

DC Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
October Commission Meeting Notes
October 5, 2015 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

- Welcome/Introductions
 - Meeting was opened by Chair Ada Loo
 - Introductions were made by each Commissioner and new Commissioners present were introduced -- Thu Nguyen and Easten Law
 - Attendance: Present -- Ada Loo; Martha Watanabe; Surjeet Ahluwalia; Dana Tai Soon Burgess; Thu Nguyen; Christina Truong; David Do. On the phone -- Jed Wulfekotte; Laura Shin; Easten Law; Nick Lephram; Erick Hosaka; Sapna Pandya
 - Briefly discussed potential dates for a meeting with the Mayor and swearing-in for new Commissioners. Potential dates discussed were Oct 19, 21 and the week of Nov. 9th.

- MOAPIA Updates – Director Do
 - Director Do took this time to provide a brief report on the AAPI Action Forum that took place on Sept. 12, 2015 with over 200 district members working on key areas. With the assistance of Steve Brigham of Public Engagement Associates, an implementation plan will be established in the next 3 to 4 months (with Commissioners participating in planned meetings, likely in November, but that is yet to be determined at this time.)
 - Commissioner Pandya raised two issues: (1) a bill on more language access, sponsored by Grosso; and (2) seeking Commission’s position on affordable housing issues in Chinatown, specifically 401K regarding the razing of buildings. Commissioner Pandya will provide information on both issues so that Commissioners can proactively reach out to the Council, community, stakeholders, Mayor, etc. and consider drafting resolutions concerning these issues.
 - Vice-Chair Burgess raised questions around MOAPIA’s strategic planning around capacity building.
 - Commissioner Ahluwalia raised concerns around grant funding and the 3-4 months delay around the process. Commissioners shared Commissioner Ahluwalia’s concerns and plan to assist in outreach.
 - Director Do shared commitment forms with the Commissioners and asked that they identify their interest in specific issues. An electronic version will be shared.
 - Director Do shared the pledge to end homelessness. Asked Commissioners to reach out to their communities to obtain more pledges. An electronic version will be shared.

- Community Announcements
 - American Dental Association conference held in DC at the Convention Center will be partnering with Mission of Mercy to provide free dental care to all on Nov. 8, 2015 from 530 am to 530 pm. Commissioner Hosaka will provide the details to MOAPIA to share with the community.
 - Commissioner Shin announced that the Council of Korean Americans will have its Gala Awards Dinner on Oct. 23, 2015. If interested, contact Commissioner Shin.
 - Commissioner Wulfekotte shared that APABA-DC has plans to expand its community outreach and to include APA advocacy issues, so are looking for new community partners to assist. Commissioner Wulfekotte is the newly elected APABA-DC President.
 - Commission commends Director Do and his staff for all the hard work they have been doing these past 10 months of the new Mayoral administration.