



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



**MINUTES, Monthly Board Meeting**

**6:00 P.M., Tuesday, July 8, 2025**

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

**Ref: 07-08-2025**

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**Present:** Luna Adachi; Vinita Chakravarty; Sadrul Fasihi; Sharon Fine; Eugene Fu; Josephine Gordy; Taylor Haas; Ellis Keeter; Anjana Mishra; Subbarayan Pochi; Stephen Lian Thang; Mehmet Ulutas; Tai Vaz; Jim Yu; Preeya Disyanan (ITC)

**Excused:** Hoda Askari; Jose Keichi Fuentes; Li Gurau; Smita Kulkarni; Luke Keisuke Nakano; Adrienne Aiko Thompson; Nick Vicera

**Absent:**

**Staff:** Joshua Ho; Cedric Brazle

**Guest:** Paul Gordon; Tina Wang Gordon; John Leon; Winnie Tang; Samira Khan; Jason Chen; Jasmine Sandoval

At 6:13 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 2025 and requested a motion to approve the Minutes. Ms. Josephine Gordy moved to approve the June Minutes, Ms. Taylor Haas seconded, the Board unanimously approved the June Minutes.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Joshua Ho welcomed the Board and the guests and thanked all for attending AAAB July General Board meeting. He congratulated and welcomed Mr. Ellis Keeter, AAAB appointee of Commissioner Micky Steinberg, District 4. He informed the board that due to increased family commitment, Board Member Christina Fuentes, decided to step down from the Board. 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 asap as the deadline July 1, 2025 has passed: Email completed form to: [financial.disclosure@miamidade.gov](mailto:financial.disclosure@miamidade.gov), [Nilda.Olmo@miamidade.gov](mailto:Nilda.Olmo@miamidade.gov), [Franklin.Castro@miamidadeclerk.gov](mailto:Franklin.Castro@miamidadeclerk.gov) and copy [hjoshua@miamidade.gov](mailto: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:**

## **CURRENT BUSINESS:**

- **Updates from Miami-Dade Sheriff Office** – Detective Brandy Conway & Deputy Sheriff John Leon
- **"Doing Business with Miami-Dade County" Workshop with Miami-Dade County Strategic Procurement Department**
  - Week of September 22 – September 26
  - Possible location: City of North Miami Beach
- **Asian Culture Series**
  - Mr. Ho will email Asian Culture Series Format recommended by Chairwoman Vaz
- **UTSAV Miami 2025, A Celebration of India with MAIACA**
  - Savor of Flavors, Dance to the Beats, Textile Showcase, Kids Corner, Vendors
  - July 18, 5PM
  - Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **Timeless Thai Taste hosted by Department of International Trade Promotion (DITP), under the Ministry of Commerce and Thai Trade Center Miami**
  - Featuring Thai Celebrities – Rising stars of Shine
  - July 11, 2PM
  - Hilton Miami Downtown, 1601 Biscayne Blvd
- **Current Situations in Asian American Community**
  - Mental Health in Asian American Communities (NAMI Miami-Dade)
  - Domestic Violence (MDC Domestic Violence Oversight Board)
  - Substance Abuse in Teenagers (Children's Trust)

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **AAAB Executive Committee – Tai Vaz, Chairwoman**

### **AAAB Cultural Advancement Committee – Li Gurau, Chairwoman**

- Asian Cultural Series Sub-committee: Chair, Tai Vaz
- Report: Committee Meeting: June 18th
  - July – India
  - August - Pakistan
  - September - China
  - October – South Korea
  - November – Japan
  - December
  - Japan, India, Iran, Philippines, Myanmar, Taiwan, Türkiye, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Jamaican-Chinese, Israel
  - Email Members “Asian Culture Series” Format

### **AAAB Economic Development Committee – Sharon Fine, Chairwoman**

- Report: MDC International Trade Consortium – Preeya Disyanan, ITC Board Member
  - Doing Business with Japan Workshop with Consulate General of Japan in Miami and Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development
    - July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1PM
    - Pompano Beach Cultural Center
  - Florida International Trade and Cultural Expo (FITCE)
    - October 22-23, 7AM – 8PM
    - Greater Fort Lauderdale | Broward County Convention Center
    - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fitce-2025-florida-international-trade-cultural-expo-10th-anniversary-tickets-1367911763909?aff=FITCEWebsite>

#### **AAAB Education/Civic Engagement Committee - Tai Vaz, Chairwoman**

- Report: Committee Meeting: June 18th
- Health/Wellness Sub-committee: Chair: Sadrul Fasihi
  - UMC Free Clinic's 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Event (End of the Year Gala)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **Calendar of Events:**

- **July 10, Thursday:** Be Strong on the Block – Food Drive-Thru, hosted by Be Strong International; JL and Enid W. Demps Park (Former Goulds) 11350 SW 216th Street, Miami; First 500 Households; 9AM
- **July 11, Friday:** Timeless Thai Taste; Hilton Miami Downtown, 1601 Biscayne Blvd.; 2PM
- **July 11, Friday:** This Is Home: A Town Hall Demystifying Immigration in South Florida Hosted by Mosaic Miami; Green Space Miami; 7200 Biscayne Boulevard Miami; 6:30PM-8:30PM; To Register [This is Home](#)
- **July 12, Saturday:** Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce Miami Inauguration Party, 2025; Jacaranda Country Club, 9200 W. Broward Blvd., Plantation; 11AM-3PM; \$65pp; [TCCM Summer 2025](#)
- **July 12, Saturday:** Back to School Health & Safety Fair with City of Homestead PAL; Phicol Williams Community Center, 951SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Homestead, FL 33030; 10AM-1PM
- **July 17, Thursday:** IUCC-SFL Networking Session: US-India Synergies (Special Guest: Consul General Shri Ramesh Babu Lakshmanan; Deccan Spice Indian Kitchen and Bar, Pompano; 6PM; \$10; [US-India Synergies](#)
- **July 18, Friday:** UTSAV Miami 2025, A Celebration of India with MAIACA; Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus, DowntownMiami; 5PM-8PM; \$15; For Tickets [UTSAV 2025](#)
- **August 8, Friday:** Gummakonda Reddy Foundation's Backpacks and School Supplies Distribution; Various locations throughout Broward and Miami-Dade County (See Flyer); To Volunteer (Tai Vaz, 954-274-2459)
  - Boulevard Heights Elementary School, Hollywood
  - Westwood Heights Elementary, Ft. Lauderdale
  - Lakesdale Elementary, Ft. Lauderdale
  - Phical Williams Community Center, Homestead
- **Sundays: ACE Talk (Asian Caribbean Exchange) 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 7:40PM, Mr. Mehmet Ulutas moved to adjourn; Ms. Sharon Fine seconded; Board unanimously approved to adjourn.

**Next Board Meeting:** [Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 6PM](#) – SPCC 18-4 Conference Room