



MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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MEETING MINUTES

12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., August 14, 2014
County of Maui Business Resource Center
Maui Mall, Kahului, HI 96732

I. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, ROLL CALL

- a. Meeting called to order at 12:34 p.m.
- b. **Commissioners Present:** Kealoha Laemoa, Paulo Sabado, Kevin Souza, Mikey Tomita, Harold Davis, Gabriel Johnson, Andrew Valentine (Joined meeting already in progress)
- c. **Commissioners Excused:** Faraz Azizsoltani
- d. **Commissioners Absent:** MD Alborano
- e. **Staff Present:** Linden Joesting, Kim Ferguson, James Mariano, Bill Conant
- f. **Guests Present:** Harry Johnson, DJ Schwind, Anna Foust, Channan Carroll, Darren Kono, Ernesto Manibog, Vivian Lindsey, Larry Harumoto, Sarah Garbutt, Kate Eifler

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 17, 2014

- a. Chair Laemoa entertained a motion to approve minutes. Commissioner Sabado **MOVED** to approve the minutes without amendment. Commissioner Souza **SECONDED**. All in favor, **MOTION CARRIED**.

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

- a. None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Feeling Safe, Being Safe audio presentation by Yoko Kitami, UH Manoa-Center on Disabilities Studies. Trainers Landa Phelan and Bathey Fong, along with Heather Dewoody provided an interactive presentation on disaster preparedness through audio and PowerPoint slides. Commissioners were given printed material provided by UH Manoa. Chair Laemoa requested a schedule of upcoming training sessions.
- b. Subcommittee discussion on UH presentation & issue of emergency planning for disabled people
 1. Commissioner Valentine commented that he was involved with the original program and stated that the commission needs to make constituents aware and train them as well.
 2. Chair Laemoa acknowledged that there are trainers available and that training should be made available to those with various disabilities.
 3. Commissioner Sabado stated that past two events were eye openers. He commented on the press release by Mayor to encourage residents to be prepared several days prior. Commented that the Civil Defense and the Feeling Safe, Being Safe handouts were great resources. He also stressed that folks need to advocate for themselves.
 4. Commissioner Valentine commented that there are people who are newly disabled and are not informed and aware that they need to self-advocate.
 5. Chair Laemoa inquired about a public service announcement on emergency preparedness for disabled on Akaku TV.
 6. Commissioner Sabado stated that material is already available. For example, there is a video on Civil Defense website that perhaps could be broadcasted on Akaku.
 7. Anna Foust of Civil Defense asked what would be the best way to reach out to community to make sure they are getting the message. Perhaps there's another website or newsletter that would work for the target audience.
 8. Chair Laemoa stated that people on Molokai were impressed that news stations had sign language interpreters available. Anna Foust commented that was great during the event, but wanted to know how to get the message across before an event occurs. Commissioner

Valentine suggested church clubs, elderly housing and AARP groups. Ms. Foust stated that this is a good time to get prepared for all types of emergency situations.

9. Chair Laemoa commented that the commission needs to take the information and plan out into the community.
10. James Mariano advised that trainers are available and that the handouts from UH can be reproduced and shared with others.
11. Guest Vivian Lindsey suggested educating the community at the Maui Fair.
12. Chair Laemoa asked if training would be suitable for children with disabilities. James Mariano stated that it was appropriate for anyone who does individual planning, such as caregivers of disabled.
13. Commissioner Valentine also suggested training caregiver agencies and having some sort of identification which would allow them to assist.
14. Commissioner Davis referred to section 5 of the minutes from July 17th meeting and asked if commission knew the number of disabled people needing assistance during an emergency. Commissioner Sabado responded that the HIPA law made it difficult. Commissioner Valentine stated that there is a Para transit user list. Chair Laemoa inquired about a survey that the Dept. of Transportation was working on. Chair Laemoa suggested that survey be distributed to community. Commission advised by Dept. of Transportation representative Darren Kono that survey was tied to a grant and he is unsure of the current status of the survey. Mr. Kono also stated that about three years ago, it was noted that one in five people in the County of Maui were disabled.
15. Commissioner Valentine described how people in Midwest would self-identify and were issued a placard which was used by first responders.
16. Commissioner Davis suggested that the information be obtained from DMV. Commission discussion regarding requesting statistics only, no personal information at this time.
17. DJ Schwind voiced his concern that survey might be misunderstood as a means of gathering information for a database that would guarantee transportation in the event of an emergency. Chair Laemoa commented that survey

should clearly state that its purpose is only for gathering information.

18. Chair Laemoa entertained a motion to have the commission write a letter to DMV requesting statistics. **MOVED** by Commissioner Valentine, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Souza. **ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**
19. Commissioner Davis requested a letter also be sent to MEO requesting statistics.
20. Discussion on the intent of subcommittee and how and when subcommittee would meet. Commissioner Sabado suggested communicating via e-mail with whoever is interested in participating in the subcommittee, he would compile info and present at next commission meeting. Commission discussed the subcommittee meeting process and procedures. Suggestion made to have subcommittee meet right after regular commission meeting. Commission requested that two sign language interpreters be scheduled in that event.

V. AGENDA SETTING

- a. Office of Elections presentation to be confirmed by DJ Schwind
- b. Discussion and update on "Smart Streets"

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Next meeting on Sept. 11, 2014, 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 pm at Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room
- b. Commissioner Valentine advised that the Para transit Advisory Council's next meeting is on the Sept. 15th at MEO from 1-3 pm.
- c. Chair Laemoa will be out of town for October and November meetings and Vice Chair Sabado will be acting chair.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chair Laemoa entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **MOVED** by Commissioner Valentine, **SECONDED** by Vice Chair Sabado. **ALL IN FAVOR**, meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.