; Saju Philip; Bino Simon; Jose Chacko; Jose Thomas; Margaret Smith; Jophia P. George

Others Present:

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

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

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Stany D'Souza led today's meeting in absence of Chairperson Sebastian Emanuel. Stany welcomed everyone.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes (No Quorum)

Asian American Star, Issue 3, Feb 2023 (Nancy Rodriguez, Star Newsletter Chairperson)

The Star newsletter committee met on 10-17-22. The committee needs submission of articles from all AAAC council members for the newsletter. Nancy Rodriguez will send notice to council members. Michelle Buckle reported what some of the newsletter ideas we have thus far.

Recruitment of New Council Members, 4 of 21 (Stany D'Souza, Recruitment Chairperson)

Maggie Mui reported that she is resigning from DCFS on 11-25-2022. She will no longer be an AAAC council member. Stany D'Souza reported that he has no new council member nominations. Ada Tong recommended that next ballots email come with descriptions and roles of Chairperson, Chair-Elect and Secretary. Stany D'Souza reported that the information is contained in our AAAC bylaws. Ada Tong reported that the information is also located in our AAAC handbook.



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2023 Family Institute Day Planning

Nancy Rodriguez agreed to Chair the 2023 AAAC Family Institute planning. The council is hopeful to have the event in person either on 5-19-22, 5-26-22 or 6-2-22. Some of the universities / colleges that can be contacted are Oakton Community College, Loyola University, Northwestern University. Maggie Mui volunteered to contact Northwestern University. Ada Tong reported that AAAC was approved for \$25,000 from the DCFS budget for our events. The AAAC council can use \$1,000 for the Professional Development event. Michael Chan volunteered to lead the task of food ordering. Margaret Smith agreed to help with food ordering tasks. Ada Tong volunteered to help with workshops and Exhibitors. Michelle Buckle also volunteered to help. Stany D'Souza will conduct the email blasts at appropriate times.

Professional Development and Innovation (Margaret Smith, Chairperson)

Margaret Smith stated that the Professional Development and Innovation event is scheduled for 1-27-2023 from 9:00am to 11:00am. The event will be held virtually. Stany D'Souza and Ada Tong are part of the committee. There will be a one-hour panel and a one-hour workshop regarding leadership roles. Theme is still pending development.

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

Ada Tong reported that as of 10-31-22, there has been 2 new Asian American hires in DCFS. One is an Office Associate. One is a Child Welfare Nurse Specialist.

Officers Nominations and Elections (Stany D'Souza, Chairperson)

Stany D'Souza reported that he received three nominations for AAAC Officers in categories of Chairperson, Chair-Elect and Secretary. One council member accepted the nomination. Two council members declined the nominations. Nancy Rodriguez will send ballots again to council members.

NEW BUSINESS

AAAC Christmas Celebration Scheduling and Planning

Ada Tong recommended that the Christmas celebration occur on 12-14-22 from 11:00am to 1:00pm at the DCFS Deerfield office. Ada Tong agreed to take the lead in the Christmas celebration planning. She will assure that a conference room is reserved. Food will be ordered from the restaurant.

Next Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting is 12-14-2022

Any other matter (none)

Meeting Adjournment

Nancy Rodriguez
Secretary