



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



MINUTES, Monthly Board Meeting

6:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 10, 2024

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

Ref: 09-10-2024

Present: Luna Adachi; Aileen Alon; Vinita Chakravarty; Sadrul Fasihi; Eugene Fu; Jose Keichi Fuentes; Josephine Gordy; Li Gurau; Subbarayan Pochi; Stephen Lian Thang; Adrianne Aiko Thompson; Mehmet Ulutas; Jim Yu; Preeya Disyanan (ITC)

Excused: Hoda Askari; Sharon Fine; Christina Fuentes; Stephen Matsumoto; Smita Kulkarni; Anjana Mishra; Tai Vaz; Nick Vicera

Absent:

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

Guest: Marie Gill; Amanda Yap; Officer Kristina Lageyre; Officer Lauren Garcia; Officer Brandon Ramirez; Major Patky Changkachith; Officer John Leon; Officer Zubair Khan; Taylor Haas

At 6:10 PM., Ms. Josephine Gordy, 3rd Vice-Chairwoman, called the meeting to order; she welcomed the members and guests.

Ms. Gordy asked the Program Director to verify the quorum. Quorum was established.

MINUTES: Ms. Gordy, 3rd Vice-Chairwoman, asked the members to review the Minutes for July 2024 and requested a motion to approve the Minutes. Mr. Jose Fuentes moved to approve the June Minutes, Ms. Josephine Gordy seconded, the Board unanimously approved the July Minutes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. Ho welcomed the Board and the guests and thanked all for attending AAAB September General Board meeting after a break in the month of August. 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 stressed the importance of helping in the Get Out the Vote campaign for our communities, especially for Miami-Dade County elections.**

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@miamidadegov.

PSH Video: http://miamidadegranicus.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.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

- **Introduction to MBDA Programs Florida, Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands**, Marie Gill, Operator/Executive Director
- **Get Out the Vote 2024: How to Initiate Conversation with Our Friends and Family Regarding Voting**, Hannah Locop, Florida Field Organizer, APIAVote
- **Asian American Early Voting Day in Miami-Dade County: Exit Poll**, Winnie Tang, Vice-President, Asian American Federation of Florida
- **Introduction of Gulliver Prep**, Don Lawrence, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Mr. Ho will continue to inform our future presenters that presentations should be between five and six minutes, and two to three minutes for follow up questions.

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

Update: September 4th Sub-Committee Meeting: Ms. Vaz shared with the committee that she and Director Joshua Ho met with our partners at the Miami Dade County Library System to discuss the future for the series. She emphasized that there is a small budget dedicated to the series from the Miami Dade County Library System in addition to our annual events during Lunar New Year and the AANHPI Heritage Month celebration with History Miami Museum.

- Possible Dates and Countries:
 - October 2024 Thailand
 - November 2024 Thailand, India
 - January 2025 China
 - February 2025 Japan
 - April 2025 Pakistan
 - September 2025 China
 - October 2025 Korea
- Committee recommends that each board member represent their country in their district: Mr. Ho will provide list of Board members and their appointing commissioners

