



OCAPIA MINUTES

Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 9:30 AM - 12 PM

Oregon State Bar, Sandy Room, 16037 SW Upper Boone's Ferry Road, Tigard, OR 97224

ATTENDANCE:

Chair: Absent
Vice Chair: David Yuen Tam (phone)
Commissioners: Hussein Al-Baiaty, Kathleen Jonathan (phone), Ping Khaw, Bennie Moses-Mesubed (phone), Stephen Ying, Senator Dembrow
Absent: Mari Watanabe, Chanpone Sinlapasai-Okamura, Representative Whisnant
Guests: Serena Stoudamire, Governor's Office; Cameron Whitten and Luis Torres, Know Your City
Staff: Lucy Baker, Nancy Kramer, Ty Schwoeffermann (phone)

I. Call to Order and Welcome New Commissioners – Vice Chair Tam called the meeting to order at 9:37am. He welcomed the 2 new Commissioners to the Commission. Commissioner Al-Baiaty is a small business owner who volunteers to speak in schools about his experiences as an immigrant to America. His special interests in commission work are education and civic engagement, and how to effect positive change. Commissioner Moses-Mesubed is Director of the Multicultural Center at Eastern Oregon University. She is interested in civic engagement and diversity education.

II. Roll Call – Nancy Kramer called the roll. A quorum was established.

III. A. Approval of November 2015 OCAPIA Minutes

MOTION (Ying/Moses-Mesubed): To approve the minutes as written. CARRIED.

B. Approval of Agenda – B. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by common consent with 2 accommodations for time: Sen. Dembrow to report on legislative session issues of equity at 10am and Cameron Whitten to speak on Know Your City at 11:30am.

IV. Old Business

1. Committee reports

A. Civic Engagement

Vice Chair Tam reported on the work he is leading with Chair Watanabe for OCAPIA's hosting the White House Initiative on AAPI (WHIAAPI) Roundtable in Eugene on March 3rd. This is an opportunity for key federal agency leaders to discuss their resources and hear from the API community about current issues they face, including education, health, immigration, justice and other areas. This is the 2nd WHIAAPI roundtable that OCAPIA has hosted. The first was last July in Portland with the help of IRCO with 160 participants. It

broke all records for attendance and was a success for the community and the federal leaders attending. The Eugene event will be held at PacificSource with 100 attendees expected.

B. Education

Cameron Whitten: Know Your City

The Commission welcomed Cameron Whitten, Executive Director of Know Your City, who discussed a campaign to increase inclusive history teaching and curriculum in Portland Public Schools related to the implementation of 2015 bill SB 739 and needed funding for a pilot project. He asked that OCAPIA consider lending their support to the campaign. He will address Portland City Council to fund a Human Rights Education report that covers implementation of existing policies that will make curriculum relevant and engaging for all students.

The Vice Chair requested that staff draft a statement for Commission consideration that is based on the importance of implementing SB 739 and funding a pilot project that will begin that work.

2. OCAPIA Fundraising update – Fundraising Committee

Ping reported on the work of the committee in securing a location and she and David briefly discussed the potential key note speaker for the event.

V. New Business

A. Strategic Planning

Vice Chair Tam led the Commission in a review and discussion of their strategic goals for each of OCAPIA's 3 priorities: education, health and civic engagement.

1. Education

Commissioners Moses-Mesubed and Jonathan provided an overview and outline for bringing Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) funding to Oregon. It includes a meeting with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) and interested school leaders to create a shared vision for AANAPISI in Oregon, and commitments to work on the necessary steps for designation by the federal government to receive funding, and following through on writing for individual student scholarships from the AAPI Community. Lucy will work with the members of the OCAPIA Education Committee to draft a goal, outcomes and a work plan for this portion of the OCAPIA strategic plan.

Chair Watanabe has also suggested adding a goal, outcomes and work plan around the implementation of SB 739 and student plans for English Language Learners. She and Lucy will set a meeting with Lindsey Capps, the Oregon Chief Education Officer, and Dr. Hilda Rosselli, on his staff, to discuss their interest in partnering with OCAPIA and its education committee on these subjects.

