**Board Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, March 20, 2021 | 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Zoom Conference Call

1. **Call to Order**

Quorum reached at 10:00 AM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Nguyen at 10:05 AM.

*Present:* Chair Nam Nguyen, 1st Vice Chair Lydia Faitalia, 2nd Vice Chair Ekkarath Sisavatdy, Cmmr. Carrie Huie-Pascua, Cmmr. Lori Wada, Cmmr. Helen Christensen, Cmmr. Lalita Uppala, Cmmr. Ping Ping, Cmmr. Toka Valu, Cmmr. Julio Diaz

*Absent:* Cmmr. Sam Cho and Cmmr. Dinh

*Staff:* Executive Director Toshiko Grace Hasegawa, Project Manager Rosa Mai, and Project Coordinator Brenda O’Brien

1. **Welcome**

Welcoming remarks and commendations were made by Dr. Karen Johnson, Director of the Office of Equity.

1. **Approval of Agenda & Minutes**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Cmmr. Ping. Seconded by Cmmr. Huie-Pascua. No dissents, or abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the last meeting minutes was made by Cmmr. Diaz. Seconded by Cmmr. Christensen. No dissents, or abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

1. **Commissioner Community Updates**

First Vice Chair Faitalia has been engaging with youth on the topic of racism and its impact on communities. Her focus has also been on finding ways to retain BIPOC member serving on district boards as many are choosing not to reapply due to racism. Finally, she has been examining how to minimize barriers to systems for future generations to come.

Cmmr. Huie-Pascua has been providing technical support to the Filipino and Japanese American communities to help connect them with COVID vaccination resources.

Cmmr. Christensen reports that on February 11, a virtual Chinese New Year event took place to celebrate tradition and culture in the midst of the pandemic. After nine months of protest in Portland, the

community in her region needed a recharge and the event provided some respite. Clark County has received far less vaccines than other counties of the same size, which have had many concerned. Cmmr. Christensen has been trying to keep tabs on where vaccines are being provided, so that she can pass the info onto as many people as possible.

Cmmr. Ping shared that it’s been a difficult time as a Chinese American and for the API community in Spokane. There was a drive-by shooting recently that affected a Marshallese family, and she helped organize a forum between the police, the API community, and the NAACP president. She has continued to have conversation with youth and their leaders around how to defuse racist targeting, and the historical depiction of Asians, such as the model minority myth. An interview about her and other API community members’ thoughts on the Atlanta shootings will also be published March 19th. Finally, there is a rally and vigil taking place today in the city with youth leaders.

Cmmr. Diaz has been gauging input about the COVID crisis from four different organizations. Cmmr. Wada and Cmmr. Uppala has put in extensive time to help small business owners maintain their businesses. During the last Economic Development Committee meeting, both commissioners shared that the resources and support needed to adequately help these business owners are stretched very thin, and there is a great need for additional staffing to assist in these efforts. The committee is looking at formalizing an appeal to Commerce requesting more support for the CBO’s. On a second note, he has been making public comments regarding local plans for King County Roads Division. With the rise in hate crimes against our API communities, the common denominator on where it’s been taking place is on the sidewalks and roads. He has been emphasizing the need to examine how to help mitigate these incidents when improving current design, like when sidewalks end in the middle of nowhere.

Several CBO’s have been holding vaccination clinics, and Cmmr. Valu has been involved in assisting the native Hawaiian communities get vaccinated. A toolkit educating NHPI’s on the vaccine has been created and will be available March 29th. He would also like to connect with Chair Diaz from the Economic Development Committee to help troubleshoot ways to overcome the hesitancy many NHPI small business owners have in accessing resources available to them.

Cmmr. Wada has been working with the Small Business Administration and Commerce regarding the PPP and the Working Washington Grant. She reports that Working Washington Round 4 of grants will avail small business of 240 million soon. She has also been providing translation assistance on applications and surrounding the process, has been assisting with connecting community with vaccines, and helping to organize rallies against the anti-Asian shootings.

