



City of Jacksonville
Mayor's Asian American Advisory Board (MAAAB)



DRAFT

MAAAB Board Members

Radwan Chowdhury
Chair

Rajat Sharma
Vice Chair

Wen Raiti
Treasurer

Sophal Archard
Secretary

Ed Callao
Past Chair

Purnima Ganju

Jay Gogaliya

Do In Kim

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Webpage
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Board Meeting
Monday, March 9, 2015 at 6:00 PM

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Sophal Archard, Radwan Chowdhury (called in), Purniman Ganju, Wen Raiti and Rajat Sharma

Board Members Excused: Ed Callao, Jay Gogaliya, and Do In Kim

Board Members Unexcused:

Liaison to Board: Johnnetta Moore

Prospective Members/Guests/Volunteers Present: Thang Khan Dal, Jie Liu, Ron Macomb, Moitreyo Nayek, Tina Pham, Betzy Santiago, and Will Torres

I. Call to Order

Chair, Radwan Chowdhury called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm and introduced guests.

II. Pledge Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated.

III. Introductions

Introductions were made around the room.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Minutes deferred until next meeting.

V. Liaison to Board Update

Johnnetta Moore stated she had received news late in the afternoon of Purniman Ganju's appointment to the Board. Mrs. Moore also discussed that any person can apply to join a Board. Applications are to be sent to Mia Jones. Wen Raiti shared feelings on the change of policy.

Johnnetta Moore stated upon Radwan Chowdhury's return, he will need to sign the Library contract so that it can be forwarded for further processing.

VI. Committee Updates

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration

- Last year, the Mayor's office held an Art Contest in celebration of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month and winners were awarded during a press conference. Discussion was made in regards to incorporating the Art Contest winners to the May event. A motion was made by Rajat Sharma to announce and display the winners of the Art Contest at the May event, seconded by Purniman Ganju, and the motion passed without further discussion.
- Radwan Chowdhury stated that the Board will probably be getting flower center pieces for the table pro bono. Mr. Chowdhury will provide a cost estimate from the florist to determine the amount of ad space to be given in the Souvenir booklet.
- Board members discussed the price for stage, dance floor and linens. Purniman Ganju made a motion to increase the amount spent on dance floor and linens to \$800, Ms. Ganju amended the motion to increase the amount to \$1,000, Rajat Sharma seconded and the motion carried.
- A discussion was made on who is going to collect advertisement money for Souvenir booklet and Purniman Ganju volunteered the US Indo Chamber of Commerce of Northeast Florida. Sophal Archard made a motion to accept Purniman Ganju's offer to accept funds on behalf of MAAAB for the Souvenir booklet, Rajat Sharma seconded and the motion carried.
- Radwan Chowdhury stated that it is the responsibility for each Board member to reach out to their community to provide performers for the May event. Timeline will be provided for performers to ensure there music, space, timing etc. will be working properly for the event. Rajat Sharma made a motion that all performance entries must submit by Monday, March 23, 2015, Purniman Ganju seconded and the motion passed without further discussion. Sophal Archard passed around the tentative schedule of events for the May event.
- Sophal Archard has quotes for the Tai and Chinese food. Sophal Archard made an amendment to the price and amount for food to reflect 200 people for \$1,000, Rajat Sharma seconded and the motion passed without further discussion.
- Rajat Sharma proposed two covers to the Souvenir booklet for the Board to review. Wen Raiti made a motion to approve the bamboo cover, Purniman Ganju seconded and the motion passed without further discussion.
- The May event committee decided to include young students to help MC the event.

- Johnnetta Moore stated that subcommittee meetings were needed to be held and to report back to the Board.

Awards

Rajat Sharma reported that three nominations were received. Mr. Sharma made a motion to extend the deadline for the Award Nominations to Monday, March 23, 2015, it was seconded by Sophal Archard and the motion passed without further discussion.

Board Membership/Nominations

No report.

Finance/Treasury Report

Wen Raiti presented the Finance/Treasury Report. Laura Davis reported that 10 tables have been sold.

High School Senior Scholarship

- Wen Raiti stated that 10 scholarship applications have been received. Ms. Raiti made a motion to extend the deadline for scholarship applications to Monday, March 23, 2015, Rajat Sharma seconded and the motion was passed without further discussion.
- Johnnetta Moore will forward an email to Board in regards to the “in need” scholarships. The Committee will have input in the decision for the scholarships.

VII. Unfinished Business

Radwan Chowdhury reminded Board members to attend the Ethics class. Information will be forwarded to the new Board member.

VIII. New Business

Radwan Chowdhury asked the Board members to consider moving the timeline for electing Chair, Vice Chair etc. for the next year and the Board opposed the consideration.

IX. Public Comment

Will Torres is the North Florida Regional Manager for the Step Up program. Please see attached flyer for information.

X. Announcements

March 10, 2015 – Military and Veterans Job and Resources Fair – Laura Davis to send flyer

March 18, 2015 – Applications will start to be accepted for the Mayor’s Summer Job Program – Laura Davis to send flyer

March 25, 2015 - Deadline to enter the Fight Blight contest – Laura Davis will send flyer

April 10 -12 – Annual Cambodian New Year – Sophal Archard will send flyer

XI. Meeting Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p. m.