



MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

First Revision
12/7/20 4:00 PM

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

COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2020

12:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via BlueJeans Video/Teleconference

Meeting Link: <https://bluejeans.com/396256893?src=calendarLink>

Call to Order: 12:47 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Chair Evalina “Nani” Watanabe; Vice-Chair John Copeland; Joseph D’Alessandro, Cranston Kapoi (by phone), Ricky Sanches, and Kimberly West.

Commissioners Absent: Faraz Azizoltani (unexcused), two vacant positions

Guests Present: Roxann Kehus, State Council on Developmental Disabilities

County Staff Present: Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA): Kevin Dusenbury Jr., James Mariano, Claudette Medeiros; Maui County Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>
1. Call to Order/Roll Call	Meeting called to order at 12:47 pm; 6 members present, 1 absent, and 2 vacant positions.	There is quorum.
2. Public Comments and Testimony	There was no one from the public who logged/called in to testify. Vice Chair Copeland posed the question to the body: How does the public, especially individuals with disabilities know about the Commission meetings? Chair Watanabe said she personally invites people and makes announcements at various meetings she attends. MCOA staffer J. Mariano said that the public can sign up for electronic notifications through the county, checking the County website for information, as well as by contacting the Office on Aging via phone or email. Chair Watanabe sought clarification regarding someone being able to	Public testimony closed.



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	<p>read testimony on behalf of another person. Mr. Mariano said that was correct and that written testimony can also be submitted to the office. Roxann Kehus said she would be willing to email the meeting notices to her networks. Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana recommended that the body defer this topic to the section on agenda setting or upcoming announcements.</p>	<p>The topics on community notification and participation in commission meetings were deferred to later in the agenda.</p>
<p>3. Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>Commissioners reviewed meeting minutes from the August 13, 2020 and September 10, 2020 meetings.</p> <p>Vice Chair Copeland: According to the County Charter, it says that the Commission shall meet at least monthly. How many times this year have we not met? Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana said she thinks at least two meetings were not held. Chair Watanabe asked if it was okay to defer this item to a later time for discussion. Vice Chair Copeland was agreeable with that.</p>	<p>Commissioner West moved to approve the August 13, 2020 minutes; seconded by Commissioner Sanches. All in favor of approving; motion passes. No further discussion.</p> <p>Commissioner Kapoi moved to approve the September 10, 2020 minutes; seconded by Commissioner West. All in favor; motion passes. No further discussion.</p>
<p>4. Old Business</p>	<p>A. Orientation Report</p> <p>Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana reviewed that she gave a PowerPoint presentation at the last meeting regarding Board Orientation/Duties, the County Charter, Code of Ethics and Sunshine Law. She emphasized the importance in understanding these laws and documents and abiding by them. A copy of the PowerPoint used for the orientation was provided to all the Commissioners in this meeting's Commission material packet.</p>	<p>No action taken.</p>



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	<p>B. Creation of a Mission and Vision Statement for the Commission.</p> <p>Commissioner West’s proposal was reiterated to the Commission:</p> <p><i>Mission: To create a community that provides opportunities for independence and full participation in the Maui County Community for individuals with disabilities.</i></p> <p><i>Vision: Maui County Community Members with disabilities will live in a safe community, where they are able to live, learn, work and participate in recreational and cultural activities.</i></p> <p>Members of the Commission edited the vision statement to read as:</p> <p><i>Vision: Maui County Community Members with disabilities will live in a community where they are able to safely live, learn, work and participate in recreational and cultural activities</i></p> <p>Chair Watanabe recommended that Mr. Mariano mail out printed copies of the proposed mission and vision statements to all commissioners so that they all can review and craft the final product in the next meeting. Vice Chair Copeland withdrew his motion so that this item can fully be discussed in next month’s meeting.</p> <p>C. Letter to the Mayor to support affordable housing for person with disabilities, D. Letters to the Council and Affordable Housing and Economic Development and Budget Committees to support affordable housing for persons with disabilities, & E. Authorize a Commissioner to represent the Commission and testify at meetings and hearings on affordable housing.</p> <p>Items C. D. & E. were taken up as one discussion.</p>	<p>Item deferred.</p>
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Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana explained that these items have been on the agenda for many months and inquired whether there was any Commissioner willing to take the lead on these matters in drafting the letters to the Mayor and the Council and also representing the Commission to provide public testimony at the Council and Council Committee meetings to advocate in support of affordable housing for persons with disabilities. She reiterated to the Commission that the Council has the authority to approve some housing projects and in their approvals, the Council can also set conditions, which a possible condition could be to provide affordable housing units for persons with disabilities. She also reiterated to the Commission that the Council has not heard from the disabled community on their needs and concerns, possibly due to the inability of the disabled community to attend those meetings.

