



# MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

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## COUNCIL ON AGING (COA)

February 11, 2014

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

J. Walter Cameron Center Auditorium  
95 Mahalani Street, Wailuku, HI

### MEETING MINUTES

#### PRESENT

MaryMargaret Baker  
Karen Bretharte  
Chivo Ching-Johnson  
Heather Greenwood  
Tania Joao  
Iris Peelua  
Dionne Phillips  
Rosie Poree-Hogin  
Nancy Tamashiro

#### EXCUSED

Autumn Arase  
Stacy Crivello  
Rhonda Fosbinder  
William Myrter  
Robert Santry  
Gwen Ueoka

#### GUESTS

Sayble Bissen  
Adele Rugg, PABEA  
Rob Tarver  
Madhup Joshi, MD  
Kim Takata, EOA  
Heather Chun, EOA

#### STAFF

Deborah Arendale  
Norma Circle  
Jo Reyes  
Gary Murai  
Kathleen Ross Aoki  
Mercedes Neri  
Jill Matsui  
JoAnne J. Winer

#### I. Call to Order

Due to Chair Rhonda Fosbinder and Vice Chair Robert Santry missing today's meeting, Deputy Corporation Counsel Gary Murai, who is substituting for Deputy Corporation Counsel Richelle Thomson, called the meeting to order. He asked for introductions of the Council to verify quorum and explained the procedure for nominations for a Chair pro tem to conduct today's COA meeting. He then opened the floor for nominations for today's Chair pro tem. Mr. Chivo Ching-Johnson nominated Ms. Heather Greenwood. There were no other nominations and the Council unanimously voted Ms. Heather Greenwood as today's COA Chair pro tem.

#### II. Roll Call of COA Members & Welcome to New COA Member Karen Bretharte

We welcomed Ms. Karen Bretharte, our newest COA member who retired from the County of San Diego as an Investigator of Elder Abuse and who has been residing on Maui for the past five years.

#### III. Appreciation of Service to COA: Nancy Tamashiro

A letter of appreciation and a certificate of appreciation by Mayor Alan Arakawa were presented to Ms. Nancy Tamashiro by Chair pro tem, Ms. Heather Greenwood, for all of her service to the Maui County COA.

#### IV. Introductions of Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA) Staff and Others Attending

MCOA staff in attendance included: Ms. Deborah Arendale, Ms. Norma Circle, Ms. Jo Reyes and Ms. Jill Matsui. County staff included: Deputy Corporation Counsel Gary Murai, Director of the Department of Transportation, Ms. JoAnne J. Winer, Assistant Administrator at Kaunoa, Ms. Kathleen Aoki, and Ms. Mercedes Neri, Executive Assistant from Mayor Alan Arakawa's office. Today's guests include: Ms. Adele Rugg from the Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs (PABEA), Ms. Sayble Bissen of AKAKU, Mr. Rob Tarver of the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Dr.

Madhup Joshi, Ms. Kim Takata, AmeriCorps VISTA member with the Hawaii State Executive Office on Aging (EOA), and Ms. Heather Chun with the EOA.

**V. Review, Correct & Approve Minutes**

Chair pro tem Heather Greenwood called for a review of the December 10, 2013 minutes, asking for any changes or corrections. Mr. Chivo Ching-Johnson moved to accept the minutes without any corrections and Ms. Rosie Poree-Hogin seconded the motion. A unanimous vote carried to accept the December 10, 2013 meeting minutes without any changes.

**VI. Public Comments and Testimony regarding Agenda Items**

None

**VII. The Hawaii Time Bank Feasibility Report with Heather Chun from the Hawaii State Executive Office on Aging and Kim Takata, AmeriCorps VISTA**

- This is a community exchange network where services are exchanged for time rather than money. Members list their needs and offerings on a shared space, such as a specific website, and connect with other members who can fulfill their needs. Members negotiate the details of their own exchanges; however, the value of every service is based on the amount of time it takes to complete. Everyone, their time, and their skills are of equal value.
- The principle of “co-production” provides the theoretical foundation for Timebanking. This allows services to be designed by both providers and recipients, capitalizing on individual and community assets. These assets are more stable and sustainable than the formal services in the market economy. As the market economy fails to meet the true demand for long term support and services, the core economy (informal support systems) will sustain as the community’s informal caring responsibilities continue. The local and national movement towards participant-directed programs and person-centered care is acknowledgment of the need for a co-production approach in service development.
- Time banks are generally grass-roots efforts, initiated by community-minded individuals, advocacy groups, or community organizations. Ultimately, time bank development should be driven by the community and guided by its existing culture and values.
- EOA’s team embraced a grass-roots approach to planning focus groups in collaboration with the MCOA to assess the community’s interest in time banking, and more specifically, to hear how Hawaii’s caregivers feel this service delivery model may impact their caregiving responsibilities. Service providers and community advocates were also included in focus groups to generate a more comprehensive community understanding.
  - Twenty-five people participated in these focus groups that were held during the Maui Caregivers Conference on November 14, 2013 and again on January 15, 2014 at the Cameron Center in Wailuku, Maui.
- EOA / MCOA will be partnering with Na Hoaloha in a pilot program, Hawaii Caregivers Respite and Timebanking partnership in July 2014. The final report will be sent to Ms. Deborah Arendale upon completion. The website will be developed and it will track the exchanges. There are no tax liabilities according to the IRS since everything is done by exchanges and there are no purchases, even the software system for the website is free. There may be nominal start up fees and membership fees are a possibility to offset any program costs.

**VIII. County of Maui (COM) Dept. of Transportation to explain The Maui Bus' process regarding bench installations and ADA requirements**

Director JoAnne Johnson Winer from the Department of Transportation joined our meeting to address some questions from the last COA meeting regarding why some bus stops do not have any benches or shelters. Ms. Johnson Winer explained that it is virtually impossible to put up a bus shelter or a bench at every bus stop due to the ADA requirements. She also informed the group that the number of bus riders or ridership at each particular stop drives construction of a bus shelter at that bus stop.

Director Johnson Winer provided the following details of the process:

- The first phase of the process involves identifying which bus stops meet the minimum number of daily riders. An engineer monitors every bus stop and verifies the trigger of 20 boardings per day. Currently, there are 45 bus stops where ridership would meet this daily threshold.
- The second phase involves the process of building a shelter and/or bench. There are currently 18 identified stops in this phase. This process includes:
  - Identifying a Design firm and an Engineering consultant for implementing FTA & ADA concerns (simultaneously being done).
  - Opening the bid process for site construction pad for ADA accessibility.
  - Filing a plan with the Planning department. This process costs approximately \$16,000 per bus shelter and may take a very long time due to the review process.
  - Ensuring that the County adheres to the bid process and procurement laws of the state and federal standards since we do utilize federal funds.
  - Receiving State approval for the procurement (4-5 weeks, providing there are no protests) and awarding the bid within 30 days.
  - Working with Corporation Counsel to draft the contract.
  - Commencing construction the pad of the bus shelter upon receipt of the contract.

Director Winer explained that the process is arduous even with a waiver for the bus shelters that are exempt from special management rules. This involves a very detailed paperwork process in order to prove exemption.

Director Winer further explained that the above process only involves the pad for the shelter. Meanwhile, construction of the bus shelter itself also must pass through the procurement process. These processes, however, can be by-passed in the event of community-funded or private enterprise shelter purchases which require a process time of only 6 weeks. The same shelter process time normally would take DOT 6 months using the procurement method.

In addition to the actual construction of the pad and shelter, there are also trash and maintenance contracts to be handled once the bus shelters are built.

Director Winer informed the COA that if a private group wanted to install a bench at a bus stop, that group can work with the Public Works Dept. and obtain the ADA requirements. Benches can be placed on a sidewalk, but they cannot obstruct the path of a wheelchair or someone trying to get by, and must be safe. The right of way to safely build or have an ADA access for a sidewalk or side of the street are also concerns for erecting bus shelters. DOT is also looking at installing semi-seats at such locations. Pukalani Community Center is a location that includes semi-seats for

additional seating. Bus shelters installed by the County are graffiti resistant, solar powered, and the artwork designed has won an award.

One COA member asked Director Winer about the Paratransit service and the issues that had arisen with the change in contracted providers. Ms. Winer responded that the Maui Bus Paratransit service was contracted to Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO). She explained that recent scheduling difficulties were the result of the newness of the contract for MEO and of the fact that MEO adopted a more efficient, complex computerized system. New systems simply require time to learn.

## **IX. Regional / Subject Reports:**

### **A. Veteran's Affairs Report by Dr. Robert Santry:**

- Cemetery expansion: the bids are out and awaiting word on the beginning of the 10 acre expansion and construction of the parking lot. Construction is scheduled to start October 1, 2014 for the additional acreage of the \$5 million project for the VA cemetery.
- Cemetery update: the VA Secretary provided \$1.5 million dollars for updates to include cleaning of existing grave stones and improving the yard. Grave cleaning started on the \$1.5 million dollar VA cemetery project.
- Maui Dog Tag project: The new board is formed as well as the corporation. The ultimate goal is to raise \$2.5 million dollars for the overall operations:
  - Train dogs for Wounded Veterans;
  - Train dogs as Odor Detection Dogs (ODDs); and
  - Train dogs as Security Patrol Dogs (SPDs).Odor Detection Dogs (ODDs) and Security Protection Dogs (SPDs) will work in the hotels on Maui providing security for an estimated 7,000 rooms. Dr. Santry will serve as the medical officer for the board and will certify the dogs and masters.
- Office of Veteran Services (OVS) will fill all eight slots for the Veterans' Counselor positions on Maui and the sister islands. The governor released the money in the third week of January.
- Congratulations to Ms. Candice Carter on her selection as the Executive Director of Na Hoaloha Neighbors Helping Neighbors. The Veterans' organizations on Maui are interested in working with her to promote Veterans Helping Veterans as a new program with Na Hoaloha.
- OVS Council of Advisors: Mr. Fred Ruge and Dr. Santry attend the monthly teleconferences with OVS staff and advisors. During the last meeting, Colonel Han and team provided updates on issues pertaining to medical care, housing, education, the Wounded Warriors program, the Women's Veterans project, and VA updates from Washington DC.
- End of the Vietnam War: April 30, 1975. The Veterans Council will host a special commemoration on April 30, 2014 honoring existing Vietnam Veterans and their fallen comrades. More information on the time, place, and location to follow.

### **B. Lanai Report by Ms. Nancy Tamashiro:**

- The Annual Lanai Christmas Luncheon honoring the senior citizens was held over the holidays with over 380 people volunteering their time, talent and treasures to make the luncheon a success. Approximately 150 seniors were served lunch during the celebration and over 100 people received a home delivered meal. Gift bags were presented to all seniors.
- Ke Ola Hou O Lanai is offering a free Breast Cancer Screening clinic on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers class was scheduled for Saturday February 22<sup>nd</sup>; however, the class has been postponed due to slow registration.

- The Lanai Community Health Center is offering free weekly Yoga classes at the Lanai Senior Center.
- The Senior Health Fair is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> to coincide with the Lions Club Vision Van.

**C. Molokai Report by Ms. Tania Joao:**

- Hui Ko'o Pu is an inter-agency group which meets monthly to provide information to attendees and increase community collaboration.
- Programs available for Kupuna:
  - Theresa Hughes Grant—Offered by 3 separate entities (Na Pu'uwai, Molokai Community Health Center and Molokai General Hospital).
  - Respite Services—Bayada, Na Pu'uwai and Hale Mahaolu (80 hours each) and Alu Like (\$120 per month).
  - MG's Kukui Ahi Program—Nutritional supplements (1 case of Ensure per month).
  - USDA Rural Development—Repair grants for senior citizens in the amount of \$7,500.
  - Hui Up—Replace old refrigerators for new refrigerators.
  - BCBH Program (Better Choice, Better Health)—Scheduled to begin in March 2014.
  - AARP—Free tax services.
  - Lion's Club—Free retina screening.
  - Senior/Disability Fair—April 24, 2014.
  - Alzheimer Association—Conducted outreach on January 29<sup>th</sup> to reintroduce their organization and they will be participating in the Senior/Disability Fair.
- Alu Like—
  - 2014 Theme is, "Honoring our Ali'i." Every month, two Ali'is will be honored. Alu Like will research the genealogy, oli or song composed by or for the Ali'i and at the end of the month, they will celebrate the Ali'is. The schedule is as follows:
    - January—King Lunalilo and Queen Emma
    - February--Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani & King Kamehameha IV
    - March—Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole
  - Alu Like partnered with Na Pu'uwai's Health Center to provide monthly health monitoring and health education on topics such as Blood Pressure, Glucose, etc. February's topic is Stroke prevention.
  - Alu Like holds Ukulele classes on Fridays with Uncle Bill Aki.
  - On Valentine's Day, the Kupuna will sing love songs in town at Kalel Bookstore.
- Adult Day Care (ADC) of Na Pu'uwai
  - Currently serve eleven participants but are licensed for twelve. However, through a CDBG grant they have been approved for twenty participants. The biggest challenge for potential participants is the daily fee of \$66.00. This fee includes 2 meals and 2 snacks per day, care provided by trained staff and DHS required activities like cognitive, social, emotional and physical activities.
  - Payment for non-Medicaid clients are paid via a sliding scale fee and MCOA subsidizes one day per week at no cost to the family for attendance.
  - Na Pu'uwai recently submitted an application to be licensed as an Adult Day Health Care Center; however, licensure has been delayed due to cuts in the state's budget which have resulted in prohibited travel and inspection of neighbor island facility programs.
  - As previously reported, a Caregiver's workshop occurred in November and the follow up occurred in December. Seven participants will start a first-time support group in March with Dr. Cheng.
  - Dr. Nakagawa, an Internist for Queen's Medical Center and the School of Medicine, met with the staff to discuss stroke prevention education training. He has discovered that end of life discussions are not occurring until it is too late, so

there is a big push to educate the community about advanced health care directives and the importance of the end of life discussions for the families.

