



**Asian American
Bar Association
of New York**

**Asian American Bar Association of New York
Board Meeting**

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Hosted by:
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
4 Times Square
New York, NY 10036

JUNE 2017 MINUTES

Board Members Present:* Dwight Yoo, Yang Chen (non-voting), Amy Ngai, Naf Kwun, Jeff Ikijeri, Diane Gujarati, James Cho, Irene Tan,* Larry Wee, Susan Shin, Terrence Shen, Marianne Chow, Jung Choi, Manisha Sheth, Kevin Kim*

AABANY Committee Chairs, Members, and Others Present: Pauline Yeung-Ha,* Quentin Wong (intern), Kevin Hsi, Simone Nguyen, Chris Kwok, Theresa Lau, Judge Andrea Masley,* Professor Elaine Chiu*

*Present via telephone.

There being a quorum of board members present, Dwight Yoo, President, called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM.

1. Old Business

a. Approval of Board Minutes from May 9, 2017 Meeting

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board adopted the minutes from the May 9, 2017 board meeting.

2. Reports and Announcements

a. Membership Director Report

b. Treasurer Report

c. May and June Highlights¹

i. AABANY Monthly Pro Bono Legal Clinic (5/10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ Chinese Chamber of Commerce of NY, Inc., 33 Bowery Street, Suite C202, NY, NY)

ii. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Caregiver CLE (5/11, 7 – 8 pm @ Phillips Lytle

¹ Not discussed unless otherwise noted.

LLP, 340 Madison Ave., Fl. 17, NY, NY)

- iii. AABANY and Hard IP Present: Judges' Reception (5/17, 6:30 – 9:30 pm @ The Loft in Flatiron, 20 West 23rd Street, NY, NY)
- iv. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Photography Exhibit & Conversation with Corky Lee (5/23, 6:30 pm @ Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, One Liberty Plaza, 39th Fl., NY, NY)
- v. AABANY Co-Sponsors: A Conversation with Magistrate Judge Peggy Kuo (5/24, 6 – 8 pm @ Shearman & Sterling LLP, 579 Lexington Avenue, NY, NY)
- vi. AABANY Co-Sponsors: ABACUS: Small Enough to Jail (5/24, 6 pm @ IFC Center, 323 6th Avenue, NY, NY)
- vii. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Discussion with Acting U.S. Atty. Joon Kim, Hon. Denny Chin, and Rep. Grace Meng (5/30, 6 – 9 pm @ Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP, 250 West 55th Street, NY, NY)
- viii. AABANY Co-Sponsors: This Land is Our Land - Oyama v. California (5/31, 5:30 – 8:30 pm @ Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, One World Financial Center, NY, NY)
- ix. AABANY Member Focus Groups: Help Us With Strategic Planning (5/31, 12:30 pm and 5:30 pm (telephonic))
- x. AABANY Tax Club Dinner (5/31, 7:30 pm @ Tang Pavilion, 65 West 55th Street, NY, NY)
- xi. AABANY Co-Sponsors: In Immigration, What's Old Is New Again (6/1, 6 – 8 pm @ New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th Street, NY, NY)
- xii. AABANY's Young Lawyers Committee Participates in Battle of the Bars 2017: Pub Trivia (6/6, 6 – 9 pm @ The Australian NYC, 20 West 38th Street, NY, NY)
- xiii. AABANY Sponsors: Dinner With EEOC Commissioner Jenny Yang and Kent Hirozawa (6/7, 5:30 – 7:30 pm @ Dim Sum Go Go, 5 East Broadway, NY, NY)
- xiv. AABANY Government Service & Public Interest Committee and Pro Bono & Community Service Committee Meeting (6/7, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ Legal Services NYC, 40 Worth Street, Suite 606, NY, NY)
- xv. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Immigration and Family Law Options for South Asian Domestic Violence Survivors (6/8, 6 – 8 pm @ DLA Piper, 1251 6th Avenue, NY, NY)

