

Montgomery County – DHHS
Asian American Health Initiative (AAHI) Steering Committee Meeting
January 12, 2016

Steering Committee	Present	AAHI Staff	Present
<i>Organizational Members</i>			
Ji-Young Cho		Perry Chan	X
Wilbur Friedman	X	Harihar Bhattarai	X
Christina Lee		Huyen Bui	
Michael Lin	X	Sanjana Quasem	X
Mayur Mody	X	Betty Lam	
Sam Mukherjee	X	Alice Zic	X
Nguyen Nguyen	X		
Thomas Tran	X		
Sovan Tun	X		
Edward Wan	X		
<i>Individual Members</i>			
	Present	Guests	Present
Meng K. Lee (Chair)	X		
Nerita Estampador (Vice-Chair)			
Sunmin Lee			
Cathy Ng			
<i>Affiliate Members</i>			
	Present		
Anis Ahmed			

Welcome (Meng K. Lee, Chair)

- Meng K. Lee called the meeting to order at 6:50PM.

Approval of Agenda (Meng K. Lee, Chair)

- Wilbur Friedman moved to approve the agenda, with the contingency that a note of what occurred during the closed door meeting be added to the meeting minutes. Mayur Mody seconded the motion.
 - Note 1: Judy Wang’s Steering Committee (SC) application is approved as an individual member.
 - Note 2: Tho Tran’s SC application will be approved once she submits a new application as an individual member.

ACTION: Agenda approved with no objections
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Approval of Minutes

- Meeting minutes were emailed to SC members prior to the meeting. The meeting minutes from June, 2015 and November, 2015 needed to be approved.

- Mayur motioned to approve the June 16, 2015 minutes. Michael Lin seconded the motion.

ACTION: Meeting minutes approved with no objections.

- Wilbur motioned to approve the November 10, 2015 minutes. Sovan Tun and Nguyen Nguyen seconded the motion.

ACTION: Meeting minutes approved with no objections.

- SC members discussed the current format of the SC meeting minutes. Based on the recommendation of several members, the meeting minutes' format will be changed.

ACTION ITEM: Meng will send Perry Chan a meeting minute format to follow.

- An update was provided around the United Health Foundation Grant which was mentioned in the June, 2015 meeting minute. The department did not receive the funding.

AAHI Program Updates (Perry Chan, Program Manager)

- Perry introduced Alice Zic, AAHI's new Behavioral Health Program Coordinator. Since Alice has come on board, she has been planning a Mental Health First Aid Training. She is also working on revising the behavioral health work plan for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- Perry noted that Senior Program Coordinator and Health Education & Communications Coordinator positions are still vacant.

ACTION ITEM: Perry will send the position descriptions to the SC members so that they can forward it to their network.

- Perry shared that AAHI is hosting a Mental Health First Aid Training, to be held on February 20, 2016 from 8:30AM – 5:00PM. The training will be conducted by Mental Health Association of Montgomery County. Space is limited to 30 participants for the workshop. SC members will receive first priority in terms of registration for the training. While the training is offered at no cost to attendees, those who participate will need to commit to educating at least 30 individuals on mental health following completion of the training. Additionally, AAHI will look to the SC members for their feedback on the training and whether or not AAHI should offer the training in the future for other community leaders.

ACTION ITEM: Perry will send a reminder email to SC members with the workshop registration link.

- Perry stated that the registration will open up to community leaders if SC members do not register by the deadline, Friday, January 15, 2016.

ACTION ITEM: SC members interested in attending the Mental Health First Aid Training should register by January 15, 2016.

- Perry shared FY16 program accomplishments from July 1, 2015 – December 30, 2015.
 - Staff and Health Promoters spent 261 hours in the community conducting outreach, providing education, and participating in health fairs.
 - AAHI has assisted 763 people and conducted 1,135 educational encounters on numerous topics including breast cancer prevention, hepatitis B, and the use of local resources, etc.
 - Since November, 2015, 75 people have been educated on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and 40 referrals have been provided.
 - AAHI worked with the Viet Nam Medical Assistance Program (VNMAP) to conduct ACA education at Asian owned and/or employed small businesses.
 - AAHI has already hosted one Empowering Community Health Organizations (ECHO) workshop this fiscal year and is planning to host another in May, 2016 on program evaluation.
 - AAHI has a staff member who works to connect community members to different local and county services. Since July, AAHI has referred 100 people to services with a 61% success rate. Seventeen of these individuals have required special accommodations to make appointments. AAHI is also documenting the barriers that prevent community members from making their first appointment, so that efforts can be made to address these barriers in the future.

Healthy Montgomery Updates (Nguyen Nguyen)

- Nguyen attended the Healthy Montgomery (HM) Steering Committee meeting on December 14, 2015.
- At the meeting the HM Behavioral Health Task Force (BHTF) provided a set of recommendations around behavioral health. From their presentation it did not appear that issues faced by Asian Americans and other ethnic minorities, such as language and cultural competency, were considered when developing the recommendations.

CE Asian American Advisory Group (Sam Mukherjee)

- Sam reported that many community based organizations (CBOs) and faith based organizations (FBOs) that apply for council grants complain that they are rarely approved for the grant.

- Sam has requested an opportunity to speak to the review committee about Asian Americans, so that they are better oriented to the needs of the Asian American community when reviewing grant applications.
- Sam announced that there are two vacancies in the group.