Cmmr. Uppala shared that she has been helping the Asian Indian community with small business support. Seventy percent is in danger of shutting down in 2021. With the pandemic already impacting finances significantly, there is lots of anxiety in applying for loans, because it means it will have to be paid back. There will be a full scale effort to access funding available to them on March 29th. Amazon has also offered to hold Zoom sessions regarding alternate options for cab drivers and other serviceworkers to secure employment. Vaccination and scheduling has been a continued concern for the

Asian Indian community as well, in addition to not being able to visit family members who are ill back home.

Cmmr. Ekk reported that the Education Committee recently met with CAAA’s and CHA’s Education Committees to discuss legislative priorities and school re-openings. The conversation resulted in a great meeting. His community also met yesterday to share space and mental health care regarding the recent shootings.

1. **Public Forum**

Pouli Chapo from Baring, WA communicated his appreciation for the Commission and expressed the need for PI youth, empowering them to succeed in programs offered in trades and the like.

David Chan, a Commissioner for the Snohomish County Fire District 1, shared how recent events have bothered him and the API community there. Other than denouncements against the events and violence being inflicted, what resources are available to us? His number one concern is for the safety of his constituents.

First Vice Chair Faitalia directed Cmmr. Chan to our website for resources and will reach out to our Commissioners closest to his areas to support him in his efforts.

Bo Tunestam, from KSER radio in Snohomish County, hosts a program called Color Commentary that seeks to air the concerns of the API community there. The station would like to be more available to its community to provide a voice, in the hopes of increasing understanding of other cultures and languages.

Lin Crowley, from APIC-South Puget Sound Chapter, responded to Mr. Tunestam and Cmmr. Chan, directing them to the APIC Chapter of Snohomish County either through their FB page or local website. There is an upcoming event on race issues on March 27th. A registration link can be found in the chat box.

Lu’isa Lauille, a small business owner in Pierce County and child advocate, conveyed that the API community is not being well represented during IEP meetings in the form of translators, materials preparing them for the meetings, etc. Funding for IEP translators is not coming through, and she is appealing for more funding support. She has been asked to collaborate in having API community be present at a STEM conversation taking place next month for youth. As soon as she gets the flyer she will share it with Rosa to forward it to our networks. to Lastly, May is Foster Care Awareness Month. There is a dire need for more foster homes for children, and more awareness around this issue needs to be raised.

Mariano Romulo, from Snohomish County, highlighted a project that seeks to help the US Postal Service elevate banking as an industry providing grants and loans specifically targeting small businesses and communities. They are the only banking service provider owned by the government. There is a lot of resistance from private banking agencies for USPS not to become a banking industry. Other organizations, like the ACLU, would like to partner with CAPAA to promote this project.

Sen. Hasegawa provided an update on the legislative session. The budget forecast shows we are in pretty good shape right now, returning to pre-Covid period, plus we have about 4.4 billion of federal support coming in. There are a number of criminal justice and racial equity bills moving through the session. The Office of Equity Task Force recommendations was killed in the Ways and Means Committee. The way the Office of Equity is structured makes it possible for it to walk all over the Commissions’ jurisdictions, so he cautions us to keep our heads up and make sure that doesn’t happen. He also encourages us to make sure we send stories to our legislators regarding the experiences our communities have had with ESD.

ED Hasegawa will be coming back from maternity leave part-time on Monday, March 22nd. She reports that the actions CAPAA has taken, in response to recent events, has been to reroute folks to our resources page, which includes information on bystander training as well as self-defense training. We have also helped advise the Governor on his statement earlier, helped plan a press conference taking place this Monday morning, and will include Asian electeds and a recent victim attacked with a rock in a sock. The press conference will denounce hate and racism, as well as proclaim that Asian businesses are open and ready for business while the Governor orders takeout and his wife supports a nearby spa. Lastly, ED Hasegawa has taken part in a number of interviews with media outlets regarding the rise in attacks.

