



MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CPD)

June 8, 2017

11:30 a.m.

J. Walter Cameron Center, Conference Room 1
95 Mahalani St., Wailuku, HI 96793

Call to Order: 11:31 AM

Introductions

Members Present: Faraz Azizsoltani, David Courson, Cranston Kapoi, Kealoha Laemoa, Ricky Sanches, Kevin Souza, and Sheila Villanueva

Members Excused: Kimberly West

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: Harry Johnson (MEO) and Gay Sibonga (MEO)

County Staff Present: Jennifer Oana, Kevin Dusenbury, DJ Schwind, Tara Sabado, James Mariano, Darren Konno, and Ralph Thomas

Topic/Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Review/Approve Minutes	Members reviewed the April 13, 2017 meeting minutes.	Commissioner Courson moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Azizsoltani seconded. Motion to approve minutes carried unanimously.



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<p>Public Comments and Testimony</p>	<p>Gay Sibonga, Chief Operating Officer at Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO), shared updates regarding some of the Commission’s concerns regarding transportation. Currently on Molokai, MEO is surveying the transportation needs and even looking into expanding services. Ms. Sibonga also shared that MEO has a Paratransit Advisory Committee that meets every other month to discuss paratransit concerns. MEO would like the Commission on Persons with Disabilities to advise the paratransit committee. Ms. Sibonga also posed the question on whether the Commission would wish to defer all paratransit concerns to the MEO Paratransit Advisory Committee. Chair Laemoa would like to defer paratransit issues to the MEO advisory committee. (Please see further discussion in New Business, Item a, (1) Transportation.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>	<p>a. Revisit list of concerns from November’s meeting of prioritization of Commission focus areas- the Commission will prioritize the concerns listed below for discussion at future meetings, therefore the concerns listed below may be collectively discussed by the Commission and may not be individually discussed or discussed at all:</p> <p>1. Transportation: Chair Laemoa believes the Commission has thoroughly discussed transportation concerns within the community, including inviting MEO and having presentations from their organization. Chair Laemoa requested feedback from the Commission on whether to keep “New Business, agenda item (a)” on the agenda or to defer the item.</p> <p>Commissioner Villanueva believes that the Commission can defer the paratransit concerns to the Paratransit Advisory Committee and wait on the Committee for their resolutions and be informed on their recommendations and decisions. Ms. Jennifer Oana, who is representing the County’s Corporation Counsel, offered a suggestion to the Commission. Ms. Oana informed the Commission that they may be able to serve as an avenue for MEO to provide training to the public on the misunderstandings</p>	



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regarding MEO's transportation services. The presentation may include clarification on their transportation guidelines and rules; such as application process, eligibility, and rules once enrolled in the program.

Chair Laemoa inquired to Mr. Johnson if MEO provides any training or presentations within the community. Mr. Johnson responded that MEO has provided a variety of community presentations and trainings to the community, and they are even available to the public on Akaku. Mr. Johnson also shared with the Commission that he has provided trainings to Commission in the past. As for paratransit services, MEO will defer to the County of Maui and request Mr. Darren Konno to assist with the training, because the County establishes the policies and procedures for paratransit services.

Commissioner Villanueva inquired to Mr. Johnson if MEO provides training to their first-time riders. Mr. Johnson shared with the Commission that MEO provides training to new riders for their services. As for the paratransit services, rules and regulations are provided to the rider by the County of Maui and MEO provides advisement throughout the process.

Chair Laemoa requested Mr. Johnson and MEO to provide a training regarding their transportation services. Mr. Johnson requested to know if there are any specific areas that the Commission wishes to seek clarification on their transportation services. According to Ms. Oana, a previous member of the Commission (Commissioner Valentine) had several issues and concerns including drop off and pickup locations; timing; and reservations. Mr. Schwind recommended a dual training from MEO and the County for transportation service application,

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Konno will prepare a dual training for the Commission, and they will provide the training at September's meeting of the Commission on Persons with Disabilities.



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eligibility, and troubleshooting. Ms. Oana also provided encouragement to the Commission to invite their friends and community members to attend September's meeting for the beneficial training.

2. Parks and Recreation:

The Commission is concerned regarding pool accessibility and relative equipment. Ms. Tara Sabado, who serves as the Parks and Recreation Department ADA Inclusion Specialist, informed the Commission that Hoyer lifts are being phased-out at County pools. The only exception to this policy is the Hoyer lift at the Wailuku pool due to the public's demand for the device. Since the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) focuses on independence, the Department of Parks and Recreation is implementing the use of pool access chairs. According to Ms. Sabado, Hoyer lifts require an operator to assist with all aspects of pool entry and exit, which includes physical labor. Since there is the potential risk of injury to the operator, the Hoyer lifts are being phased out at County pools. The alternative device is a pool access chair, which allows an individual to independently operate the device to enter and exit the pool entirely on their own.

According to Chair Laemoa, there is an issue at the Molokai pool regarding the water temperature regulation. Per her discussion with community members, the pool is too cold in the morning for their use, especially for those individuals with arthritis. Ms. Sabado does not recall being notified about a malfunctioning pool heater on Molokai, but she informed the Commission that she will follow-up with the concern. While this may or may not be the case, Ms. Sabado informed the Commission that pool parts may take some time to arrive if they are being shipped from the U.S. Mainland.

Ms. Sabado will follow up with the heater issue; she encourages community to speak with parks and rec staff and utilize proper chain to empower themselves as well.



