MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER - 2:05 p.m.

II. PRESENT:
John Briley, Norita DeLima, Andrew Valentine, Karen Hue Sing-Ledesma, Linda Liddell, Marguerite Rowland; Charlotte Seales

ABSENT: Darren Quinn

GUESTS: Laureen Martin, Moana Lutey, Charlotte Smith, Beth Arnoult, Jean Tessmer, Dawn Snyder, Tracy Souza, Ramoda Anand, Anthony Simmons, Kaiulani Nguyen, Caren Pantezzi, Leslie Williams.

STAFF: Jan Roberson; Deputy Corporation Counsel Jeffrey Ueoka for Kimberly Sloper.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 8, 2008
Minutes were approved without correction. Marguerite Rowland Moved to accept the minutes. Linda Liddell Seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. PUBLIC TESTIMONY
Jean Tessmer: see attached transcript of testimony

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
A. Bylaws – Deputy Corporation Counsel Jeffrey Ueoka checked with Deputy Corporation Counsel to find that the update of the Administrative Rules is complete and ready for Commission review by Department of Housing and Human Concerns followed by Public Hearing.
B. June 12, 2008 workshop evaluation
A synopsis of comments was distributed. The Commissioners will discuss the event its the August meeting. Norita was congratulated on a job well done: turn out, food, and the room were all great.
C. SKAFF litigation update –
Dep. Corp. Counsel Laureen Martin presented a PowerPoint on the Richard Skaff v County of Maui litigation. Mr. Skaff, the ADA Coordinator for San Francisco, visited Maui in 2001 and found several parks lacked accessibility. He filed a suit to bring the County into compliance. The County hired MIG to survey the parks. A settlement agreement was reached and the County agreed to improve 30 facilities. The legal matter is finished, and court monitor Paul Sheriff is satisfied with the conclusion. The presentation showed photos of improvements in accessibility to the various facilities, including Kanaha, Keokea, and Kamaole III parks. The County is still working on finalizing some improvements to Sakamoto and Lahaina Aquatics pools, and some ball fields. Ms. Martin stated that significant improvements have been accomplished and more needs to be done. Priority is given to most highly used parks and to ensure at least one park in each region is accessible. She invited anyone to request the County to make specific improvements, such as to Rainbow Park.

Regarding the DOJ Agreement
In 2005, the Department of Justice and the County of Maui entered into an agreement as part of Civic Access to improve access to County facilities, including to make restrooms in the County Building accessible on the 2nd and 8th floors, add Braille signage, and addition of accessible parking. Modifications to state and privately-owned schools that are used by the county as emergency shelters still need to be completed, as well as Fire and Police stations, the HGEA-owned Trask Building in which the County leases space for Liquor Control.

Ms. Martin asked: “What can the Commission do to help?”
1. Provide assistance to ensure disabled community can be evacuated in cases of emergency.
2. Help establish a registry of disabled persons needing help in an emergency.
B. Increased funding for MEO chore services
   The Commissioners reviewed two letters drafted to address their concern for the funding shortfall for MEO Chore Services. They suggested changes. Staff Jan Roberson was asked to re-draft the letters for Chair DeLima’s signature.

C. Determine issues to discuss with Mayor Tavares
   The Commissioners determined that the priority issues to discuss with Mayor Tavares at a future meeting include:
   1. Accessible Parking
   2. Office on Aging is not accessible at One Main Plaza
   3. Parks
   4. Transportation

REPORTS

A. Chair – deferred due to time constraints
B. Transportation – deferred due to time constraints
C. Molokai – deferred due to time constraints
D. Volunteer Parking Enforcement Program – deferred due to time constraints
E. ADA Coordinator – absent
F. State Council on Developmental Disabilities – absent
G. Parks and Recreation – Commissioner Hue Sing-Ledesma said the County did a nice job improving Kamaole III Park. She had checked about attending the opening and was told the opening was held on June 3, 2008. She was disappointed about the cramped quarters in the restroom, with folks in wheel chairs having to reverse out from the sink. She also noted that the new restrooms were already dirty. It would have been nice to have a changing room so folks did not have to change in the toilet stalls – which deposits lots of dirt and sand into the stalls.

Maipoina Park will open in September 2008. The landscaping is torn up by all the tractor work. The new plaque was stolen and needs replacement.

Commissioner Hue Sing-Ledesma also reported that the County’s Parks Inclusion Specialist position is still vacant.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   A. Next Meeting: 2 p.m., Aug 14, 2008, MEO Classroom 2.

   B. Tracy Souza asked to add an agenda item to the August meeting: that Roberts hold a Wheel Chair Tie Down session that would be mandatory for all of its drivers.

IX. ADJOURNMENT
   Commission Chair DeLima closed the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Jan Roberson, Staff
Commission on Persons with Disabilities