

**HAWAI‘I STATE - COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD**



**Approved**  
**1.22.2021 km**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Friday, December 18, 2020**

**Time: 1:00pm**

Location: virtual meeting via Zoom  
Zoom Meeting ID #8082816682 password Thrive  
Zoom waiting room opened at 12:50pm to log-on prior to 1:00pm.

- I. Call to Order** - Meeting was held virtually via Zoom and called to order at 1:04pm by Chair Mattos. Welcome was expressed and quorum was recognized with the presence of seven commissioners:

Commissioners present: David “Kawika” Mattos, Alan Sunio, Allen Cardines Jr., Anthony Mendez, Chad Hasegawa, Charles Woolfork and Sam Kippen  
Commissioner missing: Rick Kang, David Lunceford  
Ex-Officio(s) present: Mimari Hall (Policy Director for DHS), Matthew Shim (DOH), Chet Okayama (OYS)  
AG Counsel present: Erin Yamashiro (Attorney General Office)  
Community present: Michael Conner, Maka Brautigam-Su’apaia, Doug Imig, Sam Holi Mark Nakashima (HI State Rep.)

**HS-COF MISSION Statement** - was read by Woolfork

The mission of the Hawaii State - Commission on Fatherhood (HS-COF) is to promote healthy family relationships by emphasizing the important role fathers play in the lives of their children. The commission serves in an advisory capacity to state agencies and makes recommendations on programs, services, contracts, policies, and laws relating to children and families.

- I. Introductions:**
- a. Fatherhood Commissioners
  - b. Ex-Officio(s)
  - c. Counsel to the Commission
- II. Conduct Agreement & Reminder** - The Hawai‘i State - Commission on Father meeting is an open-public meeting and has conduct structure due to order of business and time constraints.
- a. Meeting Rules of Conduct read by Chair Mattos
- III. Community shares or concerns:**
- a) Public Testimony attended – general introductions made by attendees.
  - b) Special Planned Guests (prior request)
    - i. Commissioner Allen Cardines informed the meeting attendees about the spike in suicides, domestic violence and calls to the crisis hotline due to the effects of COOVID-19 and men’s struggles with coping with their emotional, financial and mental issues. He has been collaborating with and other men in his community to make videos about their journey with their mental, emotional and spiritual health. Well-known musician Kelly Boy DeLima volunteered to record his story and personal struggles on video to create openness and awareness about his journey healing from domestic and family violence. This video was played at the meeting. It featured DeLima sharing about his personal journey with anger and how it affected the lives of his children. Too often, family violence is hidden and DeLima shared how his children were affected. He shares about how his faith and recognizing negative behaviors and making positive changes helped changed his

actions and beliefs, and the change in his family's relations in a positive way. He also shares about his efforts to record the video for the inmates in Saguaro Prison. Commissioner Cardines also then shared about his efforts to mobilize influencers for the Father's Day Summit and for Hawai'i's future for fathers.

- ii. Maka Brautigam-Su`apaia / Personal Experiences with the Maui Family Court. Maka shared that he is a father of a 5 year old daughter and expressed his struggles with his custody battles with Family Court since August 2018. He described the process for his petition for the rights for his child. Brautigam-Su`apaia his experiences with the lack of due diligence and multiple inconsistencies within the legal system. He expressed details about the heavy biases against him as a father. He shared about the multiple acts of manipulations and false allegations made by his ex/child's mom and her family, including braking court orders and agreements, but having no consequences after. He also shared about the inconsistencies while in court and stated that he has heard many fathers experiencing the same experiences. He shared that now he is helping other fathers by giving them information through what he has experienced to help them navigate through the family court system. He is asking for help form community leaders and hopes that the Commission on Fatherhood can support fathers going through similar situations. Commissioner Mendez and Cardines thanked Brautigam-Su`apaia for his sharing and attendance, and shared briefly about their similar experiences as well.

#### IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - The meeting minutes were reviewed. No corrections needed and a motion to approve was made by Woolfork and 2nd by Mendez. Ayes – 7 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed to approve the November meeting minutes.

#### V. Review of the commission's Statutory Duties – Chair Mattos briefly reviewed the nine statutory duties and tasks.

#### VI. Ethics & Boundaries - Chair Mattos informed the meeting attendees that the commissioners were required to attend an Ethics and Boundaries Training done by the State Ethics Commission through the Governor's Office. He also reminded attendees that the HS-COF always wants to operate at the highest level of ethics and boundaries. Chair Mattos has been in touch with the Office of Informational Practices (OIP). They emailed him brief information and training documents with guidelines on how we should function. Yamashiro (AG Counsel) suggested instead that Mattos refer the commissioners to the OIP website and for them to navigate the website themselves because of the Sunshine Law.

#### VII. Nomination and Election of Officer

- a. Finance Chair/Treasurer - Brief statements were expressed by Mattos explaining that commission is an advisory and voluntary board, with shared expectations and emphasized need for support. He shared that the commission needs a Finance Chair/Treasurer. Commissioner Mendez volunteered to be nominated for the position. Open nominations were petitioned by Mattos for position of Finance Chair/Treasurer. No other volunteers at this time. Motion made by Kippen to nominate Mendez and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Woolfork. Ayes -7 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed to appoint Commissioner Mendez as the Finance Chair/Treasurer. Chair Mattos gave brief update on recent communication from DHS-Director Cathy Betts. He shared that Governor Ige expressed his order of state financial cutbacks due to COVID-19. The HS-COF annual budget has been \$20,000, but the last directive of a 10% cut is currently set for an \$18,000 commission budget. Director Betts shared that they are advocating for the commission's budget. Commissioner Mendez will give an update at the next commission meeting.