2. Civic Engagement - Add goal on partnering with other organizations in leadership training including AAYLC, APANO.
3. Health Care and health access: - This is a new strategic goal for OCAPIA. After discussion with Serena Stoudamire, the OAC's Policy Advisor, they agreed they will begin planning for this area by inviting OHA to speak about CCO's and Health homes and changes that affect the API community. Staff will extend an invitation to the OHA Director, Lynne

Saxton, as well as Tricia Tillman in her new role with Multnomah County Health Department.

Serena asked that OCAPIA consider co-hosting a joint OAC health committee around these issues. OCAPIA supports this and requested staff to help convene a joint OAC health committee meeting in the summer. Lucy and Serena will work together on this.

- B. Public policy research project on removing barriers to immigrant professionals – this item was tabled for discussion at a future meeting.
- C. Endorsement request for Minoru Yasui Day bill
The Commission discussed supporting a proposed bill to designate a day to honor the work of Minoru Yasui in Oregon.

MOTION (Ying/Khaw): To support designation of Oregon Minoru Yasui Day. CARRIED.

D. 2016 Legislative update

Senator Dembrow provided an overview of the 2016 Short session which begins February 1 and ends March 6. Short session is generally devoted to "clean-up" bills and small issues, but 2016 has a number of important equity issues that have a large potential impact. He highlighted several bills including:

- Minimum wage: He expects the bill will start in Senate and go to Workforce Committee, which Sen. Dembrow chairs.
- Housing issues – There is wide agreement that there is a housing crisis in metro areas around Portland, in Bend, Hood River and other cities in Oregon. There is not enough affordable housing; rents are soaring; and tenants are being evicted for no cause, then having their old apartments refurbished and re-rented at highly increased rents. Associated bills this session may include longer notice periods for eviction. There may also be a workforce housing bill focused on affordable housing to purchase or rent in the communities where people work. Also, Oregon forbids local governments to reserve a certain number of units of rental housing at an affordable price. An associated bill would allow for zoning requiring affordable housing in new construction. In such a bill, developers would receive tax abatements and other accommodations to ensure that affordable housing projects are profitable for them. Also, Speaker Kotek and Rep. Keny-Guyer are working on an omnibus bill that includes a cap on how much rent can be increased each year.
- Ban the box for housing: There will be a bill that focuses on better process for ex-offenders to re-enter the mainstream and overcome barriers to employment and housing. Ban the box happened last year for employment applications, but the box remains on housing applications, which is a huge barrier. People who have been out of prison for 20 years are being forced out of rentals, cannot find another a place to live and are homeless now, in part because of this issue. Ex-offenders are not a protected class. Rep. Parrish, Rep. Frederick, Sen. Winters and Sen. Dembrow are working on a package of legislation for 2017 that looks at this issue. There may be some OAC partnership on related research that would be helpful to the bill drafters around this or related issues. Staff and interested OAC Commissioners will follow up with Sen. Dembrow regarding policy research on housing.
- Incarcerated populations and penalties/fees: Rep Frederick & Sen. Dembrow are drafting a bill addressing problems of insurmountable penalties and fees that

offenders incur while incarcerated that negatively affect their success when reentering society. The bill will provide community service options to help former inmates repay their debt after release. Rep Frederick & Sen. Dembrow are on a task force focused on increasing success of former inmates and are considering many approaches. The HR Director of Dave's Killer Bread is on the task force and offering unusual insights.

- Wage theft – This is part of the A Fair Shot policy agenda and there will be a bill sponsored by the Sen. Majority Leader and Sen President aimed at increasing the number of BOLI compliance investigators for spot checks regarding non-payment of wages. Typically agriculture, restaurant and construction industries are the biggest offenders of wage theft.
- Foster care and protected services – Beginning this session and extending into the 2017 session, the legislature wants to develop better oversight, standards and reporting for foster care and protective services. Oregon needs to invest more money into foster care because there are not currently enough foster parents in Oregon. Increasing compensation could increase the number of foster parents. High-needs children placed into foster care are a particular concern. This will be taken up in the Human Services Committee on which Sen. Dembrow serves.
- Women's health issues - Sen Dembrow will be learning more soon. Forensic rape kits and other issues will be discussed at an Oregon Women's Equity Coalition roundtable he will be addressing with other legislators in 2 days and may have more to report back to OCAPIA.

The Commission thanked Sen. Dembrow for his in-depth report.

