



# Mayor's Asian American Advisory Board

**Behavioral and Human Services Division  
1809 Art Museum Drive, Suite 100, Large Conference Room  
Monday, November 4, 2013 at 6:00 PM**

## **Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Sophal Archard, Ed Callao, Radwan Chowdhury, Jay Gogaliya, Bala Govi, Thelma Jackson, Mai Dinh Keisling, Do In Kim, Sunyoung Providakes and Rajat Sharma

**Board Members Excused:** Lorelie Papel and Dr. Jasper Xu

**Board Members Unexcused:** None

**Prospective Members/Guests/Volunteers Present:** John Braun, Palash Chowdhury, Rene Lejano, Grace Pettus, Sang Phouansouvanh, Wen Raiti and David Tran

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Ed Callao called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

### **I. Pledge of Allegiance**

Introductions made around the room. Ed Callao thanked Grace Pettus from the Mayor's Office for attending the meeting. Ms. Pettus used to work for Senator Bill Nelson and now is the Assistant to Michelle Barth and Betzy Santiago.

### **II. Public Comments**

Card was given to the Chair and comments were made through the meeting. See Other News, Announcements, Comments section for comments received.

### **III. Guest Speakers**

#### ***Wayne McGovern- Equal Employment Access Specialist***

Mr. McGovern will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

#### ***John Braun – City of Jacksonville, Victim Services Center, 403 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street***

Mr. Braun stated that the Victim Services Center provides assistance to victims of crime and help with stabilization. Advocates will assist victims of a violent crimes and meet them at the hospital. Rent, food, and medication assistance is available up to \$2,000 over a period of time. Victims can also receive mental health counseling. Victim Services Center collaborates with the Jacksonville Sherriff's Office and Hubbard House.

The Sexual Assault Center conducted 270 exams last year. The Rape Crisis Hotline is available 24/7 and the number is (904) 358-7273. Flyer attached.

Mr. Braun asked the Board to forward the Victim Services Center information to their various countries they represent.

Discussion was made in regards to the language barrier for victims to get assistance. John Braun stated as part of the VOCA grant the Victim Services Center has translation services available through the City but needs more interpreters to be able to reach more in the community. Jay Gogaliya commented that the information should be in their language, so it would be something they recognize. Mr. Braun agreed and said that volunteers would be needed to help in this process. Do In Kim stated that many people do not report the crimes because the 911 operators and the police do not understand the victims language.

Grace Pettus, Sophal Archard, Ed Callao and Rajat Sharma suggested outreach opportunities for the Victim Services Center at several events.

Ed Callao asked John Braun to discuss to be a speaker at the Winter Forum

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to table the October minutes by Jay Gogaliya and Radwan Chowdhury seconded and the motion passed without discussion.

#### **V. Committee Updates**

##### Nomination/Membership – Jay Gogaliya

Jay Gogaliya made a motion to approve Wen Raiti as a new member of MAAAB, Radwan Chowdhury seconded, and the motion passed without discussion. Application was given to the Assistant to the Liaison to forward to Mia Jones, Boards, and Commissions.

##### Finance – Bala Govi

Bala Govi presented the Finance Report to the Board. Radwan Chowdhury made a motion to accept the report, Mai Keisling seconded with changes to the memo field on the Finance Report, and the motion passed without discussion. Laura Davis, Assistant to the Liaison, reminded the Board that funds needed to be raised for upcoming events.

##### May Event – Sophal Archard

Suggestions were made for raising money, places to hold event, and catering choices. Mai Keisling made a motion to hold the May Event on May 17, 2014 (first choice) or May 24, 2014 (second choice), Radwan Chowdhury seconded, and the motion passed without discussion.

##### Winter Forum – Ed Callao

Ed Callao asked Laura Davis to add Victim Services Center to the Winter Forum agenda. Sophal Archard, Radwan Chowdhury, Mai Keisling, Lorelie Papel, Sang Phouansouvanh, and Wen Raiti are the other members of the committee. Mr. Callao will email committee members a meeting request for the Winter Forum.

## **VI. Other News, Announcements, Comments**

Ed Callao announced to the Board that Jasper Xu is requesting a leave absence due to the classes he is taking.

Ed Callao encouraged everyone to attend the Veteran's Day Parade.

Sopha Archard stated the invitations to the Cambodian Community Ribbon Cutting will be sent out within the next week.

Do In Kim announced there will be a Korean meeting held on December 14, 2013 with free food. Mr. Kim will forward the information to Board members.

Public Comment: Grace Pettus stated the South Korean Delegation will be in Jacksonville for the Sister City Dinner on November 11, 2013. Ed Callao and Jay Gogaliya will get a plaque and present at the dinner from MAAAB. Jay Gogaliya made a motion seeking the permission from the Board to get the plaque on MAAAB's behalf, Radwan Chowdhury seconded and motion passed without further discussion.

Public Comment: Grace Pettus invited everyone to the JCCI – Cultural Council and Jax2025 – Diversity meeting. Ms. Pettus stated she would send invites to the Board.

## **VII. Meeting Adjourned**

Jay Gogaliya made a motion to adjourn, Radwan Chowdhury seconded, and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on December 9, 2013.



## *Victim Services Center*

*Help is available when you need it  
the most*  
**Behavioral and Human Services  
Division**

**(904) 630-6300**

### **Services for Crime Victims**

- Crisis Intervention and Needs Assessment
- Information and Referral
- Court Advocacy & Criminal Justice Support
- Florida Crime Victim Compensation Application Assistance
- On-Scene Advocate Program
- Elderly and Disabled Mobile Outreach Services
- Critical Incident Stress Management Debriefing Team
- Community Education and Training with Crime Prevention Techniques
- InVEST Program (Domestic Violence)

### **Services for Sexual Assault Victims**

**(904) 630-6330**

- 24-Hour RAPE Hotline
- (904) 358-RAPE (7273)**
- Forensic Medical Examinations
  - Follow-up Medical Care
  - HIV Testing
  - Community Referrals