



AsiaConnect Board Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2025

Attendance: Suejung Han, Lawrence Lair, Laura Finan, Xiaoying Zhao, Jeongae Kang, Jin Park, Rosie Hauck, Eva Harrison

1. Update on the current status of business

a. Funding

- i. While we were initially approved for the usual budget allotment offered to all affinity groups, we have since received conflicting messages
 1. Laura and Suejung were reimbursed for the Welcome Back Picnic a few days ago via special request since it was submitted before the freeze
- ii. Funding is frozen until further notice pending constitution/by-law review by legal council
 1. No indication how long this will take (it has been roughly a month since the initial notice)
 2. We have made it known that AsiaConnect wants to be part of the process and work together with the council on any potential proposed changes
- iii. Affinity group leaders are drafting a joint letter calling for transparency about the context and reasoning for the funding situation
- iv. AsiaConnect may ask for donations from membership to help fund us for the remainder of the school year with the assumption that funding will not unfreeze
 1. [Confirm with Advancement](#) on how we can fund raise for the spring events
 2. Rationalize the ask for donations by letting membership know the facts of the funding freeze
 3. Double check if we are even allowed to collect dues
 - a. Eva remembers the requirement for membership dues was removed from the previous By-laws
 - i. Reason may have been because it was not allowed to collect dues?
- v. Creative low-budget ideas to adjust for spring events

- vi. Prioritize big impact events such as Asian Heritage Week event and deprioritize smaller events

b. Others

2. Discussion of the Upcoming Diwali event

a. Option1:

- i. Proceed as planned: Oct 17th noon-2 MCC Conference room

1. Rationale
2. Use alternative funding such as our ISU Credit Union checking account (which is not a foundation account and should be probably without issue concerning the funding freeze)
 - a. Suejung will double check if we are able to at least use our own checking account
 - b. Expecting to spend roughly \$200 on catering but highly dependent on attendance
 - i. Go with more appetizer style options to temper expectations in case there isn't enough food due to limited budget
3. Divide up the work with the sign-up genius
 - a. Social committee food catering & game
 - b. Educational materials
4. Graphics have been made, room is booked, newsletter announcement drafted

b. Option 2:

- i. Cancel

1. Rationale
2. Wait and proceed as we get more clarifications

c. Option 3: Decided: The board does not have capacity to provide more time/money propping up a budget free option

- i. Replace with a budget free event

1. Potluck? There may be a restriction on beverages and food in the Multicultural Center
2. Rationale
3. Any ideas? What would be meaningful options?
4. Zoom virtual event

d. Further discussion: Vote tabled until food quotes can be gathered. Ask if Multicultural Center can reschedule the event to the afternoon and we can

pivot the event to a chai and sweets event. Anytime around October 20 (Diwali).