



Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

Tuesday, March 2, 2022

6 to 8 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

I. **Commission Attendance: Yes**

Henry Sangtai Kim – Chair
May Chan Anderson – Member
Hyun-Sook Choi – Member
Elizabeth L. Chung – Member
Hyun S. Helen Han – Member
Robert Manankil – Member
Mi Schill Kim – Member
Meki To'alepai – Member
Edward Wan – Member
Bob Zhang – Member

Hung-Bin Ding, Ph.D. – Vice Chair
Kyong “Ken” Yol Baik - Member
Mitsuhiro “Micky” Saito Choi - Member
George P. Dang – Member
Dottie Tiejun Li - Member
Chau Nguyen - Member
Mie Mie Strickler - Member
Chiling Tong - Member
Bethsaida Amigable-Wong - Member
Lili Zhang – Member

GOCI Staff:

Christina Poy – Administrative Director of APA Affairs Commission, GOCI
Cheryl Madigan – Project Coordinator for the Ethnic Commissions, GOCI
Lorena Rivera – Admin. Director of Hispanic Affairs and Director of Immigrant Affairs, GOCI
Soo Koo – Deputy Director of Immigrant Affairs, GOCI

Guests:

Jess Horner, Chil Kong, Rose Chen, Samantha Cheng, Luis Florenda, Wei Gan, Thomas Wong and Ted Gong

I. **Call to Order and Procedural Reminders:**

Chairman, Henry Kim called meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

II. **Welcoming Remarks:**

Administrative Director Christina Poy greeted the Commission and GOCI Staff and introduced Maryland Historical Trust and RK&K.

III. **Presenters:**

MHT presentation on Documents of the Asian American Communities in Maryland
Heather Barrett - Administrator of Architectural Research, Maryland Historical Trust
Nicole Diehlmann - Senior Architectural Historian, RK&K

IV. **Motions: Approval of Minutes:**

Motion	1 st	2 nd	Vote	
Approval of the Minutes for the 11-02-2021 Meeting	Chau Nguyen	Dottie Li	14Y-0N-0A	

V. Presenter:

OAH presentation of The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH)
Chung K. Pak, J.D. - Chief Administrative Law Judge, MD of OAH

VI. Communications Announcements

Christina Poy – Administrative Director of the APA & SAA Affairs –informed the commission of the three new divisions under the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives, which are the LGBTQ Affairs, Autism Strategy, and Immigrant Affairs. They are currently accepting applications for the Director of the LGBTQ Affairs Commission and Katie Gandy (katie.gandy@maryland.gov) is the coordinator of Autism Strategy. We have here tonight the Director of Immigrant Affairs, Lorena Rivera, which she is still the Administrative Director of the Hispanic Commission and Deputy Director Soo Koo.

Lorena Rivera spoke about the Office of Immigrant Affairs. They have three main objectives that they have working on at this time.

- 1) Website: <https://goci.maryland.gov/immigrant/>, which has links to resources to state agencies and to nonprofit organizations. If you would like to be added on to our list or if you would like to add someone else, please email her at lorena.rivera@maryland.gov.
- 2) Working on creating a Hotline. It’s very hard as a new American to navigate local resources from English classes to GD education, housing assistance to enrolling your children in school, health care food stamps. Working with MD 211, and they have the possibility of having interpreters and over 180 languages. So, anyone that calls in can be connected to local resources in their language. They hope to get that up and going by this spring. Also, within the hotline, there will be a hate crimes hotline.
- 3) To have stand up neighborhood resource centers, which they have spoken to two great individuals who run nonprofit organizations across the state, and we plan to partner with them. These places where people can just go in and try to find information and try to be connected.

Soo Koo (soo.koo@maryland.gov), spoke about the Hotline. They are trying to build up a structure and long-term solutions to combat hate crimes. This will be for all communities at large. One of the primary things is to coordinate the 211 MD, removing language barriers, when our communities would like to talk about crimes or hate incidents and just what's going on in their community. So, they understand that there are hate crimes out there, but there are some incidents that do not necessarily reach the level of a crime, but those incidents need to be reported, because there's a huge possibility that they could become a crime. The resolution of the language barrier is very important, because our community members just want to know that they can pick up the phone and call a number and then directly talk to somebody in their language.

Christina Poy mentioned the following – Russia invading Ukraine. The Governor had said that the State of Maryland had a 30-year relationship within a Sister State relationship with Leningrad, which has been terminated. He also ordered all state agencies, and our pension system to make sure that they do not invest and that they divested in any Russian companies or investments that they previously had. So, he thought it was important to send a clear message that the people of Maryland and the people of America are standing in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and against Putin and Russia is aggression.

VII. Commissioner Events Check-In

- 1) Elizabeth Chung - May 7th APAHM Celebration at Carroll Creek Park in Frederick, which will be an in-person event.
- 2) Meki To’alepai - March 27th Polynesian Dance presentation at Chesapeake Children’s Museum in Annapolis at 2:00 p.m. This is a part of Maryland Day.
- 3) Meki To’alepai – April 2nd World Dance Showcase (featuring Asian Pacific dance) at the Public Playhouse in Hyattsville at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale.

VIII. Commissioner Business

Christina Poy – GOCI 2022 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration in May. We need to start organizing it and pick a date. We will be supported by the First Lady, Yumi Hogan. We need committee members as volunteers for the planning committee. We want to celebrate Dr. Sovan Tun and have a little Memorial celebration video. Christina has created a folder and shared it with the Commission, but no one yet has contributed anything. So, if you have any pictures or plan to write anything, please add it to the folder or email Christina or Cheryl the documents. GOCI doesn’t have their own Communications Director now, but we will getting a new Governor’s Coordinating Offices Communication’s Director.

IX. Public Announcements

No comments.

X. Closing

XI. Meeting Adjourned

Motion	1st	2nd	Vote	Adjourn: 8:16 p.m.
Adjourn	May Anderson	Elizabeth Chung	14Y-0N-0A	