

HAWAI'I STATE - COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD



Approved

12.18.2020km

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, November 20, 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 1:01 pm by Chair Mattos. Welcome was expressed and quorum was recognized with the presence of seven commissioners: Mattos, Sunio, Cardines, Mendez, Hasegawa, Woolfork, Kang and Kippen.

Commissioners present: David “Kawika” Mattos, Alan Sunio, Allen Cardines, Anthony Mendez, Chad Hasegawa, Charles Woolfork, Rick Kang and Sam Kippen

Commissioner missing: David Lunceford

Ex-Officio(s) present: *none*

AG Counsel present: Erin Yamashiro (Attorney General Office)

Community present: Henny Saraswati (DHS), Dr. Michael Conner, Tom Lindsey, Willy Orine, Brandon Ching, Maka Su’apaia, Jimmy James Thennes, 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:**
- Fatherhood Commissioners
 - Ex-Officio(s)
 - 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.
- Meeting Rules of Conduct read by Hasegawa
- III. **Nomination and Election of Officer**
- Finance Chair/Treasurer** - Brief statements were expressed by Mattos explaining that commission is an advisory and voluntary board, shared expectations and emphasized need for support, along with ensuring the need for personal care.
- Open nominations petitioned by Mattos for position of Finance Chair/Treasurer.
No nominations made or volunteers at this time.
- IV. **Community shares or concerns:**
- Public Testimony** attended – general introductions made by attendees.

- a. Commissioner Woolfork and guest Tom Lindsey briefly described the details of the Kaua'i Men's Conference being held on Saturday, November 21 via Zoom 10a-1p. They described the time, date, registration information, mission of the program and themes of the event – Men's Health: Emotional, Physical and Spiritual Health, especially during this time of COVID-19 pandemic. Tom explained the role of the Kaua'i Fatherhood Council and the impact of the 5th Annual Kaua'i Men's Conference and follow-up sessions on the following 3 days after.
 - b. Commissioner Mendez briefly informed the meeting attendees about the Oahu- Parents and Children Together (PACT) about their Fatherhood Support Groups. He also described the efforts of Cathy's Parenting that does parent coaching and the Hawai'i Parent Resource Center. He also reached out to the National Fatherhood Initiative and the Texas State-Commission on Fatherhood.
 - c. Commissioner Chair Mattos briefly gave information about Early Childhood Action Strategies (ECAS). The paid staff administrators who work with volunteers across the state is funded by the Omidyar Network & Family Foundation. The ECAS groups are working towards ensuring support towards children and family support, especially for children age newborn to six years old, the early childhood development age group. The Team 4 work is on Family Engagement / Fatherhood Involvement, especially towards fatherhood support. Team 4 meetings are usually held monthly on the 3rd Friday of the month.
 - d. Commissioner Cardines explained his work with Native Hawaiian music entertainers and other men that are primarily fathers. His efforts are to mobilize and strengthen fathers on the west-side of Oahu through releasing content. Requested a time to share about their men's project during the next Commission of Fatherhood meeting in December. A video (8 minutes) could be shared at the next commission meeting featuring entertainer Kelly Boy DeLima.
 - e. Commissioner Alan Sunio shared that the following organizations have data that is useful for HS-COF: Waianae Comprehensive Center, Queen Liliuokalani, Pact, National Commissioner of Fatherhood and other fatherhood initiatives around the United States.
 - f. Dr Mike Conner briefly shared that there will be upcoming information he would like to share at the next meeting.
 - g. Maka Su'apaia - Request to be on the agenda for the next meeting to share about the Family Court / Justice System and fathers being accused with many false allegations during custody battles in family court, but no repercussions enforced. Requesting to share information and for the fatherhood commission to know what's going on.
- b) Special Planned Guests to share – *neither attended*

V. Ethics & Boundaries - Chair Mattos emphasized that the commission must operate at the highest standards of ethical practice and conduct. Information is available for commissioners to understand expectations with the help and guidance from our AG Counsel, along with the Office of Informational Practices (OIP). A YouTube video link was previously forwarded to each commissioner to review the Hawai'i State's - Ethics, Boundaries and Sunshine Laws. Offer for future trainings from the AG's office and OIP is available for us. Two virtual trainings currently being conducted by the Commission of Ethics Office and all commissioners should complete the training session by the December's meeting.

VI. Approval of Minutes

- a. October 16, 2020 - The meeting minutes were reviewed. No corrections needed and a motion to approve was made by Cardines and 2nd by Kippen. Ayes – 8 / Opposed – 0.
Motion passed to approve the October 16, 2020 meeting minutes.

VII. Discussion

- a. Ex-Officio(s) updates: no Ex-Officio(s) present / (*no discussions or sharing*)
- b. Budget / Finance
 - i. Budget for FY 2020-21
 - a) Expense Approvals Status - Brief explanation shared by Chair Mattos of spending, acceptance of the budget, proposals to change and allocation of funds.
 - b) Awaiting to hear from DHS and if more cuts will be made by the state.
 - 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's nine (9) Statutory Duties: Chair Mattos discussed the HS- COF Statutory Duties set forth for the commission. Chair Mattos also spoke about funding through the commission to complete the statutory duties. Commissioner Sunio described the need for more assistance for Chair Mattos. Mattos also said he asked the data research experts from Early Childhood Action Strategies for information about fatherhood. Commission TEAM.
 - ii. Current Status / Updates // Boards & Commissions Info: Chair Mattos described the amount of term time a person can be a fatherhood commissioner. He also asked everyone to apply with the Governor's Office before their term ends. Recruitment may be needed to replace anyone who leaves their office. Chair Mattos emphasized the importance of the work being done by HS-COF and the need to have 9 members.
 - iii. DHS 'Ohana Nui framework (2Gen concept)
 - b) FY 2019-20 Annual Report
 - i. Contracting Service (*no discussion*)
 - c) Proposed Ad Hoc or Permitted Interaction Group (PIGs) Committee
 - i. Mattos posed a question to Erin Yamashiro (AG-Deputy Attorney) about proposing a motion for Ad Hoc or Permitted Interaction Group (PIGs) Committees so communication outside of our normal monthly commission meetings to work on tasks, in particular to the task of working on the HS-COF Annual Report to submit to DHS in December. Erin explained that in either way we do it, three meetings need to be conducted. If a motion is made for the PIGs, then we need to identify and assign members of the group and also specify what we are investigating. Erin further shared that there has must be a PIGs report done with the findings of the investigation by the third meeting. Chair Mattos chose to do an investigation for the annual report due by himself without a PIGs report or actions required.
- d. Work Plans / Updates & Reports
 - i. Community Volunteers and Collaborations
As previous discussed, Commissioner Cardines will share about their current work at the next meeting 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 - Chair Mattos has been working with the Amanda Stevens, public relations at the Department of Human