



## MINUTES

Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood  
Regular Meeting on March 16, 2018

### **Commissioners Present:**

Kawika Riley, Chair, Richard Kebo, Kawika Mattos (Maui), Caleb Milliken (Hawaii)

### **Ex-Officio Members Present:**

Angela Tokuda (AG),  
Chet Adessa, Consultant to the Commission

### **Others Present:** None

#### **I. Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm in the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, 560 N. Nimitz Highway, Honolulu by Chairman Riley. The Commissioners present constituted a quorum.

#### **II. Public Testimony:**

There were no testimonies from the public.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from February 9, 2018 were reviewed and a motion was made by Commissioner Mattos to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Commissioner Milliken and unanimously approved.

#### **IV. Decision-making:**

- a. Chairman Riley reported on Legislative testimony and the status of various House and Senate bills (see attached Hawai'i State Commission on Fatherhood 2018 Regular Session Legislative Positioning Table). One of the key issues was the Paid Family Leave Bill and that the commission recommended a stronger version with specific

effective dates among other issues. When discussing Bill HCR 17 and SB305 it was noted by Commissioner Mattos that more transition programs for incarcerated fathers should be included. It was also noted that the DHS Ohana Nui Program seeks to address this issue. Commissioner Milliken made a motion that the commission accepts the legislative positioning, seconded by Commissioner Kebo and was unanimously approved.

**V. Discussion.**

- a. Updated Fatherhood Study Draft. Chairman Riley gave an update on the status of the University of Hawai'i (UH) Study on State-wide Fatherhood programs. Chairman Riley explained that contract with UH expires on June 30, 2018 and that there were some questions concerning the draft of the study. It was mentioned that Ms. Lewin-Bizan, the drafter of the study, may be going on a sabbatical. The study was sent to all commissioners for their review. The study should be published before June 2018. Commissioner Kebo expressed a concern as to how this study should be incorporated in the current Strategic Plan and when Chairman Riley meets with Ms. Lewin-Bizan questions of this nature will be discussed. Chairman Riley mentioned that the agencies listed in the study should be included as references in the commission website. It was noted that a study such as this, should be in the form of a directory.
- b. Commission on Fatherhood Strategic Plan. Commissioner Kebo and Commissioner Milliken reported on that status of the Strategic Plan. Commissioner Kebo stated that the commission is in need of funds to carry out the Strategic Plan and Chairman Riley said that the funds should come from the State General Fund and that requests for new expenses is key to requesting funding from the legislature as opposed to more funds for existing expenses. Commissioner Milliken spoke about how to scale down the budget and used as a reference how the Ohio State Commission on Fatherhood is funded. Commissioner Kebo spoke about some ideas he learned at the Fatherhood Conference in the mainland and that he will use those ideas to "beef up" the strategic plan. Commissioners Kebo and Milliken will submit the final draft to Chairman Riley.
- c. Celebrate Father Annual Event. Mr. Adessa reported on the status of the Celebrate Father's Day at Windward Mall on June 16, 2018. Mr. Adessa reported that the application has been submitted and entertainment has been confirmed. He also said that PARENTS, Inc. will be in charge of the Father Child Look-a-Like Contest. Neighbor Island commissioners expressed that there is funding for the respective island fatherhood events

**VI. Reports:**

- a. Budget. Commissioner Milliken reported that there is currently a surplus of \$12,000. Commissioner Milliken said that the funds needed to be expended prior to June 30, 2018. Commissioner Milliken suggested that funds be used for the April 20 meeting to include an overnight stay on Oahu in order for the commissioners to assist with the

commission's resource table at the SPIN Conference on April 21. Commissioner Milliken also mentioned that the funds could be used for commission meetings on Maui in May 2018 and the Island of Hawaii in June 2018. Chairman Riley suggested a list of agencies from the community that should attend the meetings.

- b. Commissioner Milliken spoke about the fatherhood that he and Commissioner Kebo attended and that the commission could become involved in "at risk youth" and the focus on positive outcomes. Commissioner Kebo spoke about how impressed he was at the conference when he heard the many success stories and potential opportunities for the commission.

**VI. Commission/Public Generated Issues:** (No decision making) No issues generated

**VII. Adjournment:** Commissioner Milliken made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 3:30 p.m., the motion was seconded by Chairman Riley and the motion was carried.