



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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

## Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2021

12:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via BlueJeans Video/Teleconference

Meeting Link: <https://bluejeans.com/351980887?src=calendarLink&flow=joinmeeting>

**Call to Order:** 12:39 p.m.

**Commissioners Present:** Joseph D’Alessandro, Ricky Sanches, Beverly Stanich, Melody Uchimura, Evalina ‘Nani’ Watanabe, and Kimberly West.

**Commissioners Absent:** John Copeland (unexcused)

**Guests Present:** Roxann Kehus, Developmental Disabilities Council; Brian Hauser, Aloha Independent Living Hawaii; Harry Johnson, MEO Inc.

**County Staff Present:** Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA): Deborah Stone-Walls, James Mariano; Maui County Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana; Mayor’s Office, Ipo Mossman; Jason Moore, EEO Specialist/ADA Coordinator

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>
1. Call to Order and Roll Call	Meeting called to order by Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana at 12:39 pm. Roll call taken: 6 members present, 1 unexcused.	There is quorum.
2. Public Testimony on Agenda Items	There was no one from the public who logged/called in to testify.	Public testimony closed.
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes-	Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes of February 11, 2021. (The March meeting was canceled.)	Commissioner Stanich moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sanches. No discussion. All in



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February 11, 2021		favor 6-0 of approving the minutes; motion passed.
4. New Business	<p>A. Election of New Officers.</p> <p>i. Election of Chair. Commissioner West nominated Commissioner Watanabe. Commissioner Watanabe nominated Commissioner West but she declined. Nominations were closed.</p> <p>ii. Election of Vice Chair. Newly re-elected Chair Watanabe took over the presiding of the meeting from Deputy Corporation Counsel. Chair Watanabe requested nominations for Vice Chair. Commissioner Uchimura nominated Commissioner West. No other nominations were made; nominations closed.</p> <p>B. Discussion of Memorandum from the County of Maui Charter Commission dated March 22, 2021 regarding its request for submittal of proposed charter amendments and/or recommendations.</p> <p>Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana said that the memo was sent out to all boards and commissions. This is a good time to propose any amendments to the charter especially as it relates to the work of the Commission. All members have a copy of the Charter in their binder and it can be found online as well. Deputy Corporation Counsel proposed to defer this item to allow Commissioners time to review the Charter and put on next month's agenda for discussion.</p>	<p>Commissioner Watanabe's nomination was seconded by Commissioner D'Alessandro. No discussion. Vote taken: All in favor 6-0. Commissioner Watanabe elected as Chair.</p> <p>No discussion. Vote taken: All in favor 6-0. Commissioner West elected as Vice Chair.</p> <p>Item deferred.</p>



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	<p>C. Discussion regarding amending Maui County Code Section 2.32.050 to reduce the number of Commission meetings from monthly to every other month.</p> <p>Proposed by Maui County Office on Aging Executive D. Stone-Walls, since it has been challenging to get quorum to hold a meeting, she proposed meeting every other month which would allow any ad hoc committees to meet on a non-scheduled meeting month. Commissioner D’Alessandro felt that things were working fine at the moment. Commissioner Uchimura liked the idea of every other month. Commissioners Stanich, Sanches, West, and Watanabe all felt either way is okay. With no motion made, Ms. Stone-Walls said that meetings would continue as is, and that she emphasized the commitment to monthly attendance and participation to ensure meetings can be held.</p> <p>Commissioner Stanich asked if this query about attendance was being posed to other councils/board (i.e. Council on Aging). Ms. Stone-Walls said no, because that group meets every other month and there haven’t been challenges with attendance.</p> <p>Chair Watanabe asked if it was possible to switch between every month to every other month. Deputy Corporation Counsel J. Oana replied that based on the County Code this group shall meet at least once monthly. Making a change to the schedule requires a revision to the Maui County Code and involves someone going to Council to advocate for such a proposed action.</p>	<p>No motion made regarding proposal to reduce number of meetings held in the year.</p>
<p>5. Unfinished Business</p>	<p>A. Affordable/Accessible Housing Temporary Investigative Group (TIG). Replacement of TIG members due to the pending resignation of Commissioner John Copeland and term expiration of Commissioner Cranston Kapoi.</p> <p>Commissioners were asked if any of them were interested in replacing the former TIG members. Deputy Corporation Counsel recommended agendizing disbandment of the TIG if no one is interested in maintaining the group.</p>	<p>Set an agenda item to discuss future of TIG in an upcoming meeting.</p>



