



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)

January 10, 2019

12:30 p.m.

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

Call to Order: 12:30 p.m.

Introductions

Members Present: Petrina Castillo, David Courson, Cranston Kapoi, Ricky Sanches, Kevin Souza, Sheila Villanueva, and Kimberly West

Members Excused: Faraz Azizoltani

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: Roxann Kehus (Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities), Harry Johnson (MEO), and Chris Dack (Akaku)

County Staff Present: Kevin Dusenbury (Office on Aging), Jennifer Oana (Dept. of the Corporation Counsel), Deborah Stone-Walls (Office on Aging), and Ralph Thomas (EEO/AA Specialist)

Topic/Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
II. Review/Approve Minutes	Members reviewed the October 11, 2018 meeting minutes.	Commissioner Courson moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Sanches seconded. Motion to



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		approve minutes carried unanimously.
III. Public Comments and Testimony	None	
IV. New Business	<p>a. Presentation from the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) regarding areas of concern (such as sidewalks and other infrastructure) for persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Deferred until a representative from the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization is available to provide their presentation.</p> <p>b. Letter from a Maui visitor regarding public accommodations and the ADA (for informational purposes only; no action will be taken by the Commission)</p> <p>Ms. Jennifer Oana, Deputy Corporation Counsel for the County of Maui, informed the Commission that the community member's complaint occurred at a private entity on Maui. Ms. Oana further explained to the Commission that the complaint falls under the jurisdiction of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the complainant may seek a private lawsuit and/or file an ADA complaint with the U.S. Department of Justice.</p> <p>Commissioner West mentioned that she believes it sheds light on individuals who are in wheelchairs and how individuals are able to access the beach parks in Maui County. Ms. Oana responded that the letter from the concerned Maui visitor did not include any complaints regarding the accessibility of the County's beach parks; rather, it entirely involved a private entity. However, Ms. Oana informed the Commission that they may explore, identify, and make recommendations to the Mayor's Office if it is under the jurisdiction of the County of Maui. Commissioner Courson reminded the other Commissioners</p>	



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	<p>present that the Commission on Persons with Disabilities serves as an advisory board to the Mayor’s Office, and Commissioner Courson expressed his belief that the Commission is not in the position to take further action regarding this agenda item because they do not have the authority to do so. Further discussion amongst the Commissioners ensued regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act including whether the ADA Inclusion Specialist for the Parks Department may be able to assist and provide a presentation regarding the reasonable accommodations the County of Maui provides persons with disabilities at the County’s parks. Ms. Roxanne Kehus, representing the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities, provided a personnel update for the Department of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Richard Antone has been named the new ADA Inclusion Specialist as the previous ADA Inclusion Specialist has been promoted to another position within the Department of Parks and Recreation.</p>	
<p>V. Old Business</p>	<p>a. Commissioner updates regarding Mayor Arakawa’s Community meetings and the Commission’s support for the reinstatement of monthly passes for paratransit service (Commissioner Kapoi)</p> <p>Commissioner Kapoi updated the Commission regarding the recently elected County Council members. According to Commissioner Kapoi, the County Council met on January 2, 2019, and they confirmed County Council clerks and other appointees to the County of Maui during that meeting. According to Commissioner Kapoi, the County Council will reconvene on January 11, 2019 to select the appropriate chairs for each County Council committee. Commissioner Kapoi confirmed with the Commission that he will continue to follow up on this item, especially as it relates to providing public testimony at the County Council’s budget hearings.</p> <p>Chair Souza sought the influence and assistance of Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO). Mr. Harry Johnson, Director of Transportation at</p>	



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MEO, replied that MEO will act as an outside advisor and supporter regarding the Commission's cause to reinstate paratransit bus passes. Since MEO is the vendor for the County of Maui paratransit bus service, Mr. Johnson further explained that MEO is unable to act as an influencing body because it would be considered a conflict of interest.

Further discussion ensued amongst Chair Souza and Mr. Johnson. Ms. Kehus provided the Commission with an update that the Maui Disability Alliance was informed by Mayor Arakawa's administration that the monthly paratransit bus pass was included in the Mayor's proposed budget; but the County Council removed the monthly paratransit bus passes from the county's final budget. Ms. Kehus further stated that the Maui Disability Alliance is in full support of the reinstatement of the monthly paratransit bus pass, and they will work with the Commission to support this cause.