ACTION ITEM: Sam encouraged SC members to submit an application to Joan Schaffer to join the grant review committee

Asian Pacific Governor's Commission (Sovan Tun)

- Sovan reported that the inaugural meeting was held on November 18, 2015. No meetings have been held in 2016 thus far.
- Sovan relayed the following announcements from the governor's office:
 - January 18, 2016: There will be a Martin Luther King march from FedEx Field to Jericho City. Registration starts at 7:30AM. The march will begin at 10:00AM and end at 11:30AM at Jericho City.
 - January 21, 2016: There will be a one year anniversary of Larry Hogan's inauguration at the Navy Marine Field Stadium in Annapolis at 6:00PM.
 - February 5, 2016: There will be a Lunar New Year event at governor's house. This is a closed event. Only those who have been invited will be permitted to attend.
 - March 15, 2016: There will be a Pan Asian Legislative Night in Annapolis at the senate office at 6:00PM.
- Nguyen reported that Clarence Lam, who is Asian American, was elected to the Maryland senate. If the SC has any messages they would like to deliver to the senator, he can relay that message.

LIEED (Meng K. Lee)

- Meng stated that the LIEED meetings changed to every three months. The January meeting was canceled and no date for the next meeting has been set yet.

Advocacy Discussion

- Sam provided updates on the budget conversation thus far.
 - When the budget conversations began in September, 2015, Ike Leggett announced that there would likely be further cuts. Additionally, a \$10,000 cut was made to AAHI's budget in the middle of the year. Similar cuts were also made to the Latino Health Initiative (LHI) and the African American Health Program (AAHP).
 - Council members have taken an interest in the work of the three minority health initiative. Specifically, Craig Rice recommended that the three

minority health initiatives ask for a combined total of \$750,000 (\$250,000 each) be added to the budget.

- The three initiatives also met with Uma Ahluwalia. She was under executive orders to make budget cuts.
- Sam noted that earlier that morning, the three initiatives met with Chuck Short.
 - Chuck advised the initiatives to set their priorities together and include the rationale for each priority and the needed budget amount.
 - Chuck recommended that the three initiatives setup an emergency meeting with Ike Leggett.
 - Chuck did not encourage the three initiatives to request \$250,000 each. He also recommended that the initiatives not add on new programs, but rather enhance existing programs.
 - Chuck encouraged the initiatives to consider if and how they could generate revenue for the County.

ACTION ITEM: The SC will set up a meeting with Ike Leggett. Then, The SC will meet with the council.

- Meng announced that Ike will host five budget forums throughout the County to receive feedback on the county operating budget. There are three more budget forums scheduled in the next two weeks. The forums are an excellent platform to voice concerns.

ACTION ITEM: Meng encouraged SC members to attend the public forum. Meng will work with Perry to provide talking points for the SC members in preparation for the next forum on January 20, 2016.

- Sam commented that there also needs to be a show of force. It is more effective if there is a large party present that affirms what the speaker says by clapping and shouting in agreement.
- Michael suggested that when SC members attend the forum they focus on two issues which the department has already taken an interest in: mental health and senior services. These two issues should be the focus of the talking points and should be repeated, by multiple SC members, at all of the three remaining forums.
- Sam, Sovan, Michael, Nguyen, and Meng all commented that advocacy efforts should be geared towards the County Executive until March 15, 2016. After March 15, 2016 efforts should be refocused on the County Council.
- Meng mentioned that the SC was not planning to do any advocacy on the budget until they were approached about the potential for \$250,000. However, for the

future the SC Advocacy Committee should have a more structured plan for advocacy efforts.

- Sam suggested that the Advocacy Committee meet with council members throughout the year and invite them to events so that they remain updated with AAHI's work.

Other Business & Announcements

- Wilbur asked if updates from the closed session will be included in the meeting minutes.

ACTION: Perry stated that the following update will be included: The committee moved to accept Tho Tran's applications upon submission of a new application as an individual member form to AAHI. Additionally, Dr. Judy Wang's application was approved.

- Edward Wan provided an update on the Pan Asian Volunteer Health Clinic (PAVHC), which is run by the Chinese Culture and Community Service Center (CCACC).
 - The PAVHC has moved to the CCACC headquarters.
 - Physicians will be available to see patients for three days in the week. Administrative staff is on-site six days a week.
 - Meng commented that the PAVHC is interested in expanding their services to other communities. Currently there is a Vietnamese doctor that works with the PAVHC. The PAVHC welcomes any doctors who would like to volunteer their time.
 - There will be a grand opening for the new clinic site in February, to which all SC members are invited to attend.
- Perry suggested that the next SC meeting be held at the PAVHC so that the SC members can see the new facility.

ACTION ITEM: Next SC meeting on March 8, 2016 will be held at the PAVHC.

- Michael announced that Montgomery County has three congressional seats open. There are three highly credible democratic candidates (Kumar Barve, Jamie Raskin, and Kathleen Matthews). Michael recommended that these candidates be invited to any future events. This will let them know what is going on in the Asian American community and will help build their support, should they be elected.
- Thomas Tran stated that there is a Lunar New Year celebration at Northwood High School on Saturday, January 30, 2016.

Adjourn

- Meng adjourns the meeting.

ACTION: Meeting adjourned at 8:19PM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2016