**Board Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, January 22, 2022 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Zoom Conference Call

1. **Call to Order**

Quorum reached at 10:00 AM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Nguyen at 10:02 AM.

*Present:* Chair Nam Nguyen, 1st Vice Lydia Faitalia, 2nd Vice Chair Carrie Huie-Pascua, Cmmr. Julio Diaz, Cmmr. Ekkarath Sisavatdy, Cmmr. Kendall Kosai, Cmmr. Lalita Uppala, Cmmr. Ping Ping, Cmmr. Chongsun Abbott, Cmmr. Toka Valu, and Cmmr. Satpal Singh Sidhu

*Absent:* Cmmr. Sam Cho (unexcused)

*Staff:* Executive Director Toshiko Grace Hasegawa and Project Coordinator Brenda O’Brien

1. **Welcome**

Welcoming remarks were made by Rep. Vandana Slatter of the 48th LD. Amongst her legislative priorities are having students credentialed via a postsecondary institution. There are also four bills she is supporting—HB 1659, 1835, 1736, and 1850.

1. **Approval of Agenda & Minutes**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by 1st Vice Chair Faitalia. Seconded by Cmmr. Diaz. No dissents, or abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the last meeting minutes was made by Cmmr. Ping. Seconded by 2nd Vice Chair Huie-Pascua. No dissents, or abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

1. **Public Comment**

Kan Qiu, from Asians for Equality, returned to provide a brief update on HB 5264, which designates January as Chinese History Month. He reiterated the importance of having Asian Amerian history taught in public schools, and urged CAPAA’s support in pushing it through to the House.

Fred Thomas, of Next Steps Washington, shared his support of HB 1507, which allows for independent prosecutions of criminal conduct arising from police use of force. He also stated that HB’s 1788 (concerning vehicular pursuitus) and 2037 (modifying use of force standards by peace officers) are rollback bills that he hopes will not go through.

Carmen Rivera, from Community Outreach for L&I , is making sure that the message is getting out that they are doing their best to provide services to those with limited English, and to provide literature on who L&I is in their preferred language.

Former Project Manager Rosa Mai thanked everyone for the last 3 years. She has worked at many places with amazing teams, but there has been no other place where she has felt more institutionally supported than at CAPAA, or felt that she could achieve her personal and professional goals by and with community.

1. **Tonga Volcano and Tsunami Update**

Cmmr. Valu provided an update on what has been happening in Tonga since the volcanic eruption and tsunami. Australia and New Zealand have established boots on the ground aid, sending in support and supplies. Eighty percent of the islands are blanketed in ash, which has made sweeping it up futile, and breathing it in difficult to avoid.

There has been extensive damage on the western side, and food and water have been affected. A Tongan community meeting will take place the next day for a game plan going forward. The goal is to look ahead several months to anticipate what will still be needed in support and rebuilding efforts.

If anyone is interested in supporting relief efforts, please contact UNICEF or the Red Cross. Cmmr. Valu also knows of a few localized Go Fund Me campaigns raising support directly helping affected families or offsetting shipping expenses for aid being sent.

1. **Commissioner Community Updates**

Cmmr. Valu reported that vaccination continues to be a top priority, as well as rental relief in Pierce and King Counties.

Cmmr. Kosai shared that Stop AAPI has released another report that shows that 1:5 ANHPI’s have experienced hate in the last year. Continuing to assist in that area has remained a top priority. In DC, there are two programs accepting interns in the area. Both OCA and APIC offer paid opportunies through the summer for ANHPI students, and applications are now being accepted.

Lastly, the OCA Seattle Chapter will be hosting their annual Golden Circle Awards on March 18th at the Joy Palace Restaurant. They will be honoring Trang Tu, AAPI Against Hate, and Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action (PSARA).

Cmmr. Diaz has been impacted by Omicron, in that it limited his outreach to Zoom, emails, and phone

calls this period. He has been able to forward testing resources and grant opportunities to CBO’s and

for financial education classes that CAPAA has sent to the Commission.

He has also connected with Commerce’s Small Business Resiliency team to learn more about them and learn about any funding opportunities. The Economic Development Committee has been sending these opportunities out to their networks.

Finally, there is a Listening Forum being held by Commerce and co-hosted by CAPAA/Economic Development Committee. More details will be coming up soon.

Cmmr. Huie-Pascua gave the current vaccination status for Yakima County. The vaccination rate presently stands at 59%, which is 14% lower than the overall state average. What is most concerning is that Yakima County has 99% more deaths per 100,000 residents.

The Filipino community will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Filipino Community Hall on April 30th. The event may be held in-person depending on the status of the pandemic. Mental health has also become a huge concern, and NAMI has been active in addressing strategic plans that encompass equity.

Cmmr. Abbott has continued to be involved in addressing the cargiver shortage issue. She will be on Radio Hankook to share the need, and the salary that is being offered through the Korean Women’s Association (KWA) for caregivers.

KWA will also be honoring former Cmmr. Lori Wada next week for the work she has done with small businesses. They are also working on strategic plans regarding an assisted living facility that the community is calling for.

Lastly, she will be interviewed by KOAM TV, based in Federal Way, to highlight her work and to discuss the needs of the Korean community.

Cmmr. Sisavatdy conveyed that communities and agencies have been working hand-in-hand around testing kits. Five thousand kits have been distributed to the Lao community. Anyone interested in getting testing kits or PPE can obtain them at: <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/emergency-management/covid-requests.aspx#test-kits>.

King County has also partnered with him to create an informational video for communities regarding the test kits in the Lao language, and Cmmr Sisavatdy is editing the videos in Tagalog and Hmong. Currently, they are in need of assistance in helping to translate the videos into the Mandarin and Cantonese languages.

Cmmr. Ping relayed that ANHPI has a dream to be united in community and united in their care for each other. In this vein, Spokane’s United We Stand has an event coming up on February 5th to celebrate Lunar New Year. There has been an interval of 89 years since Lunar New Year was last celebrated in Spokane, and with more events like this taking place in Spokane, ANHPI are starting to convey that

there is robust community in the area. More information about the event can be found here: <https://www.spokaneunitedwestand.org/spokane-s-lunar-new-year>.

Next, Spokane lacks the professionals who can speak the Chinese language. It also lacks mental health professionals who can speak Asian languages. Lastly, the Education Committee has been meeting monthly and this year they will be inviting the community representatives to share how the committee can best support them.

Cmmr. Sidhu has been deeply involved with efforts to aid the families impacting by recent flooding in the area. It is the worst incident of flooding in Snohomish County to date. The Sikh community has been able to raise $75K in a couple of days with the help of the Largesse community in the greater Seattle area. This was matched by Whatcom Community Foundation to total $150K. The flooding and dealing with Omicron has consumed his time in the last 3 months.

Cmmr. Faitalia announced her full agreement of Cmmr. Cho’s call for vaccination events to take place after business hours. With this in mind, she has been working with United Indians, ACRS, and other ANHPI organizations to put together a caravan vaccination clinic. The tentative date is for February 15th from 4:30-7:00 PM.

The Washington Activity Physical Task Force has completed their meetings and will be presenting their report to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board on January 25th at 2:00 PM. The final report will be available in early February and Cmmr. Faitalia will forward it to ED Hasegawa to share with the Commission when it is available .

Next, COFA Islander enrollment has been making a smooth transition from Apple Health to Medicaid under the efforts of the Pacific Islander Health Board. If there are any Pacific Islanders that need assistance with this, please forward their information to them.

Cmmr. Faitalia is also pleased to report that the EOGOAC has been doing an incredible job of meeting the needs of our communities. She’d like to especially recognize the efforts of Rep. Santos, Rep. Ortiz-Self, Rep. Alex Ybarra, Frieda Takamura, Sili Savusa, and Sen. Bob Hasegawa. They are working on a report for 2022 to raise their concerns around HB 1541 (disaggregation of data), which was passed in 2016. She is happy to share that the implementation should be completed by school districts by 2022-2023. The ethnic Commissions have also been meeting to collaborate on a recommissioning of the 2008 Achievment Gap studies.

