



Governor Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg
San Wong, Director

MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
COMMISSION OF ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS (CAPI)

Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020
Time: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Location/Mode: Remote Meeting via Google Meet
Conference Call – Public access provided

Commissioners Present:

Ben Jung – *West Des Moines*
James Suong – *Des Moines*
Michelle Yoshimura-Smith – *Des Moines*
Ritu Gurung – *Davenport*
Karlai Thornburg – *Ames*
Suresh Basnet – *Cedar Rapids*

Absent: Peggy La – *Sioux City*

DHR/CAS/API Staff:

Monica Stone, CAS Administrator/Deputy Director
Tina Shaw, Office of Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs/CAS

Guest Attendance: Karen Mackey, Chair of the [Iowa Native American Affairs Commission](#)

Public Comment: None

I. Call to Order

Cmsnr. Basnet presided and called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM. Six commissioners are in attendance. Quorum is present.

Mackey was invited to the meeting by Cmsnr. Jung who serves on the [Iowa Complete Count Committee](#) coordinating with the 2020 US Census effort. The Iowa Native American Affairs Commission has an interest in communicating historical undercounts of Iowa indigenous peoples.

II. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 8/29/20 meeting were reviewed. **Motion by Thornburg, seconded by Suong** to approve the minutes of 8/29/20 meeting. **Unanimous consent. Motion carried.**

III. Old Business

A. Draft Letter for Review & Approval – Census Data Collection

The draft letter with revisions was presented to the full commission by Cmsnrs. Basnet and Jung.

Motion by Thornburg, seconded by Suong to approve the Census Data Collection letter, as revised. **Unanimous consent. Motion carried.**

B. Draft Letter for Review & Approval – COFA Population in Iowa

Motion by Suong, seconded by Yoshimura-Smith to approve the COFA Healthcare Access letter recommending inclusion in Iowa's Medicaid Program, as drafted. **Unanimous consent. Motion carried.**

Cmsnr. Basnet expressed his interest in sharing the final versions of both letters with media. Stone urged the commission to give elected officials sufficient time to respond prior to releasing the letters to press outlets by individual commissioners.

The Commission agreed with Stone's assessment and timing recommendation. With the assistance of the Office of Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs, the DHR Director's Office will transmit both letters to all addressed parties immediately, along with an invitation to attend CAPI's next scheduled meeting.

Stone will send a follow-up email to the full Commission once a reply is given to the invitation(s).

IV. Public Comments – None

V. Next Meeting

The Commission agreed to two possible dates with which to hold the next meeting and for the purpose of inviting the Governor, Lt. Governor and/or their staff: Saturday, October 3 or Saturday, October 10.

VI. Adjournment

Motion by Thornburg, seconded by Jung to adjourn the meeting. **Unanimous consent.** Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.