VIII. Discussion

a. Ex-Officio(s) updates: *(no discussions or sharing)*

b. Budget / Finance

i. Budget for FY 2020-21

a) Expense Approvals Status - *(no discussions or sharing)*

ii. Commission Chair's past authority / clarification - *(no discussion)*

iii. National and Local Fatherhood Conferences - *(no discussion)*

c. Strategic Planning (HS-COF / SP-FY 2020-21)

i. Commission TEAM

a. Current Status / Updates / Boards & Commissions Information

Chair Mattos expressed his concern about Commissioner Lunceford not responding to any communication and not attending a commission meeting since his swearing in. Mattos will check with the State Commission Office for further direction.

Mattos briefly detailed expectations about the commission seats, especially those nearing the end of their terms and to reapply soon. Commissioner Cardines gave update that he already submitted his application to reapply. Commissioner Hasegawa still to reapply. Mattos emphasized the importance of future work to do by HS-COF and the need to have 9 members. He stated to help and ask people to apply for commission and that recruitment should be on going.

ii. Commission's nine (9) Statutory Duties. Chair Mattos suggested that we consider creating Permitted Interaction Groups (PIGs) in the future to work on these to move forward.

iii. DHS 'Ohana Nui framework (2Gen concept)

a. FY 2019-20 Annual Report – Chair Mattos recapped briefly how Malia Taum-Deenik (DHS) expressed the need for our annual report at the October meeting. It was expressed of the need for a Permitted Interaction Group in order for the commission to correspond and work outside a monthly meeting. However, this appeared difficult due to the time constraints ahead. Chair Mattos expressed trying to create the report, but is struggling due to only having one commission meeting last year and not being able to communicate with the Commission Team. Mattos did share what he information he gathered thus far and presented draft. A motion to provide a draft report by Mattos to submit to DHS and then have it reviewed by the commission at the January meeting was made by Woolfork and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kippen. Ayes – 7 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed. Mattos shared that he will continue to work on the document and submit to DHS.

d. Work Plans / Updates & Reports

i. Community Volunteers and Collaborations - Commissioner Cardines will continue to share about their current work with the West O`ahu men and community.

e. County/Districts Sponsorship Award System *(no discussion)*

f. Public Awareness

i. DHS / HS-COF webpage updates –

a. Chair Mattos has been working with DHS to update the posting of past meeting minutes on the DHS commission's webpage for public access. He confirmed by reviewing the webpage that all past meeting minutes were added and the commission is in compliance.

- b. Commissioner's picture and contact information per County/District - *(no further discussion)*
- ii. Creating Authorized email/system per County/District
  - a. Chair Kawika Mattos discussed that Henny Saraswati (DHS) created a chair, vice-chair and secretary email. Commissioner Sunio shared an O`ahu island map that was posted as an attachment to the agenda with suggested district divisions and how he created it with consideration of neighborhood boards, population, geography, etc. A motion made to accept the map document provided by Sunio was made by Cardines and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mendez. Ayes – 7 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed to accept the map document. Brief further discussion took place and O`ahu commissioners volunteered to lead specific desired areas. All areas of O`ahu island were designated.
  - iii. Business Cards - Chair Mattos reminded commissioners to give Henny (DHS) information desired on their commission's business cards. *(no further discussion)*
  - iv. Brochure updates / fliers, etc. - *(no discussion or updates)*
  - v. Marketing options - *(no discussion or updates)*

IX. Neighbor-Island meetings – *(no discussion or updates)*

X. National Fatherhood Conference - *(no discussion or updates)*

XI. Decision Making

- a. FY 2020-21 Budget *(no action taken on the following three (3) items)*
  - i. FY 2019-20 Annual Report – Contracting Service
  - ii. Marketing / Public Awareness
  - iii. Other Proposed Expenditures
- b. Ad Hoc and or Permitted Interaction Group (PIGs) Committees - *(no action taken)*
- c. Strategic Plan – motion made about completing DHS annual report during discussion. *(see above)*
- d. Public Awareness – *(no action taken)*
- e. DHS / HS-COF webpage updates - *(no action taken)*
- f. Commissioner's pictures and contact information per County/District - *(no action taken)*
- g. Create authorized emails/system by County/Districts - *(no action taken)*
- h. Determine division of O`ahu island/County of Honolulu - motion to accept map division made during discussion. *(see above)*
- i. Business Cards - *(no action taken)*
- j. Brochure updates / fliers - *(no action taken)*
- k. Marketing – *(no action taken)*
- l. Neighbor-Island Meetings – *(no action taken)*
- m. National Fatherhood Conference – *(no action taken)*

XII. Next meeting:

- a. Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00pm virtually via Zoom.

XIII. Executive Session – *none*

XIV. Adjournment – Chair Mattos expressed his gratitude to the guests and attendees. Motion was made by Woolfork and 2nd by Cardines to end the commission meeting. Ayes – 7 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed to adjourn at 3:12 pm.

1.22.2021km