Lastly, Cmmr. Faitalia expressed her gratitude for Cmmr. Sisavatdy, for help making it possible for them to distribute 300 home testing kits to the ANHPI community. There is also a diabetes study that being held by WSU by a Native Hawaiian professor. This study will target Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders with type 2 diabetes or hypertension.

Cmmr. Uppala shared that a series of vaccination clinics have been scheduled. The next one will take place January 26th from 3:00-7:00 PM at the Marriott in Redmond. PPE will be provided as well.

N94 and KN95 masks, which are the most effective against Omicron, are continuing to be distributed to small businesses. To date, over 1000 boxes have been distributed.

Efforts are also underway to advocate for relief to not be restricted to rental assistance. They have discovered that many immigrant and refugee small business owners have taken out loans through community brokers and vendors, which has resulted in racking up considerable debt that disqualifies them from rental assistance.

Finally, advocacy efforts to provide mental health support that are culturally nuanced are taking place, as a result of a recent uptick of MH needs.

1. **Staff Report & Legislative Watch List Review**

ED Hasegawa gave a verbal overview of the Staff Report and Legislative Watch List. Full report can be accessed below.



Chair Nguyenwelcomed a motion to support any particular bill, at which point ED Hasegawa gave a point of information regarding SB 5264. After review by the Executive Committee, it was determined there is no reason that CAPAA could not support the bill. A motion to support the bill was made by Chair Nguyen and seconded SB 5264 was given by Cmmr. Uppala. Motion passed unanimously. No abstentions or dissents.

Chair Nguyen welcomed any other motions to support a bill. First Vice Chair Faitalia motioned to support HB 1881, which include doulas to be covered by Medicaid. Many community members have expressed a distrust of going to hospitals and would feel more comfortable with in-home births. Motion was seconded by Cmmr. Diaz. Motion passed unanimously. No abstentions or dissents.

Cmmr. Diaz asked for clarification on if Rep. Slatter’s HB 1659 is still under review for support or if it’s open to vote on approval. Chair Nguyen indicated that it was open to vote on after looking it up, so Cmmr. Diaz motioned support of the bill. It was seconded by 1st Vice Chair Faitalia. Motion passed unanimously. No abstentions or dissents.

1. **Discussion on returning to in-person board meetings**

Gov. Inlsee has indicated that there will be no in-person meeting until March 15th, so Chair Nguyen proposed not meeting in-person for the next Board Meeting, as it is uncertain what will happen with COVID by then. He proposes we have one in June instead, when cases have shown to be lower. We can certainly revisit convening in-person meetings again as we draw closer to that meeting. There were no objections to that proposal by the Commission.

1. **Good of the Order**

Cmmr. Sidhu announced that January 26th will be India’s 4th of July, which marks the Republic’s 73rd anniversary of their drafting of the constitution.

ED Hasegawa has assigned tracking of the HB 1881 to the Health & Human Services Committee. If Chair Valu cannot follow the movement of the bill, he should engage a member of the committee to do so. If we decide to have someone speak on the bill, they should bring it up with Legislative Committee Chair Cho or ED Hasegawa for review and approval.

HB 1659 will be assigned to Education Committee Chair Ping. If she cannot follow the bill, she should engage a member of that committee to do so. If it’s decided that we would like to speak on that bill, it should be brought up to Legislative Committee Chair Cho or ED Hasegawa for review and approval.

Finally, SB 5264 will be assigned to Civil Rights Committee Chair Kosai. If he does not have capacity to follow that bill, he should assign it to a member of the committee. CAPAA will be more than happy to draft up remarks for comment, if needed.

Chair Nguyen offered a chance for any last minute public comments before adjourning the meeting for members of the public. Terique Sky, from the League of Washington Voters, thanked the Commission for the opportunity to be a part of the meeting and expressed that he enjoyed listening in.

1. **Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM to move into the Executive Session for the Commission.

1. **Executive Session**
2. **Chat Box Transcript**

From Me to Everyone 10:04 AM

Welcome everyone! If you are joining us today, please put your name/organization and email in the chat.

