Welcome (Nguyen Nguyen)

- Nguyen Nguyen called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.
- Nguyen asked for permission to audio record the meeting. There were no objections.

ACTION: Audio recording of the meeting was approved with no objections.

Approval of Agenda (Nguyen Nguyen)

- Today’s meeting agenda was shared with members prior to the meeting. Nguyen asked if there were any objections to the agenda.
- Wilbur Friedman moved to approve the agenda and Michael Lin seconded it.

ACTION: Meeting agenda was approved.
Approval of Meeting Minutes (Nguyen Nguyen)

- The Steering Committee meeting minutes from Tuesday, January 10, 2023, were shared with members prior to today’s meeting. A motion to approve the January meeting minutes was presented.
- Wilbur moved to approve the meeting minutes. Yuchi Huang seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved.

**ACTION:** January’s meeting minutes were approved with no objections.

AAHI Program Updates (Sanjana Quasem)

- Sanjana Quasem shared AAHI program updates from January 2023-March 2023. She highlighted activities AAHI has completed or is working on related to community engagement, community empowerment, capacity building, and change catalyst. She also mentioned various County updates on Commission on Aging vacancies and vacancies on the Victim Services Advisory Board. She shared data on the Healthy Communities Fund and the outcomes.
- Nguyen requested Healthy Communities Fund dashboard to be shared and that the Data Subcommittee look into it to ensure proper data analysis.
- Tho Tran asked about the “duplication” in the Healthy Communities Fund and its meaning. Sanjana explained that duplicated clients are clients who come back are counted as duplicated. The unduplicated number is the number of clients served. Sanjana explained that duplicated data is only within one organization.

**ACTION Item:** AAHI will provide all slides related to program updates. AAHI will also share the PowerPoint version of the dashboard of the Healthy Communities Fund.

Guest Speaker Presentation (Dr. Kisha Davis)

- Wanted to focus on chronic diseases like hypertension and diabetes and getting the public caught up on cancer screenings which weren’t done during the pandemic.
- As a County, aiming to tackle health disparities. The Community Health Needs Assessment will soon be released, which will help us to look at the health of the County.
- Wanted to have a conversation how she can be supportive as a County Health Officer and see what is missing.
- Nguyen introduced the Steering Committee and what priorities and areas of collaboration.
- Each Steering Committee member introduced themselves.
- Talked about opioids and fentanyl use as well as what is being done to address that. In-patient treatment facilities for youth are lacking. Overdoses are decreasing but the substances are more dangerous. Overdosing in teens have gone up.
  - Primary prevention: how do we keep youth off drugs in the first place? Need to address the mental health crisis. Strengthening the skills of resiliency for everybody.
  - Secondary prevention: Increasing the treatment resources and increasing accessibility to the community.
  - Tertiary prevention: when an overdose has happened, how do we address that? Narcan and naloxone should be made available to the public, as well as training to use these.
- She mentioned the importance of working all forms of wellness including mental health and behavioral health.
- Cynthia Macri asked about vacancies. She also added that there’s a lack of qualified people in the school system to deal with youth behavioral health, especially with non-English speakers. In addition, Cynthia spoke of the need for screenings for the Asian community such as those for Hepatitis B and cervical cancer. Dr. Davis said that a lot of the vacancies are with the frontline workers like therapists and social workers. The challenge is recruitment for frontline workers. They are looking into different methods of recruitment.
- Pallavi Gowda noticed that sometimes traditional markers of mental health don’t apply to Asian American youth. She also noted that there’s a gap in trans health in the community. Dr. Davis noted that a lot of the screeners for mental health don’t apply to other members of the community. She continued that that’s something that she will bring up for discussion with her mental health colleagues.
- Yuchi Huang asked, “how do we determine what data is worthy of being collected?” He noted that the issues in each ethnic community could vary from group to group. Dr. Davis posed the question to Yuchi in regards of where we should be focused. Yuchi noted hepatitis is an important topic.
- Nguyen noted the need for disaggregated data so that gaps can easily be identified and how can it be addressed.
- Pallavi asked whether security measures can be increased in the County to protect Asian Americans against hate crimes. Dr. Davis answered that she would follow-up with colleagues on such matters. She posed to the group regarding what instances we see in the community.
  - Cynthia responded that a lot of the older community members were afraid to go outside due to violence. She added that to collect data, “context-dependent” data is needed.
  - Hyun Sun Park added that there had been an increase in youth mental health counseling. Through counseling they learned that more support is needed in schools to recognize different cultures.
o Yuchi added that Asian hate and bullying is prevalent in schools. He is concerned that bullying during youth can affect adulthood.
  o Tho Tran added that she received a call regarding Asian bullying.

