

## MINUTES

Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood  
Meeting of April 21, 2015

### Commissioners Present:

Chet Adessa, Chairman  
Carl Makino, Vice Chairman  
Mike Dias  
Shannon Carrier  
Walter Yoshimitsu  
Alan Sunio

### Others Present:

Russell Suzuki (AG)  
Bruce Shimoda (OYS)  
Tara Buckley (Parents Inc.)

### I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm in the Director's Conference Room, State Department of Human Services (DHS), by Chairman Adessa. The Commissioners present constituted a quorum.

### II. Public Testimony:

There were no testimonies from the public.

### III. Review and Approval of Minutes from Meetings of March 17, 2015 and April 1, 2015:

Following a review and discussion of the minutes of March 17, 2015, Commissioner Carrier moved to approve the minutes with minor nonsubstantive corrections. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yoshimitsu and unanimously carried.

The approval of the minutes of April 1, 2015 was deferred.

### IV. Discussion Items:

1. Current budget and use of balance prior to the end of the fiscal year.  
Chairman Adessa reported that the Commission currently has a balance of \$8,706 in its budget. The Legislature had imposed a 10% spending restriction but has not swept those funds as of this date. The Commission may, therefore, have a balance of approximately \$10,000.
  - a. Use of a portion of the fund balance to send 2 Commissioners to the Annual International Fatherhood Conference in Philadelphia, PA, June 8-12, 2015.

Commissioner Dias suggested that in light of the tight budget, that only one delegate be sent from the Commission but that it was important to continue attending the annual conference. Vice Chairman Makino added that should there be sufficient funds, two Commissioners should attend the conference. One should be a Commissioner who attended the previous year and the second, a first time attendee.

b. Use of funds for resource material.

Chairman Adessa suggested that a portion of the fund balance be used to purchase needed resource material for distribution at upcoming events such as the Children and Youth Day and the Father Child Look-alike Contest.

c. Celebrating Fathers Day at Windward Mall.

Chairman Adessa reminded the Commission about the upcoming event at Windward Mall which includes the popular annual father-child lookalike contest.

d. Use of \$600 for prizes for the media contest.

The Commission discussed the expenditure of approximately \$600 for prizes for the media contests.

e. Cost for participating the annual Children and Youth Day.

Children Chairman Adessa announced that it will cost \$85 to set up a table at the and Youth Day.

2. Details for Celebrating Fathers Day at Windward Mall.

Chairman Adessa requested assistance with the event. Following a discussion, Ms. Buckley offered the assistance of Parents Inc. They will secure the necessary judges and coordinate the contest. Chairman Adessa accepted, with appreciation, the assistance of Parents Inc. at this year's celebration. Vice Chairman Makino pointed out that this is the kind of situation that calls for at least a part-time staff or some form of continued administrative support to provide for institutional memory about running the event and continuity.

3. Procedure for maintaining records and reports.

The Commission discussed some ideas for maintaining records and reports to avoid having to "reinvent the wheel" relative to annual events and procedures. Chairman Adessa stated that he would discuss this matter with DHS leadership.

4. Media contest and distribution of information to DOE schools.

Chairman Adessa informed that information about the contest would be disseminated through the DOE's office of public relation.

5. Modification of current consulting contract with UH.

Chairman Adessa stated that while the existing contract with UH needs to be modified to address phase II of the project, the Legislature is still discussing the State's budget. As such specific fees and modifications cannot be determined at this time. The remaining funds in the Commission's budget could be used to begin Phase II. During the ensuing

discussion, Commissioner Carrier suggested that the small remaining balance be used to send 2 Commissioners to the conference and for planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. He added that the current contract with UH should not be modified at this time, pending receipt of further budgetary information.

#### V. Decision-Making:

##### 1. Expenditure of funds.

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Carrier moved to use the remaining budget to: (1) send 2 Commissioners to the annual conference in PA at a cost not to exceed \$5,200; (2) purchase no more than \$600 in prizes for the media contest; (3) purchase needed material for upcoming events as discussed and to pay for any participation fees and; (4) address budgeted expenditures such as interisland travel and car rental. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sunio and unanimously carried.

##### 2. Business cards for Commissioners.

Commissioner Dias moved to authorize Chairman Adessa to request for business cards for Commissioners through DHS. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Makino and unanimously carried.

##### 3. Modification to existing consulting contract with UH.

Commissioner Carrier moved that no changes be made to the existing consulting contract with UH at this time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sunio and unanimously carried.

#### VI. Reports:

##### 1. Media Contest.

Commissioner Dias reported that there were questions regarding the information that is to go out to DOE schools. Some details such as size and clarity of submissions might hold up the process. Vice Chairman Makino, upon review of the material suggested that such details were necessary and should be deleted in order to prevent delaying the dissemination of the contest information.

##### 2. 24/7 Dad Program.

Chairman Adessa reported that the Program is still experiencing difficulty in finding a venue and participants.

##### 3. Status of federal grant.

Chairman Adessa reported that the federal grant jointly applied for with UH, has not been posted as earlier expected. The new post date according to the UH consultant was April 27th. Vice Chairman Makino stated that should Hawaii be selected as a recipient that the subsequent request for proposals from agencies should be announced as a "public notification," open to any interested organization and not limited to select agencies. Since these are public funds, the Commission cannot be viewed as bias by sending the information to only a few select organizations.

VII. Commission/Public Generated Issues:

There were no issues raised.

VIII. Announcements/Adjournment:

Chairman Adessa announced that the next meeting of the Commission would be held on May 19, 2015 at 1:30 pm in the Director's Conference Room, DHS.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.

Prepared by:

Date: May 5, 2015

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Approved by Commission: \_\_\_\_\_