



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ASIAN AMERICAN ADVISORY BOARD



MINUTES, Monthly Board Meeting

6:00 P.M., Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Stephen P. Clark Center, 18-4 Conference Room, Miami, FL 33128

Ref: 07-09-2024

Present: Luna Adachi; Sadrul Fasihi; Eugene Fu; Jose Keichi Fuentes; Stephen Matsumoto; Smita Kulkarni; Anjana Mishra; Subbarayan Pochi; Stephen Lian Thang; Mehmet Ulutas; Tai Vaz; Jim Yu

Excused: Aileen Alon; Hoda Askari; Vinita Chakravarty; Sharon Fine; Christina Fuentes; Josephine Gordy; Li Gurau; Adrienne Aiko Thompson; Nick Vicera

Absent:

Staff: Joshua Ho; Cedric Brazle; Vanessa Azzam; Griselle Marino; Amanda Gonzalez

Guest: Major Patky Changkachith; Officer John Leon; Samira Khan; Taylor Haas; Eric Matsumoto

At 6:20 PM., Ms. Tai Vaz, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order; she welcomed the members and guests. Ms. Vaz asked the Program Director to verify the quorum. Quorum was established.

MINUTES: Ms. Vaz, Chairwoman, asked the members to review the Minutes for June 2024 and requested a motion to approve the Minutes. Mr. Jose Fuentes moved to approve the June Minutes, Mr. Mehmet Ulutas seconded, the Board unanimously approved the June Minutes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. Ho welcomed the Board and the guests and thanked all for attending AAAB July General Board meeting. He reminded the Board to update their calendar for 2024 AAAB General Board Meetings and stressed having a quorum as it is very important for our communities. He proceeded to inform that he is working on reappointments and appointments to AAAB and the board members' patience are very welcomed and appreciated. Mr. Ho reminded to those board members who have not fulfilled the requirement to complete the County's mandatory Sexual Harassment Prevention training course to do so online as the reports for non-compliant board members will be reported to the Board of County Commissioners. Board Members can now take the course at their leisure with our web-based video and complete the acknowledgment form and submit to our office at Woody.Remy@miamidade.gov.

PSH Video: http://miamidade.granicus.com/player/clip/6171?publish_id=b96c9797-b24e-11ea-888f-0050569183fa&redirect=true&h=fd3e7c3b157b789011de620d1cd37cab

Acknowledgment Form: <https://www.miamidade.gov/humanresources/library/sexual-harassment-prevention-training-acknowledgment-form.pdf>

Mr. Ho reminded the board to complete the County Board Members' Financial Disclosure Requirement for 2023 and the deadline is July 1st: to email the completed form directly to the Elections Department at

financial.disclosures@miamidade.gov and Copy hjoshua@miamidadade.gov and Nilda Olmo at the Ethics Commission at Nilda.Olmo@miamidade.gov.

He once again asked the Board members to sign up for any of the three Board committees, after careful consideration of time and dedication, to actively engage our communities: Cultural Advancement Committee, Education/Civic Engagement Committee, and Economic Development Committee. Additionally, to inform any events and activities that we may as a board member can support and promote Asian American communities.

Mr. Ho shared the news of the passing of Sensei Mieko Kubota passed away on July 4th. During our 20th Anniversary & Community Awards Gala, Sensei Kubota was one of the recipients of our 2018 Community Service Award. - Sensei Mieko Kubota passed away on July 4th. During our 20th Anniversary & Community Awards Gala, Sensei Kubota was one of the recipients of our 2018 Community Service Award. Sensei Mieko Kubota's Celebration of Life Ceremony date will be shared as it becomes available.

Mr. Ho informed that Miami-Dade County is helping with the victims of Hurricane Beryl: there are opportunities to volunteer, donate, and support the impacted islands. For other inquiries, please email info@globalempowermentmission.org or info@sflcaribbeanstrong.org

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

The Precast Bridge Studio (PBS): Joining the Next Generation to Industry: Dr. Eric Matsumoto PhD., PE. Mr. Stephen Matsumoto, 1st Vice Chairman introduced Dr. Eric Matsumoto, his brother before the start of the presentation. Dr. Matsumoto highlighted advances and lessons learned during the past four years of the PCI Foundation-sponsored Precast Bridge Studio (PBS) at California State University, Sacramento, and call for the bridge industry to develop more partnerships with academia for the sake of the next generation. The primary objective of PBS is to prepare a new generation of civil engineering (CE) and construction management (CM) bridge professionals through a challenging and innovative CE/CM "immersion" course project that requires student teams, under the mentorship of bridge industry members, to design a multispan precast concrete bridge and perform preconstruction services using actual bridge projects. Thanks to the vision, guidance, and support of the PCI Foundation as well as local and regional industry commitment over the past five years, PBS at Sacramento State has innovated in education, advanced new connections between industry and academia, and produced new graduates who are well equipped to become the promising next generation that the precast concrete bridge industry urgently needs. With this progress in view, Dr. Matsumoto challenges the bridge industry to take definitive steps to partner with academia and secure a new generation of engineers, construction managers, and others who can serve the transportation sector throughout the United States.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AAAB Executive Committee – Tai Vaz, Chairwoman