- Nguyen said that in the future, he’d like to have a conversation with MCPS regarding safety.
- Dr. Davis talked about “peer ambassadors”, students who would help recognize signs of distress in other students so that they can address struggles.
- Hina added that data is important. The Steering Committee is a good resource for data.

**Bylaws (Wilbur Friedman)**

- Wilbur Friedman stated that they will start by moving that the bylaws be adopted. Yuchi asked if there will be discussion or just moving on with the vote. Hina Mehta seconded the move.
- Wilbur went through the steps of the guidelines.
- Yuchi discussed that he wanted to eliminate the paragraph that stated that an election subcommittee be created. He stated that another paragraph said that the subcommittee was standing. He stated that if the subcommittee is created when needed, it will only complicate the problem. Yuchi added that we should state one or the other in the guidelines—either standing committee or elected committee. He stated that the sole purpose of the election committee shouldn’t just be electing members but also recruiting members, along with other responsibilities.
  - Hina Mehta responded that the election subcommittee is already there. She suggested that they change the wording of that paragraph.
  - MK Lee pointed out that we should have put in a motion for Yuchi’s point and then see if anyone seconds it before having a conversation.
  - Nguyen clarified that Yuchi is making a motion to change the paragraph. He asked if anyone seconded it and if we would move forward with the motion. He stated that the motion put forth by Yuchi was the last paragraph on page 8 in the guidelines is inconsistent with Article 5.
    - MK clarified with a question posed to Yuchi “What is that you want to change?”
    - Nguyen clarified that Yuchi wants to remove that paragraph on page 8. Yuchi’s motion is to remove the following, “If during the tenure of the elected office of two years, the official resigns or is no longer available due to death, disability or other reasons; the other remaining officer shall immediately create an Elections Subcommittee to solicit the replacement.” Pallavi Gowda seconded the motion.
  - Pallavi stated that she agreed with Sanjana’s suggestion on reframing the verbiage. She agreed that a standing committee isn’t going to be recreated.
• Yuchi also suggested that the subcommittee should always be active in recruiting new officers during current terms.
  o Hina added that with the new verbiage, it should state that the election committee solicits a new replacement.
• Nguyen clarified that the vote is to change it to what was suggested in the chat. 7 voted yes on the change. 1 voted no on the change. MK abstained from voting. The change is “…the other remaining officer shall immediately request the Elections Subcommittee to convene and solicit the replacement.” New vote count was 8 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstain.

ACTION: Motion to approve change of guideline verbiage from “If during the tenure of the elected office of two years, the official resigns or is no longer available due to death, disability or other reasons; the other remaining officer shall immediately create an Elections Subcommittee to solicit the replacement” to “…the other remaining officer shall immediately request the Elections Subcommittee to convene and solicit the replacement” was approved.

• Nguyen restated Wilbur’s original motion of approving the guidelines moving forward with the change from the previous motion. All vote yes on the change.

ACTION: Motion to approve guidelines with the previously suggested change was approved.

• Pallavi asked what the protocol was to recommend someone new. Nguyen replied that there is a process for the membership committee.

ACTION item: Wilbur will share the procedures of membership with Pallavi.

Adjourn
• Nguyen moved to adjourn the meeting, and all voted.
• Nguyen adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.

ACTION: Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2023