

**Cost of Government Commission
Minutes
David Trask Building, 1st floor, Liquor Conference Room
Thursday, March 12, 2009**

PRESENT: Ron Vaught, Vice-Chair Leo Caires, Member
Rebecca Kikumoto, Member Malcolm Findley, Member
John Del Gatto, Member Gina Flammer, Member

EXCUSED: Warren Suzuki, Chair Craig Anderson, Member
Robert Hill, Member

STAFF: Stan Zitnik, Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Jeff Ueoka, Corporation Counsel
Aulani Delatori, Executive Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Vaught called the Cost of Government Commission meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Vice-Chair Vaught asked if there were any public testimony. No one is present to give public testimony. Vice-Chair Vaught closed public testimony.

III. MEETING MINUTES

Vice-Chair Vaught asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2009 meeting. Corporation Counsel Ueoka stated that Commission would be unable to vote on minutes due to lack of quorum. Upon looking at the minutes, the Commission noticed Member Flammer's name missing as attending that day. Member Flammer moved to add her name to the February 12, 2009 minutes and made a motion to accept the amended minutes as corrected. Member Kikumoto seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Mr. Zitnik explained about the certificates and letters given to the retiring members of the Commission by the Mayor. Mr. Zitnik, on behalf of Mayor Tavares, thanked them for their time, efforts, hard work, and service to the community in which they gave this past year.

V. FINALIZATION OF ANNUAL REPORT

Vice-Chair Vaught asked for discussion on the changes made to the report since the last meeting or discussion on the report as it stands.

Member Findley commended Ms. Delatori for the work she did on the report.

Vice-Chair Vaught asked if there were any more discussion on the report. No discussion needed.

Member Flammer moved to accept the document as presented. Member Caires seconded the motion. Vice-Chair asked for discussion on the motion. No one had any discussion to give. Motion carried.

Member Flammer motioned to commend Ms. Delatori officially for her performance of service to the Commission and asked if they could write a letter for her file. Vice-Chair Vaught asked if Member Flammer could write the letter. Member Flammer agreed and asked who would sign the letter. Mr. Zitnik stated that the Chair or Vice-Chair could sign the letter and to direct the letter to the Mayor. Member Caires seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VI. DISCUSSION OF SUBCOMMITTEE STRUCTURE GOALS

Member Flammer asked if the Commission wanted to provide comments now or wait until the new members are on board in April.

Member Flammer commented that it would be helpful to know what the Mayor and the Managing Director would like the Commission to focus on and asked Mr. Zitnik to find out for the next meeting. He stated that it would be interesting to know more about the stimulus plan and what role, if any, the Commission could help in getting the stimulus money out through the County system expeditiously. Mr. Zitnik stated that he would ask the Mayor about general priorities and anything-specific dealing with the economic stimulus packages. Member Flammer asked Mr. Zitnik if he could also ask the Mayor if there were specific areas in the County Charter, which the Commission should look into this term for efficiency.

Vice-Chair Vaught commented that it would be good if the Mayor had a chance to see the Annual Report and the recommendations, then she could provide feedback as to where she would like the Commission to focus their energies this term.

Member Flammer asked Member Del Gatto if there were any areas, in which he would like the Commission to continue looking into as he term ends. Member Del Gatto stated he would like the Commission to continue looking at the Energy issues.

Member Caires asked for clarification about the Subcommittee structure goals and if that meant restructuring different titles of Subcommittees. Vice-Chair Vaught stated that it was open for discussion. Member Caires asked if they could retain the same Subcommittees and pursue the same work. Vice-Chair Vaught stated that they could.

The Commission, along with the advice from Corporation Counsel Ueoka, then discussed ways in which the Energy Subcommittee could possibly get a new Department of Energy started. Corporation Counsel Ueoka reminded the Commission that the public would need to vote on any amendments to the Charter.

Member Findley asked Corporation Counsel Ueoka and Mr. Zitnik if they knew who handles money coming in to the County from the Federal government in the form of grants and loans. Corporation Counsel Ueoka stated that there is a CDBG Coordinator, Carol Gentz and continued by briefly explaining the CDBG process. Member Findley then asked if they knew if the stimulus money would be going through CDBG. Corporation Counsel said he believed that the stimulus money would

not be going through CDBG. Mr. Zitnik summarized for the Commission what portions of the stimulus money would be State projects and County projects. Member Caires asked where they could get information as far as allocation of funds for the Energy projects are concerned. Mr. Zitnik said that he would provide that information to the Commission.

Member Del Gatto recommended that the Commission invite Mr. Reyes back to discuss ways in which the Commission could be of help to him.

The Commission continued their discussion on the economic stimulus plan. They discussed how much money the County could possibly get from it. Member Kikumoto pointed out that President Obama earmarked funds for CIP projects and that the Commission should continue their focus on that.

Member Caires asked what percentage of the money the County would use to do those projects as opposed to outsourcing. Mr. Zitnik stated that none of the projects would be in-house. Highway projects are outsourced. The County projects are inspected and project managed by engineers from the engineering division – Department of Public Works. Mr. Zitnik continued by stating two projects that will be done. They are a bridge on Hana highway and the second extension for Phase 2 for Main Street. Mr. Zitnik continued sharing different ways in which the State would divvy the money to the County.

Vice-Chair Vaught asked if there were any more discussions.

Member Del Gatto thanked everyone for the opportunity to work with them.

Vice-Chair Vaught stated that he was grateful for the opportunity of serving on this Commission for the past year. He finds the members very knowledgeable and interested in accomplishing their goals to better the County.

Member Flammer thanked Member Del Gatto and Vice-Chair Vaught for the work in which they have put in this past year. She also thanked Member Kikumoto for returning to serve another 2 years on the Commission.

VII. DETERMINATION OF THE NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA

The next meeting will be on April 9, 2009 from 9:00 to 11:30 am in the Liquor Conference Room, David Trask Building, first floor.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Vaught adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.