

Commission on Asian American Affairs
Meeting Minutes
July 29, 2024
301 Centennial Mall South, Lower Level - Lancaster Hearing Room
Lincoln, NE 68509

The Commission on Asian American Affairs met in the Lancaster Hearing Room of the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln, Nebraska for the transaction of business, advanced public notice having been given through public notice published in the Omaha World Herald on July 26, 2024, and on the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar at www.nebraska.gov/calendar on July 19, 2024.

Human Resources / Department of Administrative Services staff collected necessary paperwork and Oaths of Office were signed and notarized.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mike Donley, General Counsel for the Department of Administrative Services, at approximately 10:00 a.m. on July 26, 2024, in the Lancaster Hearing Room, Members present: Weysan Dun, Ryo Suzuki, Vickie Schaepler, Joanne Li, Hiep Vu, Arunkumar Pondicherry, Yunwoo Nam, Tram Kieu, Rebecca Reinhardt, and Maureen Brase. Absent: Maorong Jiang, Deepak Gangahar, Carolina Mapes and Carol Wang (to arrive late). A quorum was present. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review on the table at the back of the room.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Motion made by Commissioner **Joanne Li**, seconded by Commissioner **Weysan Dun** to nominate Commissioner Ryo Suzuki as Commission Chair. The motion to elect Ryo Suzuki as Chair passed unanimously, with those absent not voting.

ELECTION OF EXECUTE BOARD

The following Commissioners were nominated for the Executive Board:

- Weysan Dun
- Maureen Brase
- Tram Kieu
- Arunkumar Pondicherry
- Carol Wang

Ballots were distributed to vote for four of the nominated individuals.

Ballots were tallied and members elected as the Executive Board were:

- Weysan Dun
- Arunkumar Pondicherry
- Maureen Brase
- Tram Kieu

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Ryan Baker, Assistant Attorney General, spoke regarding the rules, requirements, and responsibilities of the Commission under the Open Meetings Act and extended his contact information to assist with any legal questions the Commission might have.

WELCOME BY GOVERNOR JIM PILLEN

Governor Pillen welcomed the Commission members and asked all members to introduce themselves as well as discussed obstacles of goals each member was aware of that the Commission could address to impact those obstacles and goals.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES

Lee Will, Chief Financial Officer and State Budget Administrator, addressed the appropriation available to the Commission and the due date of future budget requests.

Phil Olson, State Accounting Administrator, addressed the services provided by State Accounting and the expense reimbursement form to be utilized.

Kevin Halvorson, HR Specialist Manager, addressed the services available through HR Shared Services available to the Commission.

Mike Donley, DAS General Counsel, provided information regarding contacting State Building Division to inquire about how to acquire office space or reserve meeting room resources.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were in attendance. No public comments were offered.

ADJOURNMENT

Joanne Li moved and Vickie Schaepler seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.