Ty Schwoeffermann, Policy Analyst reported on further bills of interest to OCAPIA and APANO, its community partner:

- COFA - Compact of Free Association – this is part of APANO's larger campaign for Mend the Gap. Certain island nations' citizens are not eligible for health insurance, LC 35, active this session, asking for appropriation of funding for premium assistance. Lead OCAPIA person for this issue: Hussein! Kathleen too
- Policy proposal for Basic Health Plan which covers a small population who do not receive subsidies because they make too much, but are not eligible for Oregon Health Plan. LC 130, one hearing so far. OHEA in support as well. Close the gap to zero. Lead OCAPIA person for this issue: Bennie.
- Immigration Consultant Fraud (Notario fraud) – Commissioner Sinlapasai was on the Immigration Consultant Fraud Legislative Task Force last summer working with Commissioners from OCHA, DOJ and others to strengthen penalties for violations of Immigration Consultant Fraud. Rep. Vega Pederson has now introduced this bill with Sen. Gelser, HB 4128, which will move through the House Judiciary committee. Chanpone will be the lead for OCAPIA's support of the bill.
- Resolution for Minoru Yasui Day designation for 3/28. Rep. Clem is leading the bill and June Schumann is working with ACLU to forward this bill. It will be heard in the House Rules Committee but may move to the House Rural Communities Committee. Mari and David will be the lead for this bill with OCAPIA.

Ty also reported that he and Lucy had met with Sen. Merkley's office regarding AANAPISI funding in Oregon and his community outreach director is very interested in supporting OCAPIA's work and engaging the Senator. More work on that will go forward after legislative session with the OCAPIA Education Committee members.

APANO and OCAPIA Legislative Day is Feb 15th – This is a day that OCAPIA has historically joined APANO, their community partner, for a joint legislative day. Ty can arrange a mini-lobby day within this Legislative Day. Kathleen Jonathan, Hussein Al-Baiaty, Ping Khaw (morning) and Bennie Moses-Musabed are all interested in attending. Others who wish to carpool from Portland for the day should contact Ty. Stephen Ying went last year and chose a legislator he knows. He suggests meeting with Health Committee chair during the legislative day as well as the Governor’s Policy Advisors with help from Serena. She will coordinate a meeting between Ty and Jeremy Vandehey, the Governor’s Health Policy Advisor.

OCAPIA legislative bills of interest: Ty outlined the process he will use to circulate the OCAPIA’s slate of 1st and 2nd tier bills of interest in order to help the Chair and Vice Chair with an e-vote for those bills OCAPIA wishes to follow and to testify on. He will have OCAPIA’s list of bills of potential interest that were discussed at this and past meetings, ready for review and e-voting by Thursday in the coming week.

E. Appreciation of Oregon State Bar hosting OCAPIA in 2016
The OCAPIA circulated a note of appreciation to the Oregon State Bar, which has approved the use of this meeting room by the Commission for the year ahead.

D. Recruitment of OCAPIA members – All
Kathy Wai of APANO has submitted her application to be an OCAPIA Commissioner which will fill the open slot of Governor’s appointee to the Commission.

VI. Report of the Administrator – Lucy

- A. Discussion of 2017-19 OACO Staffing Plan - two areas identified: staffing and travel funds. Review of existing plan and seeking alternatives: .25 office assistant in upcoming budget and .5 FTE Policy Analyst. OCAPIA supports the priorities.
A request was made to include the six strategic priorities of commissions in the wording of these positions. Lucy will work with Ping on the wording for Policy Analyst on page 3.
- B. Review of policies affecting OAC support ballot measures – tabled until next meeting.
- C. Commissioner travel reimbursement – Nancy introduced a new procedure to increase efficiency of submitting travel reimbursements for Commissioners.

VII. Items from Commission Members –

- A. Portland Business Alliance Public Service training - Nancy will forward the link to OCAPIA and Kathy Wai at APANO.
- B. Update from Serena Stoudamire, Governor’s Office: She plans to review and meet with applicants to all the Advocacy Commissions and become part of the approval process.
Feb 2nd meeting with the Governor regarding immigrants. Stephen and Hussein will attend.

VIII. Public Comment – there was no public comment.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 16th, 2016, 9:30am – 12pm, Oregon State Bar