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3. Housing:
Deferred to next month's meeting due to the Department of Housing and Human Concerns scheduled training for July.
4. Communication:
Per Commissioner Azizoltani's request, the Commission will discuss this topic during Old Business.
5. Higher Education for persons with disabilities:
Deferred
6. County Facilities:
Specifically regarding accessibility to restrooms in Dole Park on Lanai. Commissioner Sanches agreed to complete research on this concern.

After Ms. Sabado arrived to the meeting, she provided an update regarding the bathrooms at Dole Park on Lanai. According to Ms. Sabado, the Lanai Community Center's restroom is only open during registered and permitted events due to vandalism that has occurred to the bathrooms. Since there is more supervision at the Department of Parks and Recreation Gymnasium on Lanai, the public is invited to use their restroom from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. until the vandalism issue can be contained. This directive has been established and implemented by the Director of Parks and Recreation. According to Ms. Sabado, the vandalism issue is particularly complicated because the public bathroom is located on private property in Dole Park. Commissioner Kapoi inquired if there is any penalty for the vandalism. According to Ms. Sabado, each act of vandalism is reported to the Maui Police Department, and the police complete their report and the act is documented as an incident. However, the Parks and Recreation Department is having difficulty identifying the perpetrator. The Commission recommended that a sign should be posted to explain the current



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	<p>situation with the public restroom at the Lanai Community Center.</p> <p>7. Underemployment of persons with disabilities: Commissioner Kapoi is tasked to investigate this topic.</p> <p>b. Upcoming Events- None</p>	
<p>Old Business</p>	<p>a. Photographs of neglected crosswalks within the County of Maui: The Commission and the public are invited to share any additional photographs of neglected crosswalks within the County of Maui. Photographs shall be printed and shall contain a caption that describes the location, street, intersection, etc. of the crosswalks depicted in the photographs.</p> <p>Commissioner Courson is concerned that the Commission’s formal requests that have been made to the County are not being recognized or addressed by the Mayor’s Office and the County. Mr. Courson is frustrated at the current situation, especially since some of the crosswalk re-striping improvement requests were made over four years ago. Some of the mentioned crosswalks have been neglected for so long that they are virtually invisible. Commissioner Courson reiterated that the Commission has discussed, taken pictures, and provided their recommendations to the Mayor’s Office and the Department of Public Works. Furthermore, Commissioner Courson would like to know who reviewed the images of the crosswalks submitted by the Commission and the timetable on when the crosswalks will be re-striped.</p> <p>Commissioner Azizsoltani believes that Maui has rundown infrastructure; lack of sidewalks and crosswalks; visitors with different driving habits; and limited traffic enforcement in residential areas by the Maui Police Department. Commissioner Azizsoltani is concerned that there are no proactive measures being taken, which he believes is unsafe and effects all people including people with disabilities. Discussion ensued amongst the Commission, and Commissioner</p>	



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	<p>Azizsoltani proposes that the Commission invite an official of the Maui Police Department to a future meeting to speak about proactive police strategies.</p> <p>Chair Laemoa requested Commissioners Courson and Azizsoltani to collaborate and type a letter that invites representatives of the Department of Public Works and the Maui Police Department to August's meeting.</p> <p>Commissioner Azizsoltani reminisced to March's meeting of the Commission when Mr. Yagin represented the Department of Public Works. At August's meeting, Commissioner Azizsoltani would like the department's representative to be more informed and better prepared. Corporation Counsel recommends that the letter should address all questions in the letter specifically.</p> <p>Corporation Counsel also requested the Commission to vote on the subject matter, especially the approval of sending the letter without the Commission's discussion and approval prior to being forwarded to the Mayor's Office.</p> <p>Mr. Darren Konno, who represents the Department of Transportation, inquired if there were specific photos provided to the Mayor's Office and Department of Public Works. Commissioner Courson confirmed that is how the crosswalks in question were presented to the officials at the County. Mr. Konno encouraged the Commission to re-submit the documentation of the neglected crosswalks with photographs to the Department of Public Works, and Mr. Schwind informed the Commission that it needs to be placed in writing. Mr. Kevin Dusenbury, representing the Office on Aging and facilitator for the Commission, confirmed that the original invitation to the Commission's meeting (including the crosswalk information and</p>	<p>Chair Laemoa tasked Commissioner Courson and Commissioner Azizsoltani to write a letter to the Mayor's Office, requesting representatives of the Maui Police Department and the Department of Public Works to attend August's meeting. Once the letter is drafted by Commissioner Courson and Commissioner Azizsoltani, the letter will be provided to the Commission's facilitator; forwarded to and signed by Chair Laemoa; and forwarded to the Mayor's Office without discussion and approval from the entire Commission on Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p>Commissioner Villanueva moved; Chair Laemoa seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
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	<p>photographs) was submitted to the Mayor’s Office on February 16, 2017.</p> <p>Chair Laemoa inquired if Commissioner Azizoltani was able to attend the County Council’s budget hearing that pertained to the Department of Public Works, Highways Division. Commissioner Azizoltani informed the Commission that he was not able to attend the budget hearing; therefore, he was unable to provide a report to the Commission.</p>	
Agenda Items for Next Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Presentation from Department of Housing and Human Concerns, Section 8 Housing Division- Home Ownership Option Program.b. For August’s meeting, presentation from the Department of Public Works and the Maui Police Department regarding neglected crosswalks within the County of Maui.c. For September’s meeting, presentation from Maui Economic Opportunity and the County of Maui regarding transportation services.	
Next Date	July 13, 2017 at 11:30 AM at the J. Walter Cameron Center, 95 Mahalani St., Wailuku, HI.	
Motion to Adjourn	12:34PM	Commissioner Souza moved; Commissioner Kapoi seconded. Motion carried unanimously.