

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN OFFICERS COMMITTEE

Office of the Surgeon General
United States Public Health Service

Final Minutes of the Meeting
16 June 2004

I. LOCATION/DATE/TIME:

Parklawn Building, Surgeon General's Conference Room, Room 18-57, Rockville, MD;
16 June 2004; 1200 – 1256 hours.

II. ATTENDANCE:

A. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

By Teleconference

CAPT Allan Lock*	NIH	
LCDR Paul Jung*	FDA	
LCDR Sue Newman*	IHS	
LCDR Joanne Shen*	IHS	
LCDR Samuel Wu	FDA	Chair
LT Marjorie Baldo*	CMS	Executive Secretary
LTJG Jeffrey Vang*	IHS	
LTJG Eduardo Lim	FDA	Corresponding Secretary

B. MEMBERS EXCUSED

C. GUESTS

LCDR Soju Chang	FDA
LCDR Angela Shen	FDA
LTJG Gillian Engelson	HRSA

D. MEMBERS ABSENT

CAPT Arnulfo Manangan	CDC	
CAPT Surampalli Rao	EPA	
CDR Elmer Guerrero	IHS	
LCDR Jennifer Fan	CMS	Vice Chair
LCDR Patricia Garvey	FDA	Treasurer
LCDR Kenneth Sun	IHS	
LT Susanna Choi	HRSA	
LT Janice Kim	BOP	
LT Jack Sibal	IHS	
LT Jed Virata	DIHS	
LTJG Andrew Tran	PSC	
Gloria Sundaresan	FDA	

E. EX-OFFICIOS

III. STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order on 16 June 2004 at 1200 hours by LCDR Samuel Wu, APAOC Chair.
- B. LCDR Wu welcomed all the APAOC members and guests at the meeting and those participating by teleconference.
- C. MEMBER ROLE CALL: LCDR Samuel Wu, APAOC Chair.

- D. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES: The minutes from the 21 April 2004 was deferred due to the lack of quorum.

IV. REPORTS:

1. **CHAIRPERSON: LCDR Samuel Wu** informed the members that the 2004 COA Conference in Alaska was well attended by PHS officers. There were approximately 1200 registered officers. He also attended the MOLC luncheon, which was attended by RADM Beato. She provided some brief remarks at the beginning of the luncheon. CAPT Etzel was instrumental in setting up the MOLC luncheon.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT: LCDR Patricia Garvey was not available to provide an update.

3. MOLC REPORT: CAPT Allan Lock provide the report. The complete report can be found in Attachment I.

4. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. AWARDS: LT Marjorie Baldo, Chair of Awards Sub-Committee, was not present at the time to provide an update. However, there are no outstanding issues or reports for this sub-committee.

b. MEMBERSHIP AND NOMINATIONS: LCDR Wu, Chair of Membership & Nomination Sub-Committee, reported that he will send the nomination announcement to the Bulletin for the July publication.

a. c. CAREER DEVELOPMENT: LT Parmjeet Saini was not present to provide a report.

d. CHARTER AND BYLAWS: LCDR Sue Newman was not present to provide a report.

e. COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS: LTJG Jeffrey Vang, Chair of Communications & Public Relations, reported that he is still sending out monthly e-mails to new PHS officers inviting them to attend the APAOC meetings.

LTJG Jeffrey Vang also reported that he is in the process of gathering requirements for development of the APAOC website.

5. PAC Reports: LT Fajardo was not present to provide a report.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. President Ronald Reagan Deployment: LCDR Paul Jung provided a brief account on his experience

2. REMINDER: To send an e-mail to all 21 APAOC voting members, please use this e-mail address: all-members@apaoc.org

VI. ADJOURNMENT – NEXT MEETING:

LCDR Wu adjourned the APAOC meeting at 1256 hours and announced that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 21 at 1200-1330 hours in the Parklawn Building, SG Conference Room 18-59.