AAAB Cultural Advancement Committee – Li Gurau, Chairwoman

- Asian Cultural Series Sub-committee: Chair, Tai Vaz
 - Will request meeting during the month of August

AAAB Economic Development Committee – Sharon Fine, Chairwoman

- Report: MDC International Trade Consortium – Preeya Disyanan, ITC Board Member
 - Provided 2024 Calendar List of Events for ITC
 - ITC Trade Mission to UK and Ireland
 - BRICS

AAAB Education/Civic Engagement Committee - Tai Vaz, Chairwoman

- Health/Wellness Sub-committee: Chair: Sadrul Fasihi
 - UMC Free Clinic (Mobile Clinic)
 - Averaging 30-40 patients per day
 - Hosting cancer screening with UM Sylvester Cancer Center

CURRENT BUSINESS:

- **Updates from Miami-Dade Police – MDPD Major Patky Changkachith & Detective Brandy Conway**
 - Major Patky is now the commander at Northwest District Station
 - Office John Leon is stationed at Kendall District Station
- **Get Out the Vote Campaign**
 - Mr. Jose Fuentes reminded the board to vote during the primaries (August 20th):
 - Sheriff (partisan)
 - Supervisor of Elections (partisan)
 - Property Appraisals (partisan)
 - Tax Collector (partisan)
 - Clerk of Courts and Comptroller (partisan)
 - Mayor (non-partisan)
 - County Commissioners (non-partisan)
 - **July 13th**: Presidential Townhall Watch Party in Philadelphia (APIA Vote)
 - To RSVP for the Presidential Town Hall, www.apia.vote/SummitTownHallReg2024
 - **September 17th**: National Voter Registration Day (APIA Vote)
 - **Norman Y. Mineta Leadership Institute** for Miami-Dade County (APIA Vote) – TBD
 - **July 17th**: Miami-Dade County CRB Meeting: Guest Speaker - Christina White, Supervisor of Elections
- **Celebration Gala for Mid-Autumn Festival: Beijing Normal University Student Performing Troupe**
 - With City of North Miami Beach Multicultural Committee
 - Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 7PM
 - Possible Venue: Julius Littman Performing Arts Theater

This item was tabled for not having a quorum for voting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Call to Action: Lunar New Year and Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration with the City of North Miami Beach
 - Mr. Ho informed and requested the Board and residents of North Miami Beach to contact the Mayor and Commissioners of North Miami Beach to continue the support for the celebratory events highlighting the Lunar New Year and the AANHPI Heritage Month.
 - Contact and Thank the Mayor and City Commission for in support of the celebratory events for our communities
 - Mayor Evan S. Piper evan.piper@citynmb.com 305-948-2986
 - Commissioner Jay R. Chernoff jay.chernoff@citynmb.com
 - Commissioner Daniela Jean Daniela.Jean@citynmb.com
 - Commissioner Fortuna Smukler Fortuna.Smukler@citynmb.com
 - Commissioner McKenzie Fleurimond McKenzie.Fleurimond@citynmb.com

- Commissioner Phyllis Smith phyllis.smith@citynmb.com
- Commissioner Michael Joseph Michael.Joseph@citynmb.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Calendar of Events:

- July 13, Saturday: Health & Safety Fair – In Partnership with Healthy Mind, Heart and Body, Inc., City of Homestead Police Athletic League & Miami-Dade Commissioner Kionne McGhee; Phicol Williams Community Center, 951 SW 4th Street, Homestead; 10AM-1PM
- July 13, Saturday: Presidential Townhall Watch Party in Philadelphia (APIA Vote); 3PM - 5PM; To watch live <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7raSoEm-zL0>
- July 17, Wednesday: Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board (CRB) General Board Meeting; Stephen P. Clark Building
Conference Room: 18-4; 2PM
Guest Speaker: Christina White, Supervisor of Elections (will provide any updates to 2024 elections)
- July 25, Thursday: Overtown Cultural Tour with Miami Dolphins Football Unites Cultural Tour
- July 27, Saturday: Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce Miami Annual Gathering and Party: Jacaranda Country Club, 9200 W. Broward Blvd., Plantation; 11AM; \$60 pp
- Sundays: **ACE Talk** Show with Winnie Tang, Josephine Gordy & Joshua Ho on WAVS 1170AM & 107.9 FM, Sunday evening from 9PM – 10PM www.ACETalk.org

Adjournment: At 7:40PM, Ms. Tai Vaz requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mehmet Ulutas moved to adjourn; Mr. Stephen Matsumoto seconded; Board unanimously approved to adjourn.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 6PM – SPCC 18-4 Conference Room