



# 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

August 12, 2021

12:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via BlueJeans Video/Teleconference

Meeting Link: <https://bluejeans.com/219553819?src=calendarLink>

**Call to Order:** 12:44p.m.

**Commissioners Present:** Evalina “Nani” Watanabe (Chair), Kimberly West (Vice Chair), Susan Lussier, Beverly Stanich, Ricky Sanches, Sarah M. Collins

**Commissioners Absent:** John Copeland (unexcused), Melody Uchimura (excused), Joseph D’Alessandro (excused)

**Guests Present:** MEO: Patty Ann Copperfield; Hawai‘i State Council on Developmental Disabilities: Zosimo Arista Jr., Daintry Bartoldrus

**County Staff Present:** Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA): Sharon Nobriga, James Mariano, Rae-Ann Pagatpatan, Sanya Lucas, Claudette Medeiros; County of Maui Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana; Mayor’s Office: Ipo Mossman; Managing Director’s Office: Jason Moore, EEO Specialist/ADA Coordinator; Planning Department: Pam Eaton.

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>
1. Call to Order and Roll Call	Meeting called to order by Chair Watanabe at 12:44 p.m. Roll call taken: 6 members present, 2 members excused, 1 member unexcused.	There is quorum.
2. Public Testimony on Agenda Items	<p>There were 2 members of the public wishing to testify.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telecia Blythe testified regarding Section 8 or HUD not being able to participate in HUD’s home ownership program because</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice Chair West suggested that we contact a representative from HUD</li> </ul>



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	<p>the lack of income. The home ownership program requires an individual to present their income from a job so if an individual is disabled and isn't able to work, their income from disability benefits will not count.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rainey D. Matthews, returning Maui resident after over 30 years away and recently resigned Chair of the Fort Worth Texas Mayors Committee on Persons with Disabilities provided information on American Association of Persons with Disabilities national office regarding National Disability Voters Awareness Week.</li> </ul>	<p>department to do a presentation again. Staff member Rae-Ann will look into contacting Gail Rumbaoa, Housing Choice Voucher Program Manager of Section 8 Rental Assistance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Watanabe closed Public Testimony</li> </ul>
<p>3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – July 8, 2021</p>	<p>Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes of July 8, 2021.</p>	<p>Vice Chair West moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sanches. No corrections or discussion. All in favor of approving the minutes; motion passed.</p>
<p>4. New Business</p>	<p>A. Presentation by Pam Eaton, County of Maui Planning Department on the Ka'ahumanu Avenue Corridor Project; Discussion and comments from the Commission County</p> <p>B. The Counseling Compact – Presentation by Commissioner Collins on the Counseling Compact; Discussion and comments from</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presenter Pam Eaton was unable to stay for meeting. Her presentation will be rescheduled to the September meeting.</li> <li>• Vice-Chair Kim West moved to approve the Counseling Compact Letter drafted by Commissioner</li> </ul>



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	<p>the Commission; Approval of letter to the Mayor and the Council regarding supporting the Counseling Compact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Collins drafted a letter to Mayor Victorino and Council Chair Alice Lee regarding the Counseling Compact which was presented to the Commissioners. She is seeking approval to send this to county officials on behalf of the Commission, in hopes that that they support it and suggest it to the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs</li><li>• The Counseling Compact will allow licensed professional counselors to serve individuals seeking professional help in any of the Compact States.</li><li>• There are currently six states that have already passed or are in the process. Therefore, four more states are needed, and she hopes that the State of Hawaii will be one of them.</li><li>• Currently with the shortage of professional counselors in such a time of need, the Counseling Compact will give individuals more access to licensed mental health counselors.</li><li>• Material regarding the Counseling Compact such as Compact Legislation, Summary of Key Provisions, Fact Sheets, infographics and Universal License Recognition were provided with August's agenda.</li><li>• Vice-Chair West reiterated the need for this Counseling Compact. This opportunity would definitely benefit residents of Hawaii and the disabled community.</li><li>• Chair Watanabe also commended this effort as she looks forward that this gains more traction.</li><li>• Commissioner Stanich suggests follow up on the status of this letter to the Mayor.</li></ul>	<p>Collins and to send it to Maui County Mayor Victorino and the County Council as well as authorizing Commissioner Collins to further communicate with the county administration and County Council regarding status on the letter, as well as their actions. Commissioner Sanches seconds the motion. All in-favor, motion passed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff Member Rae-Ann Pagatpatan will forward the letter and enclosures to Maui County Department of Housing and Human Concerns Director, Lori Tshako to transmit to Mayor Victorino and County Council.</li></ul>
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<p>5. Unfinished Business</p>	<p>A. “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.36, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO THE MAUI COUNTY GRANTS PROGRAM”, related to Self-Sufficiency Preference – Discussion and comments from the Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copy of the Ordinance was provided to Commission along with July’s agenda.</li><li>• Vice-Chair West had concerns with the verbiage of the proposed ordinance and does believe that action should be taken to protect the community. There will be individuals who will need assistance for their entire life.</li><li>• The proposed ordinance suggests that “each agency will execute a clearly stated preference to social service providers. Offering programs that are designed to reduce the dependency of the clients on a long-term basis is self-sufficiency. Preference must be substantial and be included in any or solicitation for grant application” This may affect county grants for individuals who are dependent on assistance and will probably not be able to become self-sufficient due to their disability.</li><li>• Commissioner Collins feels that this proposal is “discriminatory” and action should be taken by the Commission.</li><li>• Commissioners are all in agreement that they strongly oppose the proposed ordinance.</li><li>• It was suggested that commissioners give a heads up to organizations who may also support the disabled community because this proposed ordinance may eventually affect their organizations as well. This will allow them the opportunity to provide feedback to the County Council should they decide to.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Stanich will draft a letter to present at the next meeting where the Commissioners can make revisions/additions to the letter.</li></ul>
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	<p>B. Commission’s engagement on participation in the upcoming “Getting on Board Maui Bus Route Study”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patty Ann Copperfield of MEO updated the Commissioners on Maui County’s Bus Route study.</li> <li>• The consulting firm conducting the survey is looking for “feedback of the best way to do routing that meets the needs of the community”.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No questions or comments by the Commissioners in regards to the Bus Route Study.</li> </ul>
<p>6. Upcoming Events/ Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zosimo Arista of Hawai‘i State Council on Developmental Disabilities announced that there will be a Maui Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAAC) meeting on August 17, 2021 from 10am-11am. Meeting via Zoom at link: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/95108856357?pwd=dzNUSFdaTGlhV3p1S21TK1Y2UjdHdz09">https://zoom.us/j/95108856357?pwd=dzNUSFdaTGlhV3p1S21TK1Y2UjdHdz09</a></li> </ul>	
<p>7. Agenda Setting</p>	<p>A. Presentation by Ricky Melchor – “Understanding the psychosocial dynamics of the blind” (September or move to October)</p> <p>B. Suggestions from Commissioners on other disability-related training topics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff Member Rae-Ann will follow up to see if Pam Eaton (Planning Department) is available to present on the Kaahumanu Avenue Corridor Project at the September meeting.</li> </ul>



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8. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. and will be virtual using BlueJeans.	
9. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.	Commissioner Collins moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chair West seconded. No discussion. All in favor; Motion passed.

Submitted by Rae-Ann Pagatpatan, Secretary (Maui County Office on Aging 9/3/21)