

# COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

## MEETING MINUTES

2 p.m., Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mahaolu Elima, 11 Mahaolu Place, Kahului

I. Meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

Commissioners Present: John Briley, MD; Karen Hue Sing; Linda Liddell; Feliciano Sales; Elsie Santos; Tracy Souza; Andrew Valentine, Chair

Others present: Jan Roberson; Mary Matsukawa, ex-officio; Ed Muegge; Kim Pfirrmann; Sheldon Rabanes; Ramoda Anand; Norita DeLima.

Excused: Marguerite Rowland; Charlotte Seales; Denny Schwind; Kimberly Sloper.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 18, 2009. Commissioner Briley MOVED to accept the minutes; Commissioner Hue Sing SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

### III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Ed Muegge: Complaint about Maui Police squad cars blocking accessible parking at Maui Memorial Medical Center

Kim Pfirrmann: Complaint about incident over parking at Costco; complaint about off duty MPD officer at Earth Day festival asking for her photo on placard. Both incidents show MPD needs education.

Sheldon : Complaint about movie theater accessible seating is too close to the front of the theater, so those in wheel chairs must look up too high.

Ramoda Anand: Was told he could not be seated while dancing at a bar. Requests Commission to check into this matter.

The meeting paused to bid farewell to former Commissioner Chair Norita DeLima who is moving to the Big Island. She received a lei and two cards from the Commissioners.

#### IV. REPORTS

A. ADA Coordinator – Excused

B. Aging Disabilities Resource Center – Mary Matsukawa reported that a 2-day conference was held to explain the federal grant from the Administration on Aging to develop an aging and disability resource center, a one-stop shop for those needing services for elders and disabled people, as well as their family support network. Two consultants were brought in from Massachusetts. One concept is to have outreach workers equipped with scanners and printers so that they can expedite services for the homebound. Maui has a website <http://www.hawaiiadrc.org/mauicoadrc/home.aspx> and may have a physical site in the future. Hilo has a physical center.

C. Inclusion Specialist Tara Sabado – Deferred

D. Molokai – Requests Commission meeting time adjusted earlier to accommodate flight schedule.

Kalaupapa Lookout is accessible as of 2008.

E. Parks and Recreation – Poina Park was dedicated.

F. State Council on Developmental Disabilities –

- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Special Fair Day for persons with physical and mental disabilities is planned for 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Thursday, October 2. Call 872-4130 to receive an application to attend special Maui County Fair day. Agencies serving persons with disabilities are invited to attend a Special Fair Day planning meeting on Wednesday, July 15 at 3 p.m. in the Hale Mahaolu Elua Conference Room at 200 Hina Avenue in Kahului. Commissioners are invited.

- Workforce Development Workshop for disabled workers who want information on obtaining employment without losing benefits is set for Monday, July 27. Call Susie Eng at 984-2091 for more information or to register.

G. Transportation – A letter from Transportation Director Don Medeiros dated June 17 was read aloud. The letter responded to the Commission’s letter that “alleged a breach of federal law pertaining to the availability of wheel chair tie down straps.” Director Medeiros’s letter stated that the DOT requires “all buses in its fleet to be equipped with the appropriate amount and type of tie down straps for wheel chairs.”

The Commissioners noted many occasions when the buses were not equipped with the appropriate straps, including as recently as that week. Commissioners were asked to keep a log of the tie-down infractions to present to the DOT and Roberts.

Visit a website with transportation related information: [projectaction.org](http://projectaction.org).

H. Volunteer Parking Enforcement Program - Deferred

## V. NEW BUSINESS

- **October Legislative Forum** – the forum is slated for 4-7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 22 at Velma Santos Community Center. A planning committee meeting is set for 12-2 p.m., Tuesday, July 21 at the State Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room B. All are invited.
- **Paratransit recommendations** - Commissioner Briley MOVED to establish a paratransit committee to address paratransit concerns. Commissioner Liddell **SECONDED**. **MOTION CARRIED**. Commissioners volunteered to join the committee include: Santos, Valentine, Briley, Liddell,

as well as to community liaison members: Sheldon and Kim Pfirman.

- **Lahaina Gateway shopping center** – Chair Valentine and Commissioner Souza said they were planning to visit the center and take photographs. They were reminded that the center is on private property and the Commission is concerned with advising the Mayor on County matters. Chair Valentine said it is a public awareness issue.
- **One Main Plaza** surface parking signage, etc. – Chair Valentine had spoken to several people regarding the need to convert three street parking stalls to accessible – two on High Street and one on Vineyard. It was suggested to convene the meeting at Denny Schwind’s office or the office of Director of Housing and Human Concerns Lori Tshako.

#### VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

#### VII. AGENDA SETTING

1. Meeting speakers (Develop questions to ask Planning and Police department representatives regarding ADA and compose letters of invitation for speakers at future meetings)
2. Paratransit
3. One Main Plaza – Converting Street Parking Stalls
4. Sidewalks and shop access in Paia and Makawao
5. Legislative Forum
6. Accessible Parking Public Awareness Campaign for radio, AKAKU, print media and Police Training
7. Preview DCAB videos

#### VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting will take place 1:30 -3 p.m., Thursday, August 13 at Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.