



## MINUTES

Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood  
Regular Meeting on April 20, 2018

### **Commissioners Present:**

Kawika Riley, Chair, Kawika Mattos (Maui), Caleb Milliken (Hawaii), Alan Sunio (Oahu)

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

### **Others Present:**

Chet Adessa, Consultant to the Commission  
Vernon Duncan, Hawaii Father's Rights Movement

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

The meeting was called to order at 1:24 PM at the Department of Human Services Conference Room, 1390 Miller Street, Honolulu, HI 96813 by Chairman Riley. The Commissioners present constituted a quorum.

- II. Public Testimony:** Testimony was heard by Mr. Vernon Duncan, Hawaii Representative and Military Liaison for the Father's Rights Movement. Mr. Duncan introduced himself and spoke about the goals which are to assist fathers with child custody and child support issues. The movement acts as a resource for fathers and is a web-based service. Mr. Duncan is a volunteer and is active duty Air Force. The phone number for this service is (703) 823-8312. Mr. Duncan indicated that he would like collaborate with the commission.

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

The minutes from March 16, 2018 were reviewed and a motion was made by Chairman Riley to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sunio and unanimously approved.

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

- a. Commission Positioning on 2018 Hawai`i State Legislative session. Chairman Riley deferred this item.
- b. 2018 Fatherhood event and activity grants. Chair Riley spoke about the June fatherhood event grant and the importance of offering grants to other agencies who wish to conduct fatherhood related events during the month of June 2018. Commissioner Milliken spoke about the need to expend or encumber commission funds prior to June 30, 2018. Commissioner Milliken explained that there would be an excess of approximately \$1,900 after the grants are awarded. There was some discussion about using the funds to conduct commission meetings on Maui and the Island of Hawaii. Chairman Riley distributed the grant proposals that were received. As the commissioners reviewed the various proposals Commissioner Milliken spoke about the criteria for the grants. Commissioner spoke about the Living Way Church that conducts half-way houses and outreach programs. There was some discussion concerning Giving Moore and the items they requested for their event. Commissioner Milliken stated that the award letters will stipulate the conditions. Chairman Riley made a motion to approve \$2,000 for Giving Moore for prizes and giveaways, \$1,500. for Maui Family Services (commissioner Mattos recused himself from the vote for Maui Family Support Services) , \$1,000 for Living Way Church, \$1,500 for Habitat for Humanity and it was seconded by Commissioner Sunio and unanimously approved (with the exception of Commissioner Mattos as mentioned before). It was stated the deadlines for awarding the grants will be June 20 and June 30, 2018.

#### **V. Discussion.**

- a. Commission on Fatherhood Strategic Plan. Commissioner Milliken reported that becoming more involved in the community and focus on their resources should be part of the plan. He also talked about how building a “coalition” and developing certification of fatherhood programs. He also said that doing so would help the commission develop funds in the future. Chairman Riley stated that the commission needs to prioritize the programs, the need for state approval and ensure that the wording of such certification is important. There was some discussion about how important partnerships (with agencies conducting fatherhood programs) with the commission in standardizing fatherhood programs and practices. Commissioner Milliken went into some detail about localized fatherhood brochures and pamphlets. Mr. Adessa mentioned the University of Hawai`i Center on the Family had created a multi-page pamphlet concerning fatherhood resources throughout the state. (There was a brief discussion about hiring an Administrative Assistant and the cost. Mr. Adessa and Chairman Riley spoke about a previous request for an Administrative Assistant and the cost would have approximately \$85,000. For full benefits and part time position).

- b. 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 and Commissioner Sunio reported on the prizes that were selected, distributed an event flyer, spoke about the agency resource tables and confirmed the judges for the Father Child Look-a-Like Contest.
- c. 2018 Children and Youth Day. Mr. Adessa spoke about the Children and Youth Day held at the State Capitol on Sunday October 7, 2018 and that the commission has participated in this event by setting an activity and resource table. There was some discussion and the commission's involvement will be discussed in the future.

**VI. Reports:**

- a. Budget. Commissioner Milliken reported (see IV b. for details)
- b. 2018 Neighbor Island Commission meetings. Commissioner Mattos spoke about the next meeting which is scheduled for Friday May 25, 2018 5-7 PM at the Maui Economic Opportunity Building, Wailuku Maui and there will be several local agencies from the community present. Commissioner Mattos invited the commissioners to site visits.
- c. Chairman Riley gave an update on fatherhood related legislation.

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

**VII. Adjournment:** Chairman Riley made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 3:16 p.m., the motion was seconded by Commissioner Mattos and the motion was carried.