From Fred Thomas to Everyone 10:05 AM

Fred Thomas, Next Steps Wa

From Lalita Uppala she/her IACS/IAWW to Everyone 10:05 AM

Welcome Commissioner Sidhu - looking forward to working with you.

From RIVC235 to Everyone 10:08 AM

Carmen Rivera, community outreach specialist with Department of Labor and Industries.

From Lin Crowley to Everyone 10:18 AM

Thank you for moving these bills forward, Rep. Slatter. Please include the bill numbers here in chat again, so we can help advocate through APIC. Thank you again!

From Kendall Kosai to Me (Direct Message) 10:19 AM

Hi! I noticed that on the legislative tracker on Trello the anti-doxing bill is still on it. Unfortunately, as of Thursday that bill is tabled so you can remove it from the tracker if that's okay!

Me to Kendall Kosai (Direct Message) 10:21 AM

👍

From Kendall Kosai to Everyone 10:22 AM

Thank you for working on the data privacy bill! Very important!

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy to Everyone 10:22 AM

Thank you Rep. Slatter

From Lin Crowley to Me (Direct Message) 10:22 AM

Good morning, Brenda. I came in a little late, so please share those bill numbers again, if possible. Thank you.

From Ping Ping to Everyone 10:22 AM

Thank you Rep. Slatter!!

From Lydia M.Faitalia to Everyone 10:22 AM

Thank you , Rep. Slatter.

From Satpal Sidhu to Everyone 10:22 AM

Thank you Vandana

From Lalita Uppala she/her IACS/IAWW to Everyone 10:22 AM

Thank You Rep. Slatter for your time here - we need your leadership

From Rep. Slatter 48 to Everyone 10:24 AM

Thank you so much - has been an honor to be invited; the bill numbers are HB 1659, 1835,1736 and for data privacy HB 1850 - thank you for your support!

From julio diaz to Everyone 10:32 AM

Thank you Ms. Rivera, could you please leave us your contact info.

From Lalita Uppala she/her IACS/IAWW to Everyone 10:32 AM

Thank You dear Rosa for your hard work and commitment to community support - best wishes for a very inspirational journey ahead .

From Lydia M.Faitalia to Everyone 10:33 AM

We miss you Rosa! I can’t wait to see you again.

From Rosa Mai (she/her) to Everyone 10:33 AM

Thank you Lalita & Lydia! I admire you both, and thank you for mentorship these last few years.

From Ping Ping to Everyone 10:34 AM

love you, Rosa! Thank you for all the wonderful work.

From Rosa Mai (she/her) to Everyone 10:34 AM

Thank you, Ping Ping! Thank you for all you do for our communities, especially in Spokane!

From RIVC235 to Everyone 10:34 AM

Carmen Rivera Community Outreach Specialist with Department of Labor and Industries carmen.rivera@lni.wa.gov (360) 333-0362.

From Kan Qiu to Everyone 10:34 AM

Thank you all. SB 5264 Declaring January as Chinese American history month and encouraging public schools to commemorate the month. (REVISED FOR ENGROSSED: Recognizing contributions of Americans of Chinese descent.)https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/?billNumber=5264&year=2022&initiative=False

From Fred Thomas to Everyone 10:36 AM

1507 Independent Prosecutor will be voted in Thursday it needs to pass, 1788 & 2037 are rollback bills and need to fail,

Me to Lin Crowley (Direct Message) 10:37 AM

the bill numbers are HB 1659, 1835,1736 and for data privacy HB 1850 - thank you for your support!

From Lin Crowley to Me (Direct Message) 10:38 AM

Thank you!

Me to Lin Crowley (Direct Message) 10:38 AM

you're so welcome!

From Toshiko Hasegawa to Everyone 10:41 AM

@fred, @vandana, I've added your items to the leg watch list. @kan it is already on our watch list :)

From Satpal Sidhu to Everyone 10:43 AM

Commsr Kosai, can you please share the links to the Internship opportunities

From Kan Qiu to Everyone 10:43 AM

Awesome, thank you so much @Toshiko, thanks everyone!

