



Asian American Coalition of Chicago

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24th ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION 3rd PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING DECEMBER 13, 2006 MINUTES

The third Planning Committee Meeting of the Asian American Coalition of Chicago for the 2007 24th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration, was held at the Chinese American Service League Senior Housing Center, 2108 South Princeton Avenue, Chicago, on Wednesday, December 13, 2006. The meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m. by Leonard Louie, 2007 AACC Chair.

The Chinese American Community is the 2007 host community. The five co-sponsoring host organizations are: Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, Chinese American Civic Council of Chicago, Chinese American Service League, Inc., Chinese Mutual Aid Association and the Organization of Chinese Americans, Inc., Greater Chicago Chapter.

ATTENDEES

Hon Bannapradist, Tim Brenmark, Dr. Tariq Butt, Jelly R. Carandang, C.W. Chan, M Sajid Chaudhry, Rashid Chaudary, Jennifer Chui, Jessica Chui, Irene Cualoping, Sunny Kular, Prem Lalvani, Gene Lee, Jin Lee, Janny Leung, Elaine Louie, Leonard Louie, Rajinder Singh Mago, John Miller, Roosy Miller, Helen "Tomatoes" Moy, Cornelio R. Nativadid, Dr. Evelyn Nativadid, John Ng, Jean Ng, Susan Ng-Harroun, Sadruddin Noorani, Paul Park, Suntharanund Phubest, Talat Rashid, Kay Rho, Onkar S. Sangha, Mohinderjit Singh Saini, Susan Shin, Woon-Wah Siu, Afzal Sodagar, Suchitra Surapiboonchai, Darryl Tom, Sheldon Wing, Esther Wong, Manwei Wong, Joe Woo, Jr., Judy Yuen.

Guests: Naisy Dolar, Edward Johnson (50th Ward for Naisy Dolar).

I. Welcome – Leonard M. Louie, 2007 AACC Chair

Everyone is encouraged to help get the word out about ticket sales.

II. Old Business

November 15, 2006 Minutes

The November 15, 2006 minutes should be amended to reflect that Kay Rho attended. The minutes for the November 15, 2006 meeting, as amended, were approved (Mohinderjit Saini motioned, Woon-Wah Siu seconded).

Committee Reports

A. Administration – Irene Cualoping

- Denise Lam has resigned as Executive Director of Chinese Mutual Aid Association, but will be staying on as treasurer. Barton Moy will represent CMAA.
- Tasting completed at Hyatt O'Hare. Food requested is a combination beef

- medallion and orange roughly, with a vegetarian alternative. Ticket Purchasers are requested to indicate their preference if they want the Vegetarian Alternative on their ticket order.
 - Contact the Hyatt by **February 12, 2007** if you want to take advantage of the reserved block of rooms at the discounted rate.
- B. Floral and Décor – Judy Yuen
- Host committee members viewed renderings of the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, which is undergoing a \$60 million renovation. With new colors throughout, we are working on floral and decoration to complement the new design.
 - Volunteers with an artistic background are needed to help assemble on the day before and day of the event, beginning at 1 p.m.
- C. Ticket Sales – Jean Ng .
- About 37 tables have been sold to date (about half of what were at this time last year). The goal for this dinner is 130 tables. Last year, there were about 660 tickets sold by mid-December. Everyone is asked to aggressively encourage ticket sales.
- D. Finance – Denise Lam (Absent) – No Report at this time.
- E. Sponsorships – Woon-Wah Siu
- Sponsorship forms are now available on the website www.aacchicago.org.
 - Prices for ads for the program booklet: \$300.00 (1/2 page); \$500.00 (full page) for for-profit advertisers, and \$300.00 discounted rate (full page) for government or non-profits. Ad deadline is **January 17, 2007**.
- F. Programming – C.W. Chan
- Committee has been broken down into sub-committees.
 - One recommendation is for major awards to be presented before dinner.
 - Keynote Speaker: Invitation has been extended to Lorene Hong, president of the National Geographic Channel, and she has accepted. The theme is the expanding role of Asian Americans (“Roar with the Boar”).
 - Opening Ceremony - Jelly Carandang (point person) discussed Committee suggestions.
 - Introduction of Celebrity Presenters
 - Dragon Dance
 - AACC 2007Choir (*communities should submit names of 2-6 performers to show@aacchicago.org*)
 - Posting of Colors by the Chinatown Legion Post
 - Recommend Host Committee leadership to be recognized
 - National Anthem
 - Main Performance - Mohinderjit Singh Saini point person
 - A unity dance/music/drama performance is planned for about 15 minutes (“Silk Road” theme), probably to start after dinner.
 - Each community will have a short segment (asking for two performers).
 - Looking to recruit a director/choreographer (Lawrence Lin).
 - Each community should submit names of performers by the end of next meeting on **January 17, 2007**.
- G. Awards – C.W. Chan
- Nominations are due today, most of the award nominations are in, except for the Vietnamese and Japanese communities.
 - After all of the nominations are in, the Committee will be called together to make decisions

- As far as Community Service and Youths Who Excel awards, names of awardees will be disseminated before the next meeting if the nomination materials are in order.
- H. Program Book and Advertisement Sales – Esther Wong
- Advertising request letters for the Souvenir Program Book will be posted on the website aacchicago.org by tomorrow.
 - The deadline for submitting ads is **January 17, 2007**.
 - We prefer ads to be camera-ready.
 - Each Community is requested to help out by bringing in ads.
- I. Communications and Media – Irene Cualoping
- Fixed Official materials to read the year 4705.
 - Updates to the website: cover letters for sponsorship and advertising forms can be downloaded as well as a fact sheet with economic information.
 - Press release posted on website, with updated press release with celebrity presenters to be released shortly.
 - We may do an AACC blog on the website about different topics such as programming ideas.
 - People can link us to their website.
 - Joanne Moy to help with scripts.
 - Celebrity presenters confirmed are as follows: Ravi Baichwal (ABC 7), Judy Hsu (ABC 7), Nancy Loo, (FOX Chicago), Joanie Lum (CBS 2), Mai Martinez (CBS 2), Rick O'Dell (WNUA FM 95.5), Anupy Singla (CLTV News), Judy Wang (CLTV News), Linda Yu (ABC 7).
 - Regrets: Nesita Kwan (out of town), Ellee Pai Hong (current conflict), Alpana Singh (out of town), Eric Horng (out of town at wedding).
 - Other celebrity presenters are being considered.
 - Paul Park made the suggestion to include talent from KBC Channel 41. Discussion ensued about not being able to accommodate all talent/anchors from the numerous local Asian Pacific American TV shows.
- J. Outreach – Susan Ng-Harroun
- Outreach will be done through the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce special events newsletter, e-mail blasts including through the Punjabi Cultural Society of Chicago.
 - Chinatown Chamber of Commerce's office line is also the hotline for the event.
 - We will follow up with VIPs.

III. New Business

- Naisy Dolar presented as a candidate for Alderman of the 50th Ward of Chicago.
- Woon-Wah Siu stated that Alderman Smith of the 48th Ward has proposed to name a school field (Senn High School) after Mike North, a sports broadcaster on the Score, 670 AM. North has, in the past, been derogatory towards Asian Americans (called someone "Chinaman" on the air), and we should object to that proposal. She has contact info for follow-up.

IV. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at CASL Senior Housing (2108 South Princeton). *(Please note corrected address; in some prior material it was listed as 2108 South Archer.)* The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryl Tom, Acting Secretary

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**The 24th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration / The Year of the Boar 4705
Hosted by The Chinese American Community March 3, 2007 Hyatt Regency O'Hare**