1. **DoH: Covid-19 Vaccine Update**

Mary Huynh, Office of Immunizations, and Frances Limtiaco, DOH Community Partnership and Engagement Manager presented an update on vaccinations via PowerPoint. The goal to vaccinate 45,000 people a day has been met! There is an increase in supply so the goals are being raised to reach more of the population quicker. In the last week, pre-k to 12 educators and staff were added to Tier 1B, and Tier 2 (critical workers in congregate settings (i.e. food processing, public transit, corrections, first responders) was phased into on Wednesday, the 17th.

The next milestone will be on March 31, when those with two or more co-morbidities, those who are between ages 60-64, essential workers in the food and restaurant service, and homeless in congregate settings will be eligible to receive the vaccine. Full PowerPoint presentation can be accessed below.



1. **Commission Business**

The motion to adopt the revision to CAPAA’s DEI policy was made by Cmmr. Ping. Seconded by Cmmr. Huie-Pascua. No dissents, or abstentions. Motion passes unanimously.

Discussion around sponsorship request deadlines and approval took place amongst the Commission. After deliberation, the consensus was that deadlines should change from 30 days prior to a Board Meeting to 30 days before the actual event. Chair Nguyen proposed that future requests should be reviewed by an ad hoc committee, comprising of the Executive Committee members plus one Cmmr. of representing the affected community the request is coming from.

Motion to pass the new deadline and Chair Nguyen’s proposal was made by Cmmr. Valu. Seconded by Cmmr. Wada. No dissents, or abstentions. Motion passes unanimously.

1. **Staff Report**

Project Manager Mai presented a verbal overview of her written report at 12:12 PM. Full report can be accessed below.



1. **Good of the Order**

First Vice Chair Faitalia spoke briefly on the Commissioner applications, which will start being accepted on April 1st. We are looking specifically for representation in Snohomish, Spokane, and areas outside of King County, so please push those applications out as soon as it starts.

1. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Cmmr. Diaz. Seconded by 1st Vice Chair Faitalia. Motion was unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:33 PM.

1. **Chat Box Transcript**

From Ping Ping to Everyone: 09:55 AM

morning! I will back in a bit

From Me to Everyone: 09:59 AM

Good Moring Everyone! If you are joining us today, please list your name and organization below.

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 10:00 AM

Good morning Dr. J

From Dr. J |she.her| Equity Director to Everyone: 10:00 AM

Good morning, everyone!

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 10:00 AM

Good morning Mr. Chan

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy (he/him) to Everyone: 10:00 AM

Good Morning, all!

From Nam Nguyen (CAPAA) to Everyone: 10:01 AM

Residents and business owners are busy. It is often difficult to achieve meaningful engagement with them. How do you think we can improve communication and involvement with residents and businesses, particularly those who do not traditionally participate in these processes?

<https://capaa.wa.gov/>

From Lori Wada to Everyone: 10:02 AM

good morning everyone!

From Julio Dale Diaz to Everyone: 10:02 AM

Good morning, Happy First Day of Spring!

From Rosa Mai, CAPAA, she/her to Everyone: 10:10 AM

Good morning, everyone! Thank you for joining us today. Materials for the board meeting are available on our website here: <https://capaa.wa.gov/about/board-meetings/>

From Lin Crowley to Everyone: 10:14 AM

Thank you, Dr. J.

From Ping Ping to Everyone: 10:20 AM

thank you Dr. J :)

From Toshiko Grace Hasegawa to Everyone: 10:21 AM

Thank you Dr Johnson! So good to see you!

From Julio Dale Diaz to Everyone: 10:39 AM

I agree 100% with you Commissioner Valu, thank you for bringing up the unique situation (by contractors, etc.)

