



**ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Lunar New Year Celebration & Asian American Conference**  
**Community Health Fair | Global Business Forum | Youth Job Fair**  
**February 23, 2013 \* Hyatt Regency O'Hare \* 9 A.M. to Midnight**  
**Hosted by the Vietnamese Community & Nghia Sinh Intl Inc.**

AACC Host Office

1652 N. Rockwell Street - Chicago, IL 60647 | Tel: 312-394-9858 | Email: aacc.chicago@gmail.com

**AACC Planning Committee Meeting**

6:30 p.m. – October 24, 2012

Hyatt Regency O'Hare – Tech Room

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Vietnamese Community

Doug Nguyen

Ng Hieu

Tom Tran

Jackie Conley

Luan Nguyen

Carter Mai

Phuc Tran

Joseph Tran

Maria Tran

Therese Tran

Secretary

Donna Robbins

Chinese Community

C. W. Chan

Filipino Community

Aurora Austriaco

Lourdes Mon

Carmen Estacio

Indian Community

Dave Vasudevan

Surinder Sangha

Prem Lalvani

Balwinder Girm

Moh Saini

Indonesia Community

Martino Tangkar

Japanese Community

Ron Yoshino

Karen Kanemoto

Korean Community

Jaz Park

Pakistani Community

Rashid Chaudary

Sadruddin Noorani

Younus Suleman

Thai Community

Andy Kasettratut

**1. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Doug Nguyen, 2013 AACC Chairperson**

- Roll call of attendees – We had a quorum for meeting
- Doug introduced the planning committee: Dr. Ng Hieu – President of the AACC Board of Directors, Donna Robbins – Secretary, Maria Tran – Treasurer, Khanh Tran and Luan Nguyen – Co-Chairs.
- The event is from Dawn to Dusk. We have a lot to work on. It is an all day event. The dinner is a small portion of the event.

**2. Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved – one type correction made.**



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### 3. A progress report from Dr. Hieu

- Dr. Hieu thanked the Chairperson for his diligent work, time & talents and the Secretary for all the time she's taken to prepare the minutes and the handout package.
- Dr. Hieu announced the honorary chairs – Meg Nakano from the Japanese Community and Vallap Kongsri from the Thai Community. There are three co-chairs to support Doug Nguyen – Mr. Khanh Tran, Mr. Luan Nguyen and Mr. Nghia Mai and working with the planning committee the AACC Secretary, Donna Robbins. We need a Treasurer to keep track of expenses, receipts, and report financial statement. The AACC Treasurer chosen has been working with the Nghia Sinh Intl, Inc. for more than 40 years. She owns a business that publishes the *Hôm Nay* or *Today* news magazine. There are 3 AACC articles in the magazine. Maria Nha Tran was named the AACC Treasurer.
- Dr. Hieu reflected on the past events. The Vietnamese community has been working with AACC for more than 30 years (since 1982) – In 1987 the Vietnamese community hosted the event it began the dawn to dusk event. The conference was an educational conference. AACC Bylaws were prepared and approved in December 1989. The Articles of Incorporation signed by Secretary of State Jim Edgar on December 2, 1989. The second year was hosted in 1997. The conference was based on Three E's...Education, Economics and Equality. There were about 2000 people that attended. Third year was in 2005. The conference was for leadership and management skills. The Youth Leadership Award was initiated that year. About 1800 people attended and the program started at 8 am. Every year there's an interfaith prayer for world peace and prosperity. First time invited United States Navy Band to play the National Anthem and Children's Choir performed cultural songs.
- Due to current economic situation in America, this year we don't expect a lot of people to buy a lot of tickets as in the past. We'll do our best to bring more people. We think the maximum will be 1000 people. Let's hope we can bring more.
- The AACC logo passed in 1987 when the Vietnamese was the host. The AACC logo stands for AACC: Promoting World Peace, Prosperity and Progress. The AACC symbol/emblem means AACC: Bringing Asian Americans Together. The AACC motto is *Together we'll succeed!* In short, they are for AACC Vision, Mission, and Value.
- The theme for the 2013 event is *Celebrating Three Decades of Unified Leadership and Services*. The theme was approved by the Host Community and supported by the Board.

### 4. 2013 Program updates

#### A. Morning program

- Morning - Doug Nguyen handed out two flyers (Health Fair & Business). He asked Ms. Carmen Estacio to join him and thanked Carmen for all her support. Carmen Estacio stated she and the council will be working very closely with the Secretary to make the health fair successful. The council is here to help but the council needs your full support to make this work. There will be about 1000 seniors coming and many services to be provided. Every community will be represented. Seniors as well as families will be there. The buses are there primarily for seniors and persons with disabilities – pick up at community center. Use exhibit table request forms and have them specify community health fair or use the registration form handed out. It must be signed. You can make copies and all forms are available online.
- Secretary of State will be at the event to speak @ 11 am. The Jesse White Tumbling Team will perform @ 11:30 am. There will be State ID and driver's license services at the event. Everything should be done by 1 pm. Clean up at the ballroom must be completed by 2 pm.

