

COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2011

Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room
11 Mahaolu Street, Kahului, HI 96732

I. QUORUM

- a. Commissioners Present: Andrew Valentine, Jr., Joseph Crugnale, Karen Hue Sing, Linda Liddell, John Briley, Jr.
- b. Commissioners Excused: Tracy Souza, Charlotte Seales, Feliciano Sales, Elsie Santos
- c. Staff Present: Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel; Denny Schwind, ADA Coordinator; Darren Konno, County Department of Transportation; Jan Roberson, Commission Staff, Department of Housing and Human Concerns.
- d. Other Officials Present: Mary Matsukawa, State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Nani Watanabe, Hawaii Centers for Independent Living; Bill Curtis, MEO Transportation; George Reioux, MEO Transportation; Debbie Cabebe, MEO; Harry Johnson, Roberts Hawaii; Thelma Shimooka, Office of Hawaiian Affairs.
- e. Guests Present: Jocelyn Perreira, Tri Isle Main Street Association; Kevin Souza; Charlotte Smith; Elaine Ota; Frances Durham; Bryan Zoeller; Raje Anand; Ramoda Anand.

II. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Quorum was established at 1:30 p.m. at which time Commission Chair Andrew Valentine, Jr. called the meeting to order.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 10, 2011

- a. Commissioner Hue Sing MOVED to APPROVE the Minutes without correction. Commissioner Liddell SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

- a. Mary Matsukawa representing the State Council on Developmental Disabilities invited the commissioners to submit testimony to the County Council in support of the proposed budget increase for para transportation.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Guest Jocelyn Perreira of the Tri Isle Main Street Resource Center provided an overview of the proposed Makawao Town renovation plans. She said the plan addresses safety and accessibility issues

in the town but does not address accessibility to the actual businesses as this is private property. She suggested the Commission address this matter with the individual business owners.

b. Election of Officers

- i. This matter was deferred to the April 14, 2011 meeting when the new commissioners will be installed.

c. Discuss a separate ADA Transportation Advisory Committee

- i. Deputy Counsel Murai stated this would take many steps including a Charter Amendment. Also as a practical matter, the Cost of Government Commission is looking at ways to cut the cost of commissions.
- ii. ADA Coordinator Schwind suggested the Commission form a subcommittee to serve in this capacity.
- iii. Chair Valentine said the commission should look at how it's done in other localities.
- iv. Commissioner Crugnale suggested that if one commissioner could serve as a liaison between commission and department of transportation – then a committee or second commission would not be needed.
- v. Chair Valentine asked for a motion to send a letter to the mayor recommending the Mayor and DOT form an advisory group to work to address transportation issues.
- vi. Commissioner Hue Sing so MOVED. Commissioner Liddell SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

d. Discuss advising the Mayor to adopt a policy for all transportation providers in Maui County receiving County funds to adopt uniform and transparent complaint process.

- i. Commissioner Hue Sing MOVED to send a letter as stated above. Commissioner Briley SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

e. Invite Emergency Management Officer Anna Foust to speak at future commission meeting about disaster preparedness plans for persons with disabilities.

- i. Chair Valentine will call to confirm speaker for April meeting.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Commissioners to discuss program to acknowledge private businesses that maintain accessible establishments - Commissioner Hue Sing.

- i. Commissioner Hue Sing suggested that the commission work on a website that will highlight accessible businesses on Maui.
- ii. Raja Anand stated Ramoda was working to launch a similar website and it would be ready in a few months.
- iii. ADA Coordinator Schwind stated that the DCAB website has links to accessible businesses.
- iv. Chair Valentine stated that he would discuss the matter with the Mayor to propose a certificate or nomination process for citizens to nominate their favorite accessible businesses for recognition.
- v. Commission took no action.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letter of condolence to family of the late Commissioner Tracy Souza.
- b. Letter requesting \$30 public transit passes for disabled riders.
- c. Letter to store owners requesting them to monitor accessible parking stalls.
- d. Letter recommending that the County enact a policy requiring building inspectors to check for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other federal regulations, and that a certificate of occupancy be withheld until all laws and regulations are met.

VII. REPORTS

- a. Para-Transportation – Andrew Valentine
 - i. County Department of Transportation Updates - Darren Konno
 - ii. There will be a public and para transportation conference in Memphis, Tennessee on May 27, 2011
 - iii. DOT will attend an expo in October in New Orleans.
 - iv. The \$2 daily bus pass is now in effect and passes are available through the bus drivers and at the Wharf Cinema Center Office and County Business Resource Center at the Maui Mall.
 - v. There is no news about the lawsuit regarding the MEO contract with the county to provide paratransit.
- b. Disability Resource Fair – Mary Matsukawa
 - i. Two hundred thirty people attended the fair, including the Mayor and Maui's Board of Education representative.
 - ii. Next year the disability resource fair and student transition event will be separated.

VIII. AGENDA SETTING

a. Election of officers

b. Letter to Mayor

- i. Recommending the Mayor direct the DOT to form an advisory group to work to address transportation issues.
- ii. Advise the Mayor to adopt a policy for all transportation providers in Maui County receiving County funds to adopt a uniform and transparent complaint process.
- iii. Presentation on Sunshine Law – Dep. Corp. Counsel Murai
- iv. Unfinished business: program to acknowledge accessible businesses.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Next meeting is set for 1:30 p.m., Thursday, April 14, 2011 at Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room at 11 Mahaolu St., Kahului, HI

X. ADJOURNMENT

- a. The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m. and the outgoing Commissioners Valentine and Briley were presented with Certificates of Appreciation and Letters of commendation from the Mayor. Cupcakes were served.