AAAB Economic Development Committee – Sharon Fine, Chairwoman

- Report: MDC International Trade Consortium – Preeya Disyanan, ITC Board Member

- Introduced Marie Gill, Operator/Executive Director, MBDA Programs Florida, Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands
 - The MBDA Technical Assistance Centers are based in Florida and funded by the MBDA to provide Access to Capital, Access to Contracts, Capacity Building, and Export Development and Training services to small and minority businesses. Target areas include Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Consulting Team of the MBDA Technical Assistance Programs is committed to providing excellence in service with a commitment to advance the growth and competitiveness of minority businesses in its geographic target areas. Our Centers help minority firms to gain Access to Capital, Access to Contracts, and Access to New and Global Markets. Training and Development Services are also provided for minority-owned firms that have an interest in exporting their products and services.
 - Florida's Annual MEDWeek Financial Power Lunch & B2B Matchmaker Conference
 - Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 711 Northwest 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33126.
 - Florida's 42nd Annual MEDWeek Legacy Awards Gala
 - Saturday, October 26, 2024, at 711 Northwest 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33126. Thanks to our generous sponsors you can register for free.
 - Florida's Annual MEDWeek Financial Power Lunch & B2B Matchmaker Conference
 - Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 711 Northwest 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33126
- Executive Director of ITC: Gerard Philippeaux
- September 16-18, Monday-Wednesday: Americas Food & Beverage Show at Miami Beach Convention Center (only open to the industry, making this an exclusively B2B (business to business) event. Attendees of the Show are there looking for new and innovative products to source, add to their store shelves, menus, and to wow their clients): Thailand, Republic of Türkiye and many other Asian countries will be represented.
- ITC is willing to partner with trade missions to Asia if you and business communities are willing to organize
- May 2025: Thailand with Thai Trade Center Miami

AAAB Education/Civic Engagement Committee - Tai Vaz, Chairwoman

- Health/Wellness Sub-committee: Chair: Sadrul Fasihi

Update: September 4th Sub-Committee Meeting: Mr. Fasihi, Health and Wellness Subcommittee Chairman asked for a meeting with the Mayor of the City of Homestead, Commissioner Cohen Higgins, and Commissioner McGhee to see how the UMC Free Clinic can expand their services in the South Florida region. He reiterated that this will help the Jackson Memorial System as UMC Free Clinic can assist in the preventative medicine phase of the patients who are without medical/health insurance.

Mr. Ho will also facilitate a visit to the current UMC Free Clinic to Mayor of the City of Homestead, Commissioner Cohen Higgins (District 8), and Commissioner McGhee (District 9) to share how the clinic is operated and the potential of the clinic to the South region.

UMC Free Clinic Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Fundraiser will be on November 2nd at DoubleTree by Hilton Miami Airport and Convention Center.

Mr. Jose Fuentes volunteered to assist in the facilitation of the meetings with the City of Homestead and Miami-Dade County elected officials.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

- **Updates from Miami-Dade Police – MDPD Major Patky Changkachith & Detective Brandy Conway**
 - Major Patky provided updates as to the incident that occurred before a Miami Dolphin's game on Sunday

- Congratulations! Miami-Dade Police Department Station 1 (Northwest) – Major Patky announced that he is now the Officer in charge for this station and district.
- Introduction of Miami-Dade Police Hate Crimes Task Force by Detective Brandy Conway
 - Suggestion: Possible workshop for Hate Crimes for our communities with partnership such as Citadel Group

➤ **Get Out the Vote Campaign:**

- **Early Voting - October 21st through November 3rd**
- **General Election Date – November 5th**
 - Sheriff (partisan)
 - Supervisor of Elections (partisan)
 - Property Appraisals (partisan)
 - Tax Collector (partisan)
 - Clerk of Courts and Comptroller (partisan)
 - County Commissioners: District 7

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **5th Annual Procurement Expo** hosted by Office of Mayor Daniella Levine Cava & Miami-Dade County Strategic Procurement Department
 - Thursday, September 12, 2024, 10am -2pm
 - Miami-Dade Public Library, 101 W. Flagler Street, Miami
 - www.miamidade.gov/procurementexpo
- **Welcoming Day Celebration** hosted by Office of New Americans, Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department
 - Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 10am – 2pm
 - Miami-Dade Public Library, 101 W. Flagler Street, Miami
 - <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/initiatives/newamericans/home.page>
- **Together Against Hate Town Hall** - FREE open-to-the-public town hall where panel of experts will discuss the critical issue of hate crimes and their effects on our community: FBI, Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security, State Attorney's Office, Miami-Dade PD, City of Miami PD, and the U.S. Attorney's Office
 - Wednesday, September 25, 2024, 6pm -7:45pm
 - Coral Gables Library, 3443 Segovia Street, Coral Gables
 - <https://events.humanitix.com/hates-crimes-town-hall>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Calendar of Events:

- September 12, Thursday: Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus Market & Movie; MDC Wolfson Campus, Outdoor Plaza, between NE 1st & 2nd Avenue and 4th Street; 5PM-9PM; Free Event; Free Parking Building 7
- September 12, Thursday: Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus Salsa Social; MDC Wolfson Campus, by Fountain outside Building 1; 5:30PM-7PM; Free Event; Free Parking Building 7
- September 13, Friday: Asian Real Estate Association of America Greater Miami's Member Appreciation and Elections; Lutong Pinoy, 9131 Pembroke Road, Pembroke Pines; Non-members \$30
- September 14, Saturday: Discussion with Texas House Representative Gene Wu hosted by Florida Asian American Justice Alliance – Topic: Asian Laws in America: Past, Present, and What's Coming Next; Latin Chamber of Commerce, 1401 W. Flagler Street, Miami; 2pm-4pm; Free Event: Register <https://form.jotform.com/242447605972160>

- September 15, Sunday: Fushu Daiko (South Florida Taiko Dojo) Hibiki – Echoes of the Drum; The Parker Playhouse, Ft. Lauderdale, 707 NE 8th Street, Ft. Lauderdale; 6:30PM; Tickets <https://www.ticketsales.com/fushu-daiko-tickets-lillian-s-wells-hall-at-the-parker/event/5145811>
- September 15, Sunday: Beijing Normal University Art Troupe's South Florida Premiere; Carole & Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium; 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton; 3PM; Tickets <https://midautumnfestival.naehusa.com/b/>
- September 16-18, Monday-Wednesday: Americas Food & Beverage Show at Miami Beach Convention Center (only open to the industry, making this an exclusively B2B (business to business) event. Attendees of the Show are there looking for new and innovative products to source, add to their store shelves, menus, and to wow their clients); \$95 - \$150 pp [Food & Beverage Show in Miami](#)
- **September 17, Tuesday: Celebration of Life – Sensei Mieko Kubota; Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 Red Road, Pinecrest; 11AM – 2PM**
- September 17, Tuesday: Japanese Heritage Celebration with Miami Marlins (vs LA Dodgers); loanDepot Park; 6:40PM; Tickets [Marlins vs Dodgers](#)
- September 18, Wednesday: Welcoming Week Celebration - Office of New Americans; Miami-Dade County Public Library (Main – Downtown Miami); 101 W Flagler Street, Miami; 10AM – 2PM; Free Event
- September 19, Thursday: Asian Senior Program with ACETalk and Florida Asian Services; Marjorie & William McDonald Center; 17051 NE 19 Avenue North Miami Beach; 11AM; Free Event
- September 21, Saturday: Miami Malayalees Association – MMA Onam 2024 (A harvest festival deeply rooted in Hindu mythology and commemorates the homecoming of the legendary King Mahabali, whose reign is remembered as a time of prosperity, happiness, and equality); Alpert JCC Miami, 11155 SW 112th Ave, Building #3, Miami; 5PM -10PM; Free Event
- September 25, Wednesday: Together Against Hate Town Hall; Coral Gables Library, 3443 Segovia Street, Coral Gables; 6PM-7:45PM; Free Event; Register <https://events.humanitix.com/hates-crimes-town-hall>
- September 26, Thursday: India-US Chamber of Commerce Business Networking Mixer & Dinner – 5X Assets by 2026!, Jessica Min, Presenter; Deccan Spice Indian Kitchen & Bar, 1151 S. Federal Hwy., Pompano Beach,; 5:30pm-8:30pm; \$20 [5X Assets By 2026](#)
- October 25, Friday: Florida's 42nd MEDWeek Business Matchmaking Conference & 50 Most Powerful Legacy Gala Awards; 7PM
- October 25, Friday: MAIACA's Diwali Soiree; Miami Marriott Dadeland, 9090 South Dadeland Blvd. Miami; \$210 Zelle to maiaca.inc@gmail.com
- 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 7:52PM, Ms. Josephine Gordy requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mehmet Ulutas moved to adjourn; Mr. Jose Keichi Fuentes seconded; Board unanimously approved to adjourn.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6PM – SPCC 18-4 Conference Room