

COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



OCTOBER 09, 2008

MEETING MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair DeLima called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.
- PRESENT:** Commissioners Dr. John Briley, Norita DeLima, Karen Hue Sing-Ledesma, Linda Liddell, Marguerite Rowland, Charlotte Seales, Andrew Valentine.
- STAFF:** Deputy Corporation Counsel Kimberly Sloper; ADA Coordinator DJ Schwind, Staff Jan Roberson
- EXCUSED:** Darren Quinn
- GUESTS:** Executive Assistants to Mayor Tavares Marian Feenstra and Dr. Alfred Arensdorf; Director, Housing and Human Concerns Lori Tsuhako, Former Commission Chairs Tracy Souza & Charlotte Smith; Ex-Officio Mary Matsukawa; MEO Assistant Transportation Director Janelle Curnan; State of Hawaii, Department of Health, Vocational Rehabilitation Division Representative Lydia Sheets.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 09, 2008**
Commissioner Rowland **MOVED** to accept the minutes with correction of Commissioner Valentine's first name from Arthur to Andrew and acknowledgment that Commissioner Hue Sing Ledesma had notified the commission of her need to leave early from the meeting. Commissioner Seales **SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED**
- III. THE HONORABLE MAYOR CHARMINE TAVARES AS GUEST**
Commission Chair announced Mayor Tavares was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Chair will reschedule with the Mayor's office.
- IV. PUBLIC TESTIMONY - None**
- V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- A. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND PROCEDURES**
Commissioner Staff Jan Roberson reported that the public hearing notice would appear in the Maui News on Sunday, October 12, 2008 which fulfilled the 30-day

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advance notification requirement. The Draft Rules are available online at the county website in the calendar section. Click on the Commission on Persons with Disabilities October 9, 2008 meeting and there is a link to the minutes, agenda, and proposed rules. The hearing is scheduled for 2 p.m., Thursday, November 13, 2008 at the regular meeting of the Commission.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. COUNTY RECOGNITION FOR PARALYMPIAN BETH ARNOULT

Staff Roberson reported that Council Chair Riki Hokama had scheduled a Council Resolution to honor Beth Arnoult at 9 a.m. on Friday, October 17, 2008 in the Council Chamber, 8th Floor of the County's Kalana O Maui Building. Commissioners were given a reminder memo. The Mayor had not responded to the proposal to honor Ms Arnoult with a proclamation. ADA Coordinator Schwind said he would follow up.

2. CPD CO-SPONSORSHIP OF OCT. 22 LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Commissioner Rowland offered to bring a tray of food, but recommended the Commission defer co-sponsorship until next year. Commissioner Valentine stated that it was an important opportunity for the Commission to have a presence and promote awareness of what the Commission does. Mary Matsukawa stated she had hand delivered two letters to MEO's CEO Sandy Baz and MEO Transportation Director Harry Johnson requesting special accommodations for transportation to the forum. Commissioner Liddell **MOVED** that the Commission co-sponsor the Legislative Forum next year and send a representative to the planning meetings. Commissioner Seales **SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

3. AFTER HOURS TRANSPORTATION FROM HOSPITAL

Chair said identified a problem for persons with disabilities needing after hours transportation from hospitals on Maui and Molokai in cases where the patient visits the hospital but is not admitted and is released late at night when Roberts and MEO transportation have closed. Commissioner Liddell said Molokai cab companies do not answer the phone late at night; a reservation is needed. Regular cabs are not accessible and they are expensive. Commissioner Briley advised the Commission to send a letter to the County to inform it of the problem and see if the County can help come up with a solution. Commissioner Liddell offered to write the letter. Commissioner Valentine stated that the Veterans Administration had a voucher program for a cab ride home. He suggested that this could be a possible solution and to network with the VA and other groups. Commissioner Briley suggested the Kupuna Cruisers as a possible vendor. Commissioner Rowland stated that the Community Clinic of Maui used to have a taxi voucher program but the taxi drivers want to be paid in cash now. ADA Coordinator Schwind said transportation is not covered by ADA unless uniformly applied to all. He suggested the letter be directed to the business community as well as the County. Commissioner Valentine said if the County puts out a bid for services, the business community is more likely to step forward. Dr. Arensdorf stated that health plan providers may have transportation

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provisions and he suggested that the problem could be researched by the hospital social work staff. MEO Transportation Assistant Director Janelle Curnan stated she had met with Maui Memorial Medical Center's Director of Case Management Michelle Potts regarding transportation services for Medicaid patients. Chair DeLima will invite Ms. Potts to speak at a future meeting of the Commission.

4. LETTER TO DCAB TO AMEND STATE DRIVER'S MANUAL

Commissioner Rowland offered to write a letter to DCAB – the Disability Communication Access Board – to ask their assistance to advocate for the State Driver's Manual to include more information on laws governing accessible parking and include more questions on the driver's written exam on this topic to help educate and promote public awareness of the problem. Commissioner Liddell researched the issue and in Florida, citizens are encouraged to take photos of vehicles illegally parked in accessible stalls that include the license plates and rear view mirror to show that a placard is missing. Also when vehicles with or without placards park in the accessible lane between accessible stalls. ADA Coordinator Schwind said the public awareness is the responsibility of the Maui Police Department. Commissioner Rowland and Staff Roberson will draft letter for review and approval at the November 13 meeting.

