



Asian American Advisory Council

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

AAAC Minutes for December 14, 2022

11:00am to 1:00pm

Council Members Present: Sebastian Emmanuel; Nancy Rodriguez; Santhosh Kurian; Margaret S. Smith; Suk M. Wong; Michael Chan

Council Members Excused: Benny Kuriakose; Bino Simon; Jophia P. George; Jose Chacko; Jose Thomas; Khushbu S. Dalal; Linson Thomas; Michelle Buckle; Ryann Unabia; Saju Philip; Stany D'Souza

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

HOLIDAY WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Sebastian Emmanuel called meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes (8-24-22; 9-28-22; 11-16-22) (The 10-26-22 meeting was cancelled.)
Minutes tabled.

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

Nancy Rodriguez sent email to council members with the available articles for the Star newsletter. Margaret will complete a summary article of the upcoming 1st professional development of 1-27-2022. Nancy Rodriguez requested more articles from council members. Deadline for articles is in January 2023.

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

Ada Tong suggested that for 2023, the current chair contact all council members to inquire again of their interest to continue to be a AAAC council member. No addition nominations have been submitted.

2023 Family Institute Day Planning (Nancy Rodriguez, Chairperson)

The approved DCFS budget for this event is \$25,000. The selected dates for our annual AAAC Family Institute event are: 5-19-2023 (first choice); 6-2-2023 (second choice); 5-26-2023 (third choice). Nancy Rodriguez has reached out to Loyola University and is waiting for a response. Margaret volunteered to reach out to Truman College. Sebastian volunteered to reach out to Triton College. Ada Tong volunteered to reach out to Maggie Mui to see who the contact person is at Northwestern University. Oakton Community College and DePaul University are also venue options Michael and Margaret volunteered to order the food. Ada Tong and Michael Chan



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volunteered to lead Workshops and Exhibitors. Ada Tong will be added to emails regarding venue contacting. Keynote speaker ideas are needed.

Professional Development and Innovation (Margaret Smith, Chairperson)

Margaret Smith stated that the professional development event will occur on 1-27-2023 from 9:00am to 11:00am virtually. The save the date flyer will be ready next week. Keynote speaker is pending.

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

Ada Tong met the DCFS Deerfield site staff today, 12-14-2022. For Asian American staff, there has been 1 promotion and 3 separations. Margaret Smith suggested the review of redacted exit interviews to find out why there were 3 separations of Asian American staff.

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

Stany was not available for an update. Sebastian stated that thus far, there is one nomination for AAAC Officers.

AAAC Christmas Celebration

Lunch was provided by AAAC and welcomed guests. Photo was taken. Holidays were celebrated.

NEW BUSINESS

Next Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting is 1-25-2023 from 2:00pm to 3:30pm.

Any other matter (none)

Meeting Adjournment

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

Nancy Rodriguez
Secretary