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 10:39 AM

You are absolutely right Commissioner Wada. Thank you for all that you do

From Lin Crowley to Everyone: 10:47 AM

Thank you for bringing up the urgent need for us to engage our community, Lalita. You are all invited to join the Race and Civic Engagement Dialogue, sponsored by APIC SPS and local community organizations, on March 27, reg link @ <https://tinyurl.com/y9zv9zt2>

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 10:51 AM

Mr. Chan can you drop your email in the chat box

From Ping Ping to Everyone: 10:51 AM

Mr.David Chan: here is CAPAA resources webpage link

<https://capaa.wa.gov/resources/report-hate-discrimination/>

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 10:51 AM

Also Ms. Lin is on this call

From DAVID CHAN to Everyone: 10:57 AM

Hi, I am David Chan, here is my e-mail address dchan@southsnofire.org, 206-696-0600. If anyone can give me any suggestion, I will really appreciated.

Hi Bo, I love get to get in touch with you.

From Lin Crowley to Everyone: 11:00 AM

For Mr. Chan and others who may have missed it, here is the announcement again--You are all invited to join the Race and Civic Engagement Dialogue, sponsored by APIC SPS and local community organizations, on March 27, reg link @ https://tinyurl.com/y9zv9zt2. Open to all, but capacity is limited. Please register before March 25.

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 11:00 AM

Thank you Luisa

From Lin Crowley to Everyone: 11:01 AM

The Race event is held between 9:30am and 12 noon.

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 11:05 AM

Thank you Mariano Romulo for your comment

From Mariano Romulo to Everyone: 11:07 AM

Hi, my name is Mariano Romulo. I live in Snohomish County. Project, USPS Banking for small business loan and grants program. My email address is [Mariano.romulo10@gmail.com](mailto:Mariano.romulo10@gmail.com)

From Ekkarath Sisavatdy (he/him) to Everyone: 11:13 AM

Thank you, Senator Hasegawa

From Ping Ping to Everyone: 11:49 AM

I agree with this comment, thank you Cmmr. Wada!

From Mariano Romulo to Everyone: 11:49 AM

Thank you, Senator Hasegawa.

From Carrie Huie-Pascua to Everyone: 11:50 AM

I agree wholeheartedly with Commissioner Wada on translation.

From Rosa Mai, CAPAA, she/her to Everyone: 11:53 AM

Commissioner Toka Valu: [toka.valu@capaa.wa.gov](mailto:toka.valu@capaa.wa.gov)

From Mariano Romulo to Everyone: 12:00 PM

Thank you Mary and Frances. Question, how are you reaching out to low income communities without internet access? Are you distributing via mailing the public information? Thank you.

From Ping Ping to Everyone: 12:07 PM

I agree with Cmmr. Wada

From Frances Limtiaco, WA State Department of Health to Everyone: 12:12 PM

https://allinwa.org/grants/ - this is the address for All in WA regarding funding for community based organizations to address COVID related community needs. There are several rounds of funding. Please share with your communities or feel free to provide me via email a list of community based organizations that may be interested. I can share with All In WA so that they can do direct outreach.

From Lydia M. Faitalia, CAPAA to Everyone: 12:31 PM

Thank you Rosa

From Ping Ping to Everyone: 12:31 PM

Thank you Rosa! and Brenda!

From Carrie Huie-Pascua to Everyone: 12:31 PM

Great work Rosa and Brenda!

From Julio Dale Diaz to Everyone: 12:31 PM

Well done, Rosa! Thanks for all the synthesizing of all the material.

From Mariano Romulo to Everyone: 12:32 PM

Thank you Nam for leading the zoom meeting and Rose for your presentation updating CAPAA activities. Lydia, feel free to email me at Mariano.romulo10@gmail.com representing Snohomish County. Thank you all.

From Lu'isa Laulile / Pacific Islander - Tongan to Everyone: 12:33 PM

Thank you Everyone for your hard work!

From Lalita Uppala to Everyone: 12:33 PM

Thank You Rosa!