d. Promotion of Future Events²

- i. AABANY Monthly Pro Bono Legal Clinic (6/14, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ Chinese Chamber of Commerce of NY, Inc., 33 Bowery Street, Suite C202, NY, NY)
- ii. AABANY Prosecutors’ Committee Reception (6/22 @ New York County Lawyers’ Association, 14 Vesey Street, NY, NY)
- iii. AABANY Immigration Committee Kickoff Meeting & Housewarming for the Law Offices of Tsui H. Yee PC (6/26, 7 – 8:30 pm @ Law Offices of Tsui H. Yee PC, 32 Broadway, Suite 601, NY, NY)
- iv. 10th Annual AABANY Winetasting & Networking Reception for Law Firm Partners and Senior In-House Counsel (6/27, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ NYY Steak, 7 West 51st Street, NY, NY)
- v. AABANY Presents: Don’t Sign the Contracts Yet! (6/28, 6 – 8 pm @ Flushing Bank, 186 Montague Street, Brooklyn, NY)
- vi. AALFNY & AABANY Mentorship Program Summer Reception (6/29, 6 – 8:30 pm @ Baker & McKenzie LLP, 452 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY)
- vii. 8th Annual AABANY Fall Conference (9/23 @ Fordham University School of Law, 150 West 62nd Street, NY, NY)

3. New Business (Open)

a. Serving the Community on Guardianship Matters (Judge Andrea Masley)

Judge Andrea Masley discussed the need for volunteer guardians and court evaluators with different language skills, especially Mandarin speakers, to be assigned to alleged incapacitated persons. Volunteers would be required to attend mandatory (free) CLE training and commit to visit their assigned persons at least four times a year, per statute.

b. AABANY Support of Ronald H. Brown Law School Prep Program for College Students (Prof. Elaine Chiu)

Professor Elaine Chiu gave the Board an update regarding the Prep Program, an 8-week summer program for underrepresented minority college students interested in attending law school. Over the past 12 summers of the program’s existence, only 10% of the 400 students who participated in the program were of East Asian descent. Professor Chiu suggested that AABANY support the program by inviting the program’s students to existing AABANY events and encouraging AABANY members to donate conference room space for the program’s classes.

² Not discussed unless otherwise noted.

c. Update: Fall Conference (Naf Kwun)

Naf Kwun gave an update on the Fall Conference, which will take place on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at Fordham Law School. June goals include submission of all proposals, including those from sister bar associations, and sending out sponsorship packets. July goals include finalizing proposals, and obtaining commitments from at least 5 companies to participate in pitch sessions and at least 5 employers for the Diversity Career Fair. Schedules will be finalized in August. Whether the Trial Advocacy Program will be part of the Fall Conference or a stand-alone event is to be determined. Marianne Chow also stated that the kick-off of the AABANY Leadership Institute will occur at the Fall Conference.

d. Update: Strategic Planning (Yang Chen)

A strategic planning session took place on June 10, 2017. Naf Kwun, Marianne Chow, Jung Choi, Dwight Yoo, Charles Chen, Francis Chin, Tristan Loanzon, Simone Nguyen, and Yang Chen attended. Topics of discussion included transitioning the working board into a governing one, values of the organization, and feedback from members. The second portion of the strategic planning session will take place in July, in lieu of a board meeting, in which members will discuss action items and proposed timelines.

e. Update: Support Letter for Justice Peter Tom (Yang Chen)

With support from the Judiciary Committee, AABANY is taking the lead in submitting a letter urging Governor Cuomo to retroactively recognize Justice Peter Tom as the Presiding Justice. Justice Tom had been the acting presiding justice for several years. Other associations supporting the letter include NYSTLA, SABANY, FALA, ABWA, JLG, KALAGNY, and Brehon Law Society of NY.

f. Community Response Task Force (Theresa Lau)

Theresa Lau, NAPABA Fellow at the National Center for Law and Economic Justice, updated the board regarding a joint effort between the Government Service and Public Interest Committee and the Issues Committee to create a task force to provide legal assistance and knowledge to those communities negatively impacted by the current political climate (e.g., uncertain immigration policies). The goal is to compile a listserv of volunteer attorneys, identify their respective legal expertise areas, and connect those volunteers to organizations that are seeking legal assistance.

g. AABANY Participation in New York State Constitutional Convention (Chris Kwok)

Every 20 years, a referendum is held as to whether a convention to revise and amend the state constitution should be held. The next referendum will be held on November 7, 2017. If voters pass the referendum, delegates are elected to attend the convention that will take place in April 2019. Some concern was expressed over the time commitment and cost to support the referendum. Chris Kwok will update the Board with pros and cons.

h. AALFNY Fundraising for Pro Bono Clinic (Yang Chen)

Yang Chen noted that the fundraising goal is to hire full-time staff member to administer the Pro Bono Clinic.

4. Next Meeting (Telephonic): TBD

There being no further business, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.