



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



MINUTES, Monthly Board Meeting

6:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 13, 2025

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

Ref: 05-13-2025

Present: Luna Adachi; Sadrul Fasihi; Sharon Fine; Eugene Fu; Josephine Gordy; Li Gurau; Anjana Mishra; Luke Keisuke Nakano; Subbarayan Pochi; Stephen Lian Thang; Adrienne Aiko Thompson; Mehmet Ulutas; Tai Vaz; Nick Vicera; Jim Yu

Excused: Vinita Chakravarty; Hoda Askari; Christina Fuentes; Jose Keichi Fuentes; Smita Kulkarni

Absent:

Staff: Joshua Ho; Cedric Brazle

Guest: Paul Gordon; Tina Wang Gordon; John Leon; Taylor Haas; Winnie Tang; Samira Khan; Karla Damian; Jason Chen; Ellis Keeter

At 6:10 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 February 2025 and requested a motion to approve the Minutes. Ms. Josephine Gordy moved to approve the February Minutes, Dr. Li Gurau seconded, the Board unanimously approved the February Minutes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Happy Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! Mr. Ho welcomed the Board and the guests and thanked all for attending AAAB May General Board meeting. He congratulated and welcomed Mr. Luke Keisuke Nakano, AAAB appointee of Commissioner J C Bermudez, District 12. 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 informed the Board that he is currently working on reappointments and appointments to AAAB and the board members' patience is very welcome and appreciated. 2024 Source of Income Statement needs to be completed by July 1, 2025: Email completed form to: financial.disclosure@miamidade.gov , Nilda.Olmo@miamidade.gov , Franklin.Castro@miamidadeclerk.gov and copy hjoshua@miamidade.gov. He once again encouraged 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:

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
 - May – Israel
 - June – India
 - July
 - September - China
 - October – South Korea
 - November - Japan
 - 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
 - Possible UMC Free Clinic's 5th Anniversary Celebration Event on Friday, June 13th

CURRENT BUSINESS:

- **34th Annual Asian Culture Festival** – Updates
- **Updates from Miami-Dade Sheriff Office** –Detective Brandy Conway
 - Preparing for Memorial Day Weekend
- **2024 Source of Income Statement:** Deadline July 1, 2025: email to financial.disclosure@miamidade.gov, Nilda.Olmo@miamidade.gov, Franklin.Castro@miamidadeclerk.gov and copy hjoshua@miamidade.gov
- **Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month (May)**
 - May 2, Friday: AANHPI Heritage Month Celebration Kickoff Presentation at SPCC Government Center
 - May 3, Saturday: AANHPI Heritage Celebration with City of North Miami Beach
 - May 10, Saturday: NAMIWALK 2025, loanDepot Park
 - May 14, Wednesday: Gummakonda Reddy Foundation Annual Golf Tournament; Jacaranda Club
 - May 17, Saturday: Asian Community Tour with GMCVB (Registration Required)
 - On Leong Merchant Association of Miami
 - Sacred Vedic Arts Bhakti-Yoga Cultural Center
 - Ichimura Japan Garden Miami
 - Jewish Museum of Florida – FIU
 - Restaurant - Abbalé Telavivian Kitchen
 - May 28, Wednesday: AAPI Heritage Month Celebration at Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus; 11:30AM – 1:30PM
 - May 29, Thursday: Celebrating AANHPI Heritage Month with Asian Real Estate Association of America Greater Miami
 - May 30, Friday: Celebrating AANHPI Heritage Month with Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **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.
 - Ms. Vaz, Chairwoman requested a motion to approve the payment of \$1000 from the AAAB Trust Fund to Thai American Association of Florida as co-host of 34th Annual Asian Culture Festival. Dr. Adrienne Aiko Thompson moved to approve the payment, Dr. Li Gurau seconded, the Board unanimously approved the \$1000 from the AAAB Trust Fund to Thai American Association of Florida as co-host of 34th Annual Asian Culture Festival.
- **Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month (May):** Request for Payment of \$500 from the AAAB Trust Fund to Thai American Association of Florida for Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month for Sound (\$300) and Tea Ceremony (\$200).
 - Ms. Vaz, Chairwoman requested a motion to approve the payment of \$500 from the AAAB Trust Fund to Thai American Association of Florida for Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Ms. Sharon Fine moved to approve the payment, Ms. Josephine Gordy seconded, the Board unanimously approved the \$500 from the AAAB Trust Fund to Thai American Association of Florida for Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month.
- **"Doing Business with Miami-Dade County"** Workshop with Miami-Dade County Strategic Procurement Department
 - Jeannie T. Wong, Administrative Officer III will work with Mr. Ho to prepare the workshop with the cooperation from Manny Cid, Assistant Director of Economic Development and Anthony Bonamy, Manager of Small Business Development. Possible date: Fall of 2025.
- **3rd Vice-Chair** – Ms. Tai Vaz, recommended Dr. Eugene Fu for the AAAB 3rd Vice-Chair. The Board unanimously approved Dr. Eugene Fu as the AAAB 3rd Vice-Chairman for the 2024-2025.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Calendar of Events:

- May 2, Friday to July 30, Wednesday: Centenarian Japanese Artist Yuki Kohyama Friendship Chigiri-e; Miami Dade County Public Library System – Main Library, 101 W. Flagler Street; Free
- May 16, Friday: Americans for Immigrant Justice's 2025 Annual Dinner; JW Marriott Marquis Miami 225 S Biscayne Boulevard Way Miami; 6:30PM; \$250 pp;
- May 17, Saturday: Meet Adam Fu at Museum of Graffiti; 276 NW 26th Street; Free Event; 7PM-9PM; [Adam Fu @ Museum of Graffiti](#)
- May 20, Tuesday: Older Adult Resource Fair hosted by Elder Affairs Advisory Board; Milander Center for Arts & Entertainment, 4800 Palm Ave., Hialeah; 10AM-2PM;
- May 20, Tuesday: AANHPI Heritage Month Proclamation Ceremony – City of North Miami Beach; North Miami Beach City Hall, 17011 NE 19th Ave, North Miami Beach; 5:30PM
- 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: At 7:35PM, Mr. Mehmet Ulutas moved to adjourn; Ms. Josephine Gordy seconded; Board unanimously approved to adjourn.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 6PM – SPCC 18-4 Conference Room