Commissioners voted to address reports before agenda setting.

VII. REPORTS

A. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair DeLima reported she attended an Emergency Preparedness workshop for Persons with Disabilities. The purpose of the workshop was to collect information on agencies providing direct services to persons with disabilities. She reported results of a survey.

B. TRANSPORTATION

Chair DeLima reported that MEO requested a letter of request for special transportation to and from the Legislative Forum. Mary Matsukawa had written the letters and delivered them to MEO.

C. MOLOKAI

Commissioner Seales stated that flight schedules for Molokai had changed and she would have to leave the meeting at 3 p.m. in order to return her car rental and make the 4:05 flight home. She requested the Commission consider changing the meeting time to earlier in the day if possible to accommodate the Molokai commissioners. Chair will check to see if MEO room is available at 1:30 p.m. for November meeting.

D. VOLUNTEER PARKING ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Commissioner Rowland suggested that a copy of the DCAB letter be sent to the Hawaii Medical Association to suggest medical professionals be given more

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information on issuing accessible placards, and suggest that there be more than two boxes to indicate how long the recipient needed the accessible parking permit. Placards should have four colors to indicate the length and recipients should be mandated to return the placards when they expire or are no longer needed to prevent abuse.

E. ADA COORDINATOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AWARENESS WORKSHOP

ADA Coordinator DJ Schwind stated that he attended the Emergency Preparedness Awareness Workshop. He reported that the County lacks sufficient shelters of all types, including:

- Level 1 - for everyone
- Level 2 - ADA accessible
- Level 3 - for those with medical needs such as oxygen.

He stated that the goal is to increase the number of shelters and make all shelters meet ADA Level 2 standards. He stated that the County was looking to include hotels and hospitals as emergency shelters.

Commissioner Valentine said citizens can educate themselves on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program <http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/>. CERT educates people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills to assist neighbors and coworkers when professional responders are unavailable.

SKAFF LAWSUIT

ADA Coordinator Schwind reported that the courts are comfortable with the progress of the Skaff lawsuit. The County's legal department determined that the Project Civic Access was no longer a legal issue, and had turned it over to the ADA Coordinator for reporting to the Department of Justice. As Project Manager, he requested and was granted an extension to prepare a report. He noted that the DOJ had already informed him the Maui County was farther along in its compliance requirements than other jurisdictions. He agreed to provide copies of the reports to be distributed with the meeting minutes at Mary Matsukawa's request.

DESIGN CONFERENCE

ADA Coordinator Schwind announced that a Design Conference will take place October 16 on Oahu which is for architects. The county had no funds for commissioners to attend but they are welcome to register if interested.

MEETING VENUE

ADA Coordinator Schwind asked the Commission to consider switching meeting venues from MEO classroom to the 4th Floor Conference Room of the County Building. The commissioners concurred due to public visibility, proximity to the Mayor and other departments. One drawback might be adequate accessible parking. Commissioner Hue Sing-Ledesma **MOVED** that the meeting venue be changed from MEO to the 4th

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Floor Conference Room of the County Building and that the meeting time be changed to 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Commissioner Briley **SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED**. Staff Roberson will check on the availability of the 4th Floor Conference Room on second Thursdays for the monthly meetings from January on.

ADA Coordinator Schwind announced that the Department of Parks and Recreation hired Tara Sabado to fill its Inclusion Specialist position. The Commissioners will invite her to attend their meetings and to be a guest presenter at a future meeting. Mary Matsukawa requested that the job description be distributed to the members.

F. STATE COUNCIL/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Mary Matsukawa invited the Commissioners to attend and participate in the October 22 Legislative Forum and welcomed them to serve as co-sponsors for the next year's event and engage in the planning. She reminded the Commissioners that the Forum venue changed from the Cameron Center to the Wailuku Community Center.

G. PARKS AND RECREATION

Commissioner Hue Sing-Ledesma stated that the Inclusion Specialist had been hired two months ago, and she had been waiting to invite Tara Sabado to make a presentation to the Commission until after she had researched and planned new programs for including the disabled community in Parks and Recreation events and activities. Up to now, the County only sponsored the Special Olympics. The Inclusion Specialist's experience has included three to four years working for the Easter Seals.

VIII. AGENDA SETTING FOR NOVEMBER 13 MEETING

- A. Public Hearing
- B. Commission to choose a representative to attend planning sessions for the 2009 Legislative Forum
- C. Review, amend as needed, and approve draft letter to DCAB to amend the State Drivers Manual to include a section about rules pertaining to accessible parking.
- D. Review, amend as needed, and approve letter to Hawaii Medical Association requesting physicians receive more info about placards, etc.
- E. Guest Speaker County Parks and Recreation Inclusion Specialist Tara Sabado
- F. Chair to contact the Mayor's office to reschedule her attendance at a future meeting of the Commission.
- G. Meeting venue and time change

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IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Meeting: 1:30 p.m., November 13, 2008, MEO Classroom 2
- B. State Department of Health Vocational Rehabilitation representative Lydia Sheets announced that her division is now under an “Order of Selection” and although it will accept applications, clients will be placed on a waitlist for services.
- C. December meeting is canceled for lack of quorum.
- D. Chair will be absent from January meeting.
- E. Chair reported that Commissioner Darren Quinn resigned due to health reasons. Chair will bring a mahalo card to the next meeting for all to sign.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair DeLima adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.