



## Minutes

CAPM Board of Directors Meeting  
January 15, 2015  
5:00 – 7:00 PM  
Lady Slipper Room, Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street, Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Nhon called the meeting to order at 5:08PM.

I. ROLL CALL

**Present:**

Tran Nhon

Tsewang Ngodup

David Maeda

Adeel Lari

George Thaw Moo

Shanti Shah

Marie McCarthy, legislative assistant to State Senator Alice Johnson

**Staff:** Sia Her, Tenzin Dolkar, Karina Vang, and Angelina Nguyen.

**Absent:** Danny Lee, Elsa Batica, Ananda Liyanapathiranage, Melissa Kwon, Mukhtar Thakur, Hedy Tripp, Hoeun Hach, Priya Outar, Shivanthi Sathanandan, State Senator Foug Hawj, State Representative Joe Mullery, and State Representative Carolyn Laine.

*This is the third consecutive absence of Mr. Hoeun Hach. Ms. Tripp, Ms. Outar, and Ms. Sathanandan have verbally communicated that they will not come to future Board meetings, even if they can statutorily serve until June 30, 2015 or until the Governor appoints new Board members in their place, whichever happens first.*

*With 6 out of 15 voting members present, there was no quorum. No votes can be taken, but discussions can be held.*

II. DISCUSSION

Mr. Lari asked how the terms of the non-voting legislative board members work. Do they get appointed for 2 or 4 years? Are they obligated to serve until a successor is appointed?

Mr. Nhon asked staff to find out the answer and report back to the Board.

III. UPDATES

Mr. Her updated the Board that a change has been made in the Biennial Plan to include staff as also responsible for the Asian Leadership Dinner, along with the Board. The Policy and Procedures Manual draft has been revised per the Board's request. Ms. McCarthy updated that Senator Johnson is working hard to advance several bills, including the Council's bills.



IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A copy of the Executive Director's Report was provided to everyone. Ms. Her summarized administrative, staff, projects/programs, community relations, government relations, and community outreach updates. First, the Council's website cannot be revamped sooner than spring 2015. Ms. Her had contacted MNIT's Chief Information Officer to confirm.

Ms. Her updated the Board on the Council's two bills: authors' signatures are being collected right now. A list of 18 legislators with whom Chair Nhon, Ms. Her, and Dolkar have met was provided to everyone.

The Council's API Day at the Capitol has 100 RSVPs for the advocacy trainings. There are about 5 groups confirmed to meet with legislators.

The MN Department of Human Rights is convening community conversations about the Councils of Color. By next week, it is expected that two bills will be introduced on the Councils of Color.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Maeda commended the Council's Facebook page for its terrific posts. However, he noticed that the Council has not tweeted in a while. He argued that Twitter is also important and is crucial in order to engage with legislators.

Mr. Lari asked if any information is known about bills regarding the Councils of Color. Ms. Her answered no.

Dr. Ngodup asked for the authors behind Council's two bills. Dolkar listed the authors who have signed so far.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Her presented the current budget to the Board. She explained that given all of the expected expenses, at the end of FY 2015, the Council may have a surplus of about \$25,000.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Shah asked if some of the surplus amount can be used for the Asian Leadership Dinner. Chair Nhon informed the Board that legislators may see that the Council did not use as much money as they had allocated, which may affect their decision on the Council's future budget. Ms. Her explained that this year, due to staff turnover, there were some unexpended salary dollars that would otherwise be spent.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Executive Committee:*



Chair Nhon reported that the Executive Committee will meet on February 2, 2015.

*Government Relations Committee:*

Mr. Maeda, Chair of Government Relations Committee, reported that he met with Dolkar to get up to speed.

*Events Committee:*

Chair Nhon announced that the Prom Center is reserved for the Asian Leadership Dinner to be held on May 8, 2015. The Leadership Award nomination call has been sent out. Ms. Shah clarified whether or not her understanding that all nominations are selected for awards is correct. Ms. Her answered that in previous years, there were not enough nominations for a competition. Ms. Her shared that last year, the nominations were poorly written. If these awards are important to the Council, then we shouldn't award them if there are no qualified candidates. We shouldn't award them to any nominee. Ms. Shah asked to clarify a second point that Board members cannot nominate. Thirdly, Ms. Shah asked if past winners are eligible to win again. These questions will be passed to the Events Committee Chair, Mr. Lee, to be answered. Mr. Lari suggested that given this is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Council's existence, former Council Board members, former Council executive directors, and former legislators should be invited.

VII. 2015 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Chair Nhon proposed to hold a meeting every other month rather than every month, due to staff's limited capacity during the legislative session. Mr. Lari suggested that the Board meet monthly every month during the session and meet every other month for the rest of the year. Ms. Shah said that if the Legislature is looking for increased Board involvement, especially during a session when the Councils of Color are being examined, that it is important for the Board to meet regularly as it is one way to engage. Another way is for Board members to participate legislatively.

Dr. Ngodup suggested a few possibilities. One, allow a conference call-in option for Board members who cannot make a meeting in person because of time constraints. Two, ask Board members to respond and let everyone know about their attendance to prevent what happened today where those present had to wait for others to arrive late and still there was not enough attendance for a quorum. Three, host our meetings in the community and engage with them.

Chair Nhon asked staff to explore these options and report back.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM.