



MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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MEETING MINUTES

**Dec. 11, 2014, 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room
11 Mahaolu St., Kahului, HI 96732**

I. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, ROLL CALL

- a. Meeting called to order at 12:37 p.m.
- b. **Commissioners Present:** Faraz Azizsoltani, Harold Davis, Kealoha Laemoa, Paulo Sabado, Mikey Tomita; Gabriel Johnson and Andrew Valentine joined in at 12:47 p.m.
- c. **Commissioners Excused:**
- d. **Commissioners Absent:** Kevin Souza
- e. **Staff Present:** Linden Joesting, Nalani Podlewski
- f. **Guests Present:** Kate Eifler, Harry Johnson, Darren Konno, DJ Schwind, Vivian Lindsey, Ramoda Anand, Raje Anand, Lisa Darcy, Lee Mainaga, Rob Tarver

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 13, 2014

- a. Chair Laemoa entertained a MOTION to approve minutes. All in favor (5-0), MOTION CARRIED.

III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS AS THEY PERTAIN TO ISSUES AFFECTING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

- a. Fire Chief Lee Mainaga testified in response to commission letter to Department of Public Works (DPW), which was forwarded to his department. Chief Mainaga stated that Kihei

Fire Station will be addressed, DPW will work with Fire Department. Regarding Kahului Fire Station, the letter has been forwarded to the State Department of Transportation by DPW and response has not yet been received.

- b. Rob Tarver of Hawaii State Council of Developmental Disabilities and member of Maui Disability Alliance. Mr. Tarver shared that State of Hawaii was recently accepted into national program called Employment First. The program focuses on developing systems and policies based on skill sets for persons with disabilities.
- c. Lisa Darcy of Ho`omoana Foundation, also works with Disability Alliance and Homeless Alliance. Ms. Darcy came to listen to issues and to hear dialogue on transportation, particularly if any improvement on amount of time to make appointments.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Vice-Chair Sabado and Commissioner Davis reported on October 9, 2014 presentation by Office of Elections on accessible and rights of handicapped voters to have curbside ballots, assistance and accessories. Materials were distributed at presentation by Office of Elections staff Anthony Akamine which included handouts on Election Accessibility for People with Disabilities, Auxiliary Aids and Factsheets on Voting in Hawaii and Voters Requiring Special Assistance. Commissioner Valentine shared that each site has accessory aids; for curbside voting, signs are visible from line of sight near entrance; disabled voter may use person he/she is most comfortable with to assist.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Vice-Chair Sabado shared that lengthy discussions occurred on Emergency Preparedness Commissioner Valentine expressed that his major concern is that county signed emergency access agreement with Department of Justice (DOJ), yet there is no specific plan to get disabled to and from sites. Vice-Chair Sabado shared that Civil Defense was present at past meetings to discussion emergency planning. Ideally, caregivers should

be encouraged to assist persons with disabilities. DJ Schwind recommended that if commission has specific items in DOJ agreement that they would like to address, commission could write a letter to mayor for follow up.

- b. Harry Johnson, MEO Transportation Director gave a powerpoint presentation on Paratransit Transportation which services an area that extends $\frac{3}{4}$ mile radius off the fixed Maui Bus route. He explained that it is a shared ride, curb to curb service, not taxi service; pick up window and vehicle wait time as well as need for riders to know their providers and the cancellation policy. The guidelines are set by Department of Transportation (DOT). Darren Konno added that the federal government says that everyone in public transportation system must have access including those with disabilities. Discussion followed on:
 - i. scheduling pick up is based on appointment time; MEO can negotiation variation to 30 minute window
 - ii. "subscription" or "standing order" locks in service for two-week period for recurring appointments.
 - iii. No-show policy – driver needs to wait five minutes within pick-up window, notify dispatch to assist with determination of no-show. MEO sends monthly report to DOT, any passenger with over 10 no-shows per month will be sent a notice by DOT to contact their office to discuss, no penalty.
 - iv. Application and process is available on county website.
 - v. Bus service is only available on island of Maui.
 - vi. Certified paratransit eligible passengers can use public system in any state for up to 21 days a year.
 - vii. Difficulty contacting MEO paratransit by phone, suggestion to obtain dedicated phone line. MEO looking into other software options but funding needs to be considered.
- c. Discussion on photos of missing sidewalks fronting the Kahului & Kihei Fire Stations. Commissioners discussed need to request completion timeline from DPW.
- d. Commissioners were provided handout on webinars offered by Pacific ADA Center.

VI. AGENDA SETTING

- a. Presentation by Rob Tarver, DD Council and Workforce Development representative at February 12 meeting
- b. County Personnel representative on county hiring practices.
- c. Paratransit Transportation
- d. Request Public Works representative to appear on timeline for missing sidewalks fronting the Kahului & Kihei Fire Stations
- e. Presentation by ICE Buddy Systems, Inc.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Next meeting on January 8, 2015, 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 pm at Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chair Laemoa entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **MOVED** by Commissioner Valentine, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sabado. **ALL IN FAVOR**, meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.