- Na Pu'uwai continues to work through the Health Connector (Hi'i Ola) program to identify any Kupuna who are falling between the cracks.
- Monthly field trips include Kumu Farms, Pala'au State Park, Waialua, Mo'omomi, fishing at the wharf, attending school activities, etc.
- Ms. Nancy Tamashiro asked what the average cost of ADC participation was for the family. Ms. Tania Joao responded that cost ranges from \$6 to \$43 per day for the family.
- The Alzheimer's Association has renewed their presence on the island and will be increasing partnership efforts with other organizations. The agency intends to participate in this year's Senior/Disability Fair.
- Ms. Heather Greenwood added that there will be a MCOA Powerful Tools for Caregivers Class for Molokai on March 6<sup>th</sup> for 6 weeks, from 1 pm to 3 pm. This class will be led by Ms. Rachele Ing Kupau and Ms. Maile Lum.

**D. Hana Report and Discussion by Mr. Chivo Ching-Johnson:**

- Mr. Chivo Ching-Johnson did not get to Hana over the holidays but did have an informative telephone conversation with Mr. Timmy Satot of the MCOA and the Maui Adult Day Care Center (MADCC). Mr. Satot works half-time for both places and is located at the MADCC which is in the Hale Hulu Mamo Hana Senior Center in Hana. Mr. Satot invited Mr. Chivo Ching-Johnson to visit the kupuna and the facilities in Hana. The Hale Hulu Mamo Senior Center is currently the caregiver respite center and also offers a variety of services as lomi lomi, acupuncture and haircuts. There are many kupuna who have always lived in Hana and don't want to leave the area to receive services. Mr. Ching-Johnson reported that MEO sponsors an active Senior Club that meets on the third Monday of each month. He informed the group that senior housing continues to be an issue for Hana residents. Although Hale Mahaolu has been working with Hana Ranch to acquire property, barriers to the acquisition have been ongoing for some time. Mr. Ching-Johnson informed the group regarding two senior meal programs:
  - Kaunoa Senior Services provides Congregate Meals at lunch on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The healthy lunch is provided by the DOE and is served in the old Hana School cafeteria from 9 am to 12 noon, with morning activities followed by lunch.
  - Hana Health Community Medical Center offers a Congregate lunch program on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and it is provided by Hana Fresh from 9 am to 12 noon.

Ms. MaryMargaret Baker questioned why the DOE Hana School would be the entity providing the meals for the kupuna. It was explained that the DOE is the most cost-effective entity able to cook and provide the meals for the kupuna. The majority of Congregate Meals in all of Maui County are provided by the DOE.

**E. MCOA Report:**

- Have a Heart for Seniors Planning Update Report by Ms. Deborah Arendale: MCOA continues to work with a sub-committee from the Maui Falls Prevention Coalition and have identified approximately one hundred and eighty-seven individuals that are at moderate to high risk of falls. Of those individuals, MCOA identified those willing to allow home revision and have identified twelve homes demonstrating a range of need. Volunteer teams comprised of individuals with expertise in construction, medical and social work backgrounds will work with the kupuna to devise a plan for each of these homes. Each team will meet with the seniors and their families to conduct assessments of their homes with the falls

prevention home environment assessment tool. MCOA is working closely with a variety of community agencies, service clubs and individuals. The initial projects are occurring on Maui, but MCOA will expand this program to Molokai and Lanai.

- Upcoming Events:
  - Provider meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>—A mandatory meeting for all contract service providers will be held at the Cameron Center Auditorium, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.
  - May 6<sup>th</sup> is our Annual Outstanding Older Americans Luncheon at the Maui Beach Ellear Rainbow Ballroom, from 11 am to 1 pm. The Council on Aging members are invited to join us. Please call us to RSVP.
  - July 29<sup>th</sup> is the First Hawaiian Bank PrimeTime Wellness Fair at the Maui Lani Mormon Ward, from 8 am to 12 noon.
  - Budget hearings will begin in April.
  - Legislative sessions—The State legislative process is critical this year as state funding will be key to helping MCOA continue to serve needy Kupuna. Over the last couple of months, our rate of new participants has increased by 400%. Last summer MCOA averaged twelve new participants each month. The office is now admitting approximately fifty new participants, with only a few discharges every month. The current need for assistance is outgrowing our funding sources. MCOA will be continuing to emphasize the need for increased volume of volunteers to assist seniors. MCOA is also implementing a waitlist. The budget session will be very important to us.

Mr. Chivo Ching-Johnson asked what the average age is of seniors who are requesting services. Ms. Deborah Arendale responded that she would provide the answer at the next COA meeting.

Ms. Tania Joao asked if there was a particular health issue common to those seeing assistance. Ms. Deborah Arendale stated that answering such a specific question would be difficult. Information pertaining to specific health issues is contained in the narrative section of the assessment tools, and there is not a report that is easy to run in order to isolate the narrative responses. It could be that future upgrades of the software system would allow data mining of this sort; however, that level of detailed search is not currently available.

- Better Choices, Better Health (BCBH)—An upcoming workshop will begin at Kaunoa on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Please call our office and ask for Mary Kay HofMann for more information.
- BCBH Diabetes Self-Management—An upcoming workshop will begin at the Kaiser Clinic in Lahaina on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Enhanced Fitness (EF)—MCOA will increase the number of EF sites very soon. One barrier to beginning the program at additional sites has been the difficulty in finding appropriate places to store the equipment for the program.
- Powerful Tool for Caregivers (PTC) :
  - The Molokai class previously mentioned will start on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - There are currently two classes on Maui in Kahului and Lahaina. Additional classes in 2014 are scheduled. MCOA and Heather Greenwood continue to work towards scheduling a class in Hana.
- Community-Based Care Transitions Program (CCTP)—MCOA has begun receiving reimbursements from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The program is going well.

- F. Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs (PABEA) Report by Ms. Adele Rugg:**
- May is Outstanding Older Americans month. Each County honors one female and one male. Nomination papers for those deserving outstanding older Americans are currently available through MCOA and County winners will be selected through a committee selection process.
  - The PABEA will host all neighbor island Outstanding Older American awardees with a luncheon on Oahu on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. The event includes a meeting with the Governor and is followed by a luncheon where each honoree will receive a certificate and a koa medallion.
  - Kupuna Power will be coming to a TV near you! It will air the first Monday in March. This important live weekly programming has been started on Oahu by their public television station. Maui's local station, AKAKU, has expressed an interest in partnering on this effort.
  - There are several important kupuna bills in the state legislature. A copy is being passed out for your review and Ms. Deborah Arendale will review some of these bills for you.
    - HB1713 / SB2346: Relating to Aging
    - HB2052 / SB2227: Relating to Provider Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment
    - HB2056 / SB2228: Relating to Aging, Omnibus Bill
    - SB2434: Relating to Health
  - Ms. Deborah Arendale explained that in the state legislature there are three main areas of emphasis that bills are included in:
    1. The Governor's base budget has allotted \$9 million dollars for Kupuna Care and \$1.9 million dollars for the ADRC. Both are increases from last year and are built into the state's base budget.
    2. The Majority Package: the Democrats are the majority party and they have all agreed to support these Kupuna bills in the Majority package.
    3. Kupuna Caucus: This Caucus schedules meetings in conjunction with PABEA meetings in order to ensure optimal attendance. The Kupuna Caucus is a democratic forum that meets throughout the year. Members approve the Caucus Platform by consensus vote. The Caucus uses a very good strategy of introducing both a House and a Senate bill to better ensure passage in of at least one of the companion bills. If both companion bills pass through, they are combined at the end of the session.
  - Ms. Deborah Arendale also stated that it is quite easy to submit testimony by going to the state legislature website: [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov)
    - Any person can sign up for alerts for any bill so that testimony can be submitted prior to a hearing.
    - Generally, all testimony is due 24 hours prior to the hearing.
    - It is very important for community members to be active and submit testimony.
  - Ms. Adele Rugg wanted to acknowledge Senator Susanne Chun-Oakland who meets monthly with PABEA and is attentive to the needs of the Kupuna.

**X. Next Meeting Date: April 8, 2014 from 12 noon at the Cameron Center Auditorium**

**XI. Call for Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- Demographics of the people MCOA serves.

**XII. Motion to Adjourn**  
 Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Tania Joao and seconded by Ms. MaryMargaret Baker.