



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



MINUTES, Monthly Board Meeting

6:00 P.M., Tuesday, March 11, 2025

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

Ref: 03-11-2025

Present: Hoda Askari; Vinita Chakravarty; Sadrul Fasihi; Eugene Fu; Subbarayan Pochi;
Stephen Lian Thang; Adrienne Aiko Thompson; Tai Vaz; Jim Yu; Preeya Disyanan (ITC)

Excused: Luna Adachi; Sharon Fine; Christina Fuentes; Jose Keichi Fuentes;
Josephine Gordy; Li Gurau; Smita Kulkarni; Anjana Mishra; Mehmet Ulutas; Nick Vicera

Absent:

Staff: Joshua Ho; Griselle Marino; Vanessa Azzam

Guest: Michael Chen; John Leon; Taylor Haas; Winnie Tang; Brandy Conway; Paul Cordon; Marcela Lopez Bravo

At 6:15 PM., Ms. Tai Vaz, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order; she welcomed the members and guests. Ms. Gordy asked the Program Director to verify the quorum. Quorum was not established.

MINUTES:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. Ho welcomed the Board and the guests and thanked all for attending AAAB March General Board meeting. He reminded the Board to update their calendar for 2025 AAAB General Board Meetings and stressed having a quorum as it is very important for our communities. He proceeded to inform the Board that he is working on reappointments and appointments to AAAB and the board members' patience are very welcomed and appreciated.

Mr. Ho thanked all board members and volunteers for another successful Asian Culture Festival at Tropical Park, where the Ambassador of Thailand, Consul General of Japan, Bangladesh, & Türkiye; Honorary Consul General of Thailand; Director General of Taiwan; Director of Thai Trade Center, in addition to our Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Commissioner J. C. Bermudez, and Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera were in attendance.

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:

- **Appreciation Award: 34th Annual Asian Culture Festival**

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
 - March -
 - April –
 - May – Israel
 - June
 - July
 - September - China
 - October – South Korea
 - November
 - Japan, India, Iran, Philippines, Myanmar, Taiwan, Türkiye, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Jamaican-Chinese, Israel

AAAB Economic Development Committee – Sharon Fine, Chairwoman

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

AAAB Education/Civic Engagement Committee - Tai Vaz, Chairwoman

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

CURRENT BUSINESS:

- **34th Annual Asian Culture Festival** – Updates
- **Updates from Miami-Dade Sheriff Office** –Detective Brandy Conway
- **Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month (May)**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Mission 34th Annual Asian Culture Festival:** Request for Payment of \$1000 from the AAAB Trust Fund to Thai American Association of Florida as co-host of 34th Annual Asian Culture Festival. The \$1000 sponsorship was received from Commissioner Kevin Cabrera, District 6, as an allocation for the 34th Annual Asian Culture Festival.
- **Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) presentation on the Status of People's Transportation Plan (PTP) and SMART Plan 2025: April General Board Meeting: April 8, 2025 (20 minutes)- Approved January General Board Meeting**
- **"Doing Business with Miami-Dade County" Workshop with Miami-Dade County Strategic Procurement Department**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Calendar of Events:

- March 16, Sunday: Miami Association of Indian Americans for Culture and Arts (MAIACA) Holi – Festival of Colors; Kendall Hammocks Park, 11395 SW 79th Street, Miami; \$15 Adults / \$10 Children; MAIACA HOLI
- March 16, Sunday: The Peking Acrobats; Adrienne Arsht Center, 1300 Biscayne Blvd.; 6PM; \$20 -\$75; Save 50% when you buy one pair of tickets of more using promo code ACROBATS; <https://www.arshtcenter.org/tickets/2024-2025/family-fun-live/the-peking-acrobats/>

- March 23, Sunday: Naruto - The Symphonic Experience!; Adrienne Arsht Center, 1300 Biscayne Blvd.; 7PM; \$45-\$125; <https://www.arshtcenter.org/tickets/2024-2025/live-at-knight/naruto-the-symphonic-experience/>
- April 4, Friday: East Asian Market Day hosted by Sino-US Language and Culture Salon at Florida International University (FIU); FIU's Graham Center Pit (MMC Campus), located at 10955 SW 15th Terrace, Miami, FL 33199; 11AM – 3PM
- April 4, Friday: COISO's 57th International Week: Asia Night at University of Miami; University of Miami, Lakeside Patio; 6PM – 9PM
- April 4, Friday: Care Package Preparation with UM AASA; University of Miami; 6:30PM
- April 13, Sunday: 2025 Songkran Festival; Wat Buddharangsi, Thai Temple Miami Florida, 15200 S.W. 240th St. Miami; Free Event; <https://www.thaitemplemiamifl.org/news>
- Sundays: ACE Talk Show with Winnie Tang, Josephine Gordy & Joshua Ho on WAVS 1170AM & 107.9 FM, Sunday evening from 9PM – 10PM www.ACE-Talk.com

Adjournment:

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6PM – SPCC 18-4 Conference Room