Vice Chair Copeland volunteered to write the letters to the Mayor and to the Council. Vice Chair Copeland also suggested to form a standing committee on housing.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana suggested forming a Temporary Investigative Group (pursuant to the Sunshine Law) rather than a standing committee.

Vice Chair Copeland and Commissioner Kapoi volunteered to be a part of the TIG on affordable housing and to provide public testimony to the Affordable Housing Committee and Council at their meetings on behalf of the Commission to advocate for affordable housing for persons with disabilities. The Commission discussed that their authorization for Vice Chair Copeland and Commissioner Kapoi to provide testimony on its behalf would be broad. They may provide testimony at any Affordable Housing Committee or Council meeting where housing or a housing project is on the agenda, without the need for further Commission authorization as to any particular housing project. The

Motion made by Vice Chair Copeland to create a temporary investigative group (TIG) to investigate the need for affordable housing for persons with disabilities with Vice Chair Copeland and Commissioner Kapoi as the members of the TIG. Seconded by Commissioner Sanches. All in favor; none opposed. No discussion. Motion carries.



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	<p>idea is that the Council needs to start to hear that there is a need for affordable housing for persons with disabilities.</p>	<p>Motion made by Vice Chair Copeland to authorize himself and Commissioner Kapoi to represent the Commission and testify at Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) meetings and Council meetings to advocate for affordable housing for person with disabilities and this authorization is to provide general testimony in support of affordable housing for person with disabilities at any AHC or Council meetings and will continue until it is rescinded. Seconded by Commissioner Sanches. All in favor; no objections. Motion carries.</p>
<p>5. New Business</p>	<p>Vice Chair Copeland wished to discuss Commissioner attendance issues.</p>	<p>Update on new commissioner appointment and review of commissioner attendance to be placed on the next meeting agenda.</p>
<p>6. Upcoming Events/ Announcements</p>	<p>Vice Chair Copeland wanted to commend Maui Economic Opportunity Inc. for putting on a successful virtual Senior Fair in October which was open to the public.</p>	



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	No other events reported.	
7. Agenda Setting	<p>A. Bus services for people with disabilities- Discussion with the County Department of Transportation, Maui Economic Opportunity Transportation, and Roberts Hawaii and</p> <p>B. Paratransit Advisory Council update by the County Department of Transportation.</p> <p>Both of these items were carry over from the last agenda(s). Mr. Mariano agreed to contact the respective representatives to appear at future meetings. The Commission agreed to schedule these items for February or March 2021.</p> <p>Vice Chair Copeland added to schedule on the next agenda the issue of how to better inform the disabled community in Maui county that this commission exists, and how they can be contacted about upcoming meetings, and provide testimony.</p> <p>Vice Chair Copeland also wanted to schedule the Kahului/Wailuku Corridor project and the Vision Zero project on a future agenda. Mr. Mariano agreed to contact representatives of those projects for a presentation to the Commission.</p> <p>One final comment: As we just had Veterans Day, Vice-Chair Copeland gave a ‘thank you’ to all Veterans.</p>	<p>Items recommended for next agenda.</p> <p>Item recommended for next agenda</p> <p>Item recommended for next agenda</p>
8. Next Meeting Date	<p>The next meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. and will be done virtually using video/teleconference technology due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.</p> <p>Meeting ended 2:24 pm.</p>	<p>Commissioner Kapoi moved to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Sanches seconded. All in favor; no objections. Motion passes.</p>

Submitted by James Mariano, Program Specialist (Maui County Office on Aging) 12/07/20