#### B. Afternoon program

- Afternoon – It will be an educational panel. It starts @ 1:30 to 3 pm. We have confirmed 5 university Presidents and Chancellor for the educational panel.
- The discussions will be Challenges of Asian Americans in higher education, what initiatives are put in place to overcome challenges, what trends are seen, what kind of students are they seeing, and what fields are they going into, and university's plans to support Asian students at their universities in the future.
- Corporate sponsors are invited for each "benchmark."
- 3:30 to 5:30 – There will be three different workshops – one for business owners and two for students.



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Business Forum flyer handed out. Doug has been working with his colleague with the US Dept. of Commerce. He will bring the Global Business Forum in the afternoon. Business development with Asia. The US Dept. of Commerce will be there to discuss how we may trade and how the US Trade Agencies will support the business to maximize the business potential. Talk about procurement and contracting opportunities. Open to everyone but targeted towards Asian business owners.

- Conducted by staff and volunteers two separate sessions on community engagement for the next generation.
- Volunteers of the Asian American Institute will conduct the session for the high school students. The second session will be discussing the Asian American identities with college students.
- This will be occurring on the opposite side where all of the break out classrooms are. Entire afternoon will be a job fair – exhibit tables in the hallway.
- 4 to 5 pm – Interfaith prayer – This will not take away audience from sessions/workshops. It will be a gathering of about 300 people.
- At 5:30 corporate sponsors will be allowed to move their exhibits to the grand ballroom foyer. They will be exhibiting morning, afternoon and before dinner.
- All programs will have their own flyers. We still need to create the other two by next meeting. The tickets do have the schedule of the programs.
- There will be registration desks and they will be staffed all day. 100 volunteers – 50 in the morning and 50 in the afternoon – Asian American ROTC plus the college students volunteers as well.
- Buses will return passengers at noon – if they wish to stay passed noon, they'll need to find a way back – buses will not come back as we will not pay for the buses to come back.

#### C. Evening program

- Part 1 is for entertainment. We will have an evening of cultural performance – dance, songs, etc. Entertainment will be the Chicago Children's Choir, the Great Lakes Navy Band performing the National Anthem, and Jesse White Tumbling Team will come back in the evening to perform. 3 pieces of entertainment that will take 15 minutes per performance. Any one can be a headliner. There will also be the Lion Dance plus other communities' performance. The program will end around 9:30 – that's the plan.
- Part 2 is like conducting a business meeting, beginning with a keynote, award presentations, and change-over ceremony. We will conclude this year's event with a dancing program until midnight.
- 9:30 to 12 – Doug will relinquish responsibilities to Khanh Tran. It will be in the International Ballroom. There is still planning for the night program. More details will be provided at the next meeting. Looking at a band, singers, sound system, and cost to be considered to run program. There are discussions with the band. This has been done 3 times before and attendance was good – about 300 people.

#### D. Host Committee members updates

- Corporate Sponsorships - Not a question of will we do it but we do what we can with the money we have. If we have more money, then we do more. We need a lot of help. There are a lot of leads and a lot of in progress but no commitment yet. We have a few – Hartford Ins and American Family. We are in contact with the casinos. Megan and Luan will follow up with some of the leads and try to get commitment. Doug still writing IOUs. We hope we get more as we get closer to the deadline. We will report as it comes. There are potential sponsors but don't know what they can do. One of which is from AACC secretary working with Chase. They are entertaining it (didn't say no) and still asking questions. We'll work with what we have.
- Ticket Sales – Each committee will have 1 table in first row. In the second round each committee will take 2 tables, and every round after. After that, if a community wants more they can get more tables. The host committee will have two tables (one of which will be in the middle). There will be 11 tables in first row.
- Volunteers – We had 9 members volunteer at the first meeting. We still need more volunteers. The signup sheet is part of the package handed out. Please provide completed signup sheet at the end of the meeting. If you did not choose a committee, Doug & Carmen will take you.
- Applications for AACC Awards – The categories were discussed along with the guidelines. Provide the



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application as soon as possible. The deadline for submission is December 31, 2012. The guidelines and applications are provided in the package and are available online. The application may be completed online then printed.

**6. Table selections occurred.**

- 9 host communities selected their VIP tables
- 9 host communities took turns to select their Guest tables
- More than 300 tickets sold.

**7. Adjourned**

- Doug Nguyen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.
- He announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, November 28, 2012 @ 6:30 p.m. – Hyatt Regency O'Hare

**Minutes prepared by Donna Robbins, 2013 AACC Secretary**