IV. HANDOUTS: (Attached to e-mails by LCDR Wu.)

1. Agenda for 21 July 2004 APAOC meeting
2. List of Roll Call
3. Draft APAOC meeting minutes for 16 June 2004.

4. Attachment I: MOLC Report (Page 4 & 5)

Submitted by:

LT Marjorie Baldo
Executive Secretary

Date _____

LCDR Sam Wu
Chair

Date _____

Attachment I: MOLC Report
(Provided by CAPT Allan Lock)

1. The annual COA Meeting was held on May 16-20 in Anchorage, Alaska.
 - a. MOLC awards luncheon was held on Thursday, May 20th. It was a successful and well-attended event CAPT Ruth Etzel, Chairperson of the American Indian/Alaska Native Commissioned Officers Advisory Committee (AIANCOAC), organized the luncheon for the MOLC. Fortunately, she was a member of the local COA planning committee for the meeting, so she scheduled the luncheon on the agenda at no cost to the MOLC. It will be important for a MOLC member to serve on the planning committee of next year's COA meeting in Philadelphia to recommend that the MOLC awards ceremony be included on the agenda.

RADM Cristina Beato, Acting Assistant Secretary of Health (ASH), attended the MOLC awards luncheon. LCDR Elijah Martin, MOLC Chair, served as the Master of Ceremonies. He also presented the BCOAG awards. CAPT Etzel presented the AIANCOAC awards, including one for RADM Charles Grim, the current IHS Director. LCDR Samuel Wu, APAOC Chair, announced the 2004 recipients of the RADM Samuel Lin (CAPT Siu Wong) and Junior Officer (LCDR Paul Jung) Awards. Unfortunately, the awardees were unable to attend the luncheon to personally receive their awards.

- b. The MOLC booth was successful, thanks to the MOLC volunteers. Some prospective members of the various minority groups were recruited.

2. Appointment and appreciation letters for the AIANCOAC Officers have not been approved by the Surgeon General (SG) Apparently, the agency approvals had not been submitted. Thus, the AIANCOAC needs to request approvals from the agency heads and submit them to the SG.
3. CAPT Lock has been forwarding the monthly Surgeon General Environmental Scans for the various categories to LCDR Wu and the APAOC listserv for dissemination. The MOLC is considering the submission of monthly scans to highlight its activities.
4. The MOLC has been asked by the PHS Foundation for Advancement of Public Health to participate in the development of a one day conference on "targeting minority women's health - on diabetes/obesity, cardiovascular diseases, HIV/AIDS, etc."

Recently, for efficiency, the SG/CPO/PAC Chairs/Agency Liaison Meetings have been combined to discuss important and common issues:

1. On April 18th, DCP became history. It was disbanded because of the PHS transformation. In the reorganization, DCP was replaced by the Office of Commissioned Corps Operations (OCCO), which will report to the SG, and the Office of Commissioned Corps Force Management (OCCFM), which reports to the ASH.
2. Temporary and Exceptional Proficiency Promotions (EPP) will be released in early July, whereas, the Permanent promotions will be released by late August. Officers eligible for permanent grade promotions are required to have a physical examination within the last 5 years and the results must be recorded in the Medical Affairs Branch, OCCO.
3. The 2004 COERs are not ready yet. In anticipation of the COERS, officers and raters are advised to begin writing the text for Attachments I and II.
4. Special Assignment Awards for the MOLC advisory groups must be certified by the Chair of the individual groups and approved by the Chair of the MOLC.

5. The SG/CPO/PAC Chairs are developing a new mission statement for the PHS. Various drafts have been considered. Additional drafts are still being discussed. This draft Mission statement was shared with the Heads of the OPDIVs (Agencies) for their comment:

ORIGINAL DRAFT

"To protect, promote, and advance the public health, science, and security of the Nation, domestically and globally, as America's uniformed service of uniquely qualified health professionals."

Following comment by the OPDIVs, and consideration of those comments, a rewrite of the draft Mission statement has been proposed for discussion. The rewrite of the draft Mission statement is:

SUGGESTED REWRITE

"To protect and promote the health and safety of the nation, as America's uniformed service of public health professionals. The Corps will accomplish this through advancement of the science of public health, excellence in the practice of public health, and rapid and effective response to public health needs."

After a long discussion, additional drafts were considered. The final mission statement is pending.

6. Nominations for the annual Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS) health professions awards are due June 30th. In 2002, CAPT Sui Wong, this year's RADM Samuel Lin Award recipient, was awarded the AMSUS Optometry Outstanding Service and Recognition Award.

7. DHHS Secretary Tommy Thompson and SG Richard Carmona sent letters to CCRF and DMAT (PHS-1) officers for their outstanding and timely work at the Memorial Day-World War II Memorial Celebration and State Funeral for Former President Ronald Reagan at the Capitol and National Cathedral.