Ms. Oana reminded the Commission that a maximum of four Commission members are permitted to testify at each budget hearing to maintain compliance with the Sunshine Law. Ms. Oana also encouraged the Commission to discuss and assign Commissioners to attend and provide testimony at a Commission meeting immediately preceding the budget hearing. Additionally, Ms. Oana shared that it may be impactful to invite Mr. Oliver Caberto to attend the budget hearings to provide his testimony and support for the reinstatement of the monthly paratransit bus pass.

Ms. Kehus responded that Mr. Caberto is a member of the Maui Disability Alliance, and she informed the Commission that Mr. Caberto is unable to attend the Commission meetings because he is unable to afford the individual bus fare for paratransit service. Commissioner West expressed empathy that Mr. Caberto is no longer able to attend the Commission's meetings due to the discontinuation of the monthly paratransit bus pass. In the event Mr. Caberto is unable to attend the budget hearings or for anyone watching the Commission's



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	<p>meeting on Akaku, Ms. Oana suggested that those individuals are able to provide their support for the reinstatement of the monthly paratransit bus pass by submitting their written testimony to be heard at the budget hearings.</p> <p>b. Assign a Commissioner to write a letter to Mayor Victorino regarding the Commission's support for the reinstatement of monthly passes for paratransit service.</p> <p>Ms. Oana reminded the Commission that the last recommendation letter was delivered to Mayor Arakawa, and it may be in the best interest of the Commission to provide a new recommendation letter to Mayor Victorino.</p> <p>c. Commissioner updates regarding Mayor Arakawa's Community meetings and the Commission's support for closed captioning of county meetings on Akaku in the upcoming FY2020 Budget (Commissioners Kapoi and Azizsoltani)</p> <p>As mentioned previously in Commissioner Kapoi's report in V. Old Business (a.), Commissioner Kapoi reminded the Commission that the boards have not been established at the County Council as of today's Commission meeting. Commissioner Kapoi assured the Commission that he will follow up and provide a report at a future Commission meeting.</p>	<p>b. Commissioner Courson motioned for the appropriate editing of the previous recommendation letter (which was submitted to Mayor Arakawa in support of the reinstatement of the monthly paratransit bus pass) and for the submission of the recommendation letter to Mayor Victorino upon Chair Souza's signature; Commissioner Sanches seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>The Commission's facilitator, Mr. Kevin Dusenbury, has been tasked by the Commission to complete the appropriate editing; obtain Chair Souza's signature; and submittal of the recommendation letter to Mayor Victorino.</p>
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	<p>d. Assign a Commissioner to write a letter to Mayor Victorino regarding the Commission's support for closed captioning on county meetings on Akaku.</p> <p>Discussion ensued regarding this item, and Commissioner Courson provided a similar motion as mentioned in V. Old Business (b).</p> <p>Vice-Chair Castillo inquired if she is able to obtain an original copy of the original recommendation letter, and Ms. Oana responded that a copy of the recommendation letter will be provided in the Commissioner's packets during next February's meeting.</p>	<p>d. Commissioner Courson motioned for the appropriate editing of the previous recommendation letter (which was submitted to Mayor Arakawa in support of closed captioning on Akaku) and for the submission of the recommendation letter to Mayor Victorino upon Chair Souza's signature; Vice-Chair Castillo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>VI. Upcoming Events/Announcements</p>	<p>a. Events None</p> <p>b. Announcements None</p>	



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VII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings	<p>a. Presentation from the County of Maui Section 8 Housing Voucher Program regarding reasonable accommodations, alternate housing projects, and other potential housing opportunities for persons with disabilities (February 2019, tentative)</p> <p>Commissioner West informed the Commission that she has been in contact with Ms. Gay Sibonga from the County of Maui Section 8 Housing Voucher Program, but they have yet to confirm an exact date. Mr. Dusenbury responded to the Commission that he has received an email confirmation from Ms. Sibonga regarding the presentation during February's meeting.</p> <p>Chair Souza inquired about the presentation from the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization for February's meeting. Since Section 8 is scheduled to provide a presentation during February's meeting, Mr. Dusenbury encouraged the Commission to request a presentation from the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization for March's meeting.</p>	
VIII. Next Date	February 14, 2019 at 12:30 PM at the J. Walter Cameron Center, 95 Mahalani St., Wailuku, HI.	
IX. Motion to Adjourn	12:49 PM	Commissioner Courson motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Kapoi seconded. Motion carried unanimously.