From Toshiko Hasegawa to Everyone 10:44 AM

@cmmr kosai we inclunde in the next capaa newsletter, as well on social media! Fwd to us via email at toshiko.hasegawa@capaa.wa.gov

From Kendall Kosai to Everyone 10:44 AM

OCA Internship - Deadline Jan 30: https://www.ocanational.org/summer-internship; APAICS Internship - Deadline Jany 28: https://www.apaics.org/congressional-internship

From Toshiko Hasegawa to Everyone 10:49 AM

received! Thank you, Kendall!

@cmmr huie Pascua remember that CAPAA has sponsorship funds avail for these such events

FYI NAMI - WA was a sponsor of our Sapphire Celebration

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy to Everyone 10:58 AM

https://kingcounty.gov/depts/emergency-management/covid-requests.aspx#test-kits

From Toshiko Hasegawa to Everyone 11:00 AM

@cmmr Sisavatdy, please note that commissioner uppala is a WONDERFUL resource for translators!

From Lin Crowley to Everyone 11:04 AM

So glad to hear you are making videos in different languages. We are also working to make a couple of videos, and would love to collaborate with you and support your work. Please contact me at apic.southpugetsound@gmail.com, or personally @ lincrowley@gmail.com. Thank you again,

Commissioner Sisavatdy.

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy to Everyone 11:04 AM

Thank you, I'll be in touch with Cmm. Uppala

From Ping Ping to Everyone 11:04 AM

https://www.spokaneunitedwestand.org/spokane-s-lunar-new-year

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy to Everyone 11:06 AM

Thank you Lin, would love to collaborate, I'll reach out following and share what languages are in the works

From Ping Ping to Everyone 11:06 AM

This is Lunar New Year event in Spokane on Feb. 5 Saturday 1-7 pm, welcome to Spokane folks, thank you, 虎年快乐，happy year of Tiger

From Satpal Sidhu to Everyone 11:09 AM

Commr Sisavatdy, We have a local resource to voice over the video in Punjabi. I would like to collaborate with you.

From julio diaz to Everyone 11:11 AM

Department of Financial Institutions, Financial Education Grant Application, funds available assist our community CBO’s/non-profits, schools, churches, etc. implement or support ongoing financial literacy programs https://dfi.wa.gov/financial-education/grants. If you have any questions about the 2022-23 Financial Education grants, please email FEGrants@dfi.wa.gov or direct to lyn.peters@dfi.wa.gov

360-349-8501 cell

From Lydia M.Faitalia to Everyone 11:17 AM

Welcome K’gnausa

From Carrie Huie-Pascua to Everyone 11:18 AM

So pleased to welcome K'gnausa!

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy to Everyone 11:18 AM

Congratulations, welcome K'gnausa! Can't wait to put you to work! :-)

From K'gnausa Yodkerepauprai to Everyone 11:19 AM

Thank you for this opportunity. I am excited to start!

From Ping Ping to Everyone 11:20 AM

Congratulations K'gnausa! Thank you for joining CAPAA, looking forward to your work.

From Jesse Tam to Everyone 11:23 AM

Hi Commissioners,

Hi Commissioners, if you need someone who can speak Cantonese, I'm able to help as volunteer. My email: Jesset28@aol.com

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy to Everyone 11:24 AM

Thank you Jesse! I'll reach out off line...

From Toshiko Hasegawa to Everyone 11:29 AM

https://trello.com/b/8bpmxD0x/2022-legislative-tracker.

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy to Everyone 11:53 AM

How to Video: Flowflex Rapid Test kit (English): https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XejV7qc3BaLxj3B\_Q7kzM4G9RxQHn9fo/view?usp=sharing

From Lin Crowley to Everyone 11:53 AM

Beautiful leg tracker and report! Thank you, ED Hasegawa! Thank you to all Commissioners, for supporting the SB5264 history month bill and HB1659.

From Satpal Sidhu to Everyone 11:55 AM

Thanks Commr Sisavatdy for sharing the video

From Kan Qiu to Everyone 11:57 AM

Thank you so much!

From Lydia M.Faitalia to Everyone 11:57 AM

Thank you for being here Terique