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	<p>Commissioner D’Alessandro asked if there was a group already engaged in the work of analyzing the housing issue. Chair Watanabe said that Hawaiian Community Assets (HCA), who is doing just that, expressed interest in presenting to the Commission. Commissioner Stanich felt that they should be invited to a meeting so that this Commission can provide their feedback to HCA.</p> <p>B. Discussion and comments on Hawaiian Community Assets Comprehensive Affordable Housing Plan and Community Meetings</p> <p>C. Open discussion with individuals who have disabilities on their need for affordable and accessible housing in Maui County. There was no one in the public to provide comments.</p>	<p>Item deferred. MCOA staffer J. Mariano to invite HCA as a speaker for next month’s meeting</p> <p>Item deferred.</p>
<p>6. Upcoming Events/ Announcements</p>	<p>A. Hawaiian Community Assets Virtual meetings- To sign up for these virtual meetings, go to <a href="http://www.MauiHousingPlan.org">www.MauiHousingPlan.org</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. #1 – <u>Family and Community Resource Management</u> Tuesday, April 6 at 6 p.m.</li> <li>ii. #2 – <u>Make Home Possible</u> Tuesday, April 13 at 6 p.m.</li> <li>iii. #3 – <u>Make Home Affordable</u> Tuesday, April 20 at 6 p.m.</li> <li>iv. #4 – <u>Build Communities</u> Monday, April 26 at 6 p.m.</li> </ul> <p>B. MEO, Inc. is co-sponsoring two Zoom sessions (along with DCAB and Comprehensive Service Center), open to the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Deaf Self-Advocacy Training on Saturday, April 17, 2021, 9-11 am on Zoom. <a href="https://coehawaii.zoom.us/j/97239221228">https://coehawaii.zoom.us/j/97239221228</a>. i. Meeting ID 972-3922-1228</li> </ul>	<p>Announced by Commissioner Stanich.</p> <p>Announced by Chair Watanabe.</p>



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	<p>ii. “It’s My Life!” A workshop to learn about rights and steps to hiring ASL interpreters. Saturday, May 8, 2021, 10 am- 12:30 pm. <a href="https://coehawaii.zoom.us/j/98130137454">https://coehawaii.zoom.us/j/98130137454</a>. Meeting ID 981-3013-7454</p>	
7. Agenda Setting	<p>A. Presentation by David Nakama and Christopher Kish of the Homeless Program Division, County of Maui Department of Housing and Human Concerns (tentatively May 2021). Update: This will most likely take place in July 2021.</p> <p>B. Disability Communication Access Board Presentation (tentatively scheduled for June 2021)</p> <p>C. Ka’ahumanu Avenue Corridor Project (Presentation by Pam Eaton, County of Maui Planning Department (to be scheduled)</p> <p>D. Conversation with Council member Gabe Johnson, Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee regarding affordable/accessible housing for persons with disabilities</p> <p>E. Other items for future meetings</p> <p>i. At the request of several members: A presentation by Hawaiian Community Assets on their recently completed housing plan for the County.</p>	<p>MCOA staffer J. Mariano to follow up with inviting the various speakers. Chair Watanabe would like to invite HCA to the May meeting.</p>
8. Next Meeting Date	<p>Meeting ended 2:05 pm.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. and will be virtual using BlueJeans.</p>	<p>Commissioner D’Alessandro moved to adjourn meeting. Vice Chair West seconded. All in favor 6-0; no objections. Motion passed.</p>

Submitted by James Mariano, Program Specialist (Maui County Office on Aging), 5/04/2021