



MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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MEETING MINUTES

12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., July 17, 2014
Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room
11 Mahaolu St., Kahului, HI 96732

I. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, ROLL CALL

- a. Meeting called to order at 12:35 p.m.
- b. **Commissioners Present:** Kealoha Laemoa, Paulo Sabado, Andrew Valentine, Kevin Souza, Faraz Azizoltani
- c. **Commissioners Excused:** Mikey Tomita, MD Alborano, Gabriel Johnson
- d. **Staff Present:** Linden Joesting, Kim Ferguson, Norma Circle
- e. **Guests Present:** Charlotte Smith, Harry Johnson, DJ Schwind, Anna Foust, Channan Carroll, JoAnne Johnson-Winer, Darren Kono joined later

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 8, 2014

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

III. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Chair Laemoa requested to have the resignation letters from Commissioners Gaxiola and Smith sent out to commissioners via e-mail for their review.

- b. Letter dated 5/13/14 requesting Mayor to have Department of Transportation (DOT) and Civil Defense Agency assign staff people to attend the regular meetings of the Commission from June to September to answer questions and facilitate discussions on subjects of para transit and assisting persons with disabilities to get to shelters when evacuations are declared.
 - i. Chair Laemoa acknowledged staff from DOT and Civil Defense who were present and explained why the commission made the request.
 - ii. Commissioner Valentine asked Deputy Corporation Counsel Joesting for clarification on what is actually required by Project Civic Access signed off by Mayor. He was informed that discussion on issue would take place later in meeting as the commission was reviewing correspondence at the time.
 - iii. Commissioner Sabado asked for a copy of the document Mr. Valentine was referring to. DJ Schwind advised that it is available on the internet.
 - iv. Chair Laemoa extended invitation to JoAnne Winer and staff to attend Feeling Safe - Being Safe Presentation at next meeting.

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

- a. None

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Para Transit issues and Emergency Preparedness
 - i. Review of letters to the Mayor and responses regarding fee structure for riders with disabilities.
 - a. no further discussion
 - ii. Review of Mayor's position on maintaining a list of persons with disabilities who may need assistance with transportation to shelters.

- a. Vice Chair Sabado reminded commission about public testimony regarding this topic at last meeting.
- b. Commissioner Valentine questioned how binding Project Civic Access is. Emergency Management Officer Anna Foust of Civil Defense informed the commission of the challenges of creating and maintaining a list. She noted that Project Civic Access refers to but does not require that the County create a list or maintain a database. Ms. Foust also noted that more planning is needed for everyone, not just disabled.
- c. Dept. of Transportation Director JoAnne Johnson-Winer explained the challenge involved with the County committing to evacuation of disabled people during different types of emergencies. Suggested arrangements with caregivers and/or families are made ahead of time.
- d. Chair Laemoa referred to letter dated October 27, 2010 from the Commission to Civil Defense, question number six, returning people home after event.
- e. Anna Foust suggested a working group be formed outside the commission meeting.
- f. Vice Chair Sabado commented on how it was unfair to put so much emphasis on transportation rather than self advocacy.
- g. DOT Darren Kono's presence acknowledged by Chair Laemoa.
- h. DJ Schwind suggested subcommittee meet either before or after regular commission meeting.
- i. Chair Laemoa explained logistical challenges the commission is faced with.
- j. Anna Foust informed commission about new notification system that Civil Defense will rolling out soon.
- k. Commissioner Valentine inquired which shelters which are ADA accessible.

- I. Chair Laemoa asked member Sabado to head subcommittee and members Souza, Valentine, Azizsoltani to participate, along with absent member Mikey Tomita. Advised by Deputy Corp Counsel Joesting that notice of meeting is required.
- m. DJ Schwind suggested that this item be the only item listed on the agenda.
- n. Commissioner Azizsoltani suggested to have 3 designated members of family and/or friends be on notice to help disabled folks evacuate. Anna Foust advised that Civil Defense working on obtaining identification which would allow workers back into inundation areas. Commissioner Valentine noted that perhaps caregivers need to be involved in discussion. Vice Chair Sabado suggested that once a plan is in place, questions should be delegated to agencies providing care.
- iii. Feeling Safe, Being Safe presentation at Aug 14 meeting on personal safety plan.
 - a. Chair Laemoa asked all members to be present at the 8/14 meeting
- iv. Discussion of whether or not the commission should press the administration to implement a plan to transport persons with disabilities to shelters in the event an evacuation is ordered after the above review.
 - a. Chair Laemoa reiterated the commission's position was yes.
- v. The following hand outs were distributed:
 - 1. Emergency Shelters in Maui County: General population, ADA accessible, Special Needs, Pets, Hurricane, and Tsunami.
 - 2. Emergency Preparedness Packet for Maui County Residents
 - 3. Preparing for Disaster for People with Disabilities and other Special Needs – FEMA and Red Cross

VI. AGENDA SETTING

- a. Discussion and suggestions for items to add to the next and subsequent month's agendas.
 - i. Video Conferencing Presentation on "Feeling Safe – Being Safe" by Yoko Kitada, UH Center for Disaster Preparedness for August 14 meeting, 12:30 p.m. at the County Business Resource Center located at the Maui Mall. Newly formed Subcommittee to begin discussions on emergency planning for disabled.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Commissioner Valentine advised that the Para transit Advisory Council's next meeting is on the second Monday in September and needs public testimony regarding riders guide.
- b. Commissioner Azizoltani will be off island for August meeting.
- c. DJ Schwind stated that the Office of Elections offered to provide commission with presentation on equipment available for elections. Chair Laemoa suggested presentation be scheduled for the September meeting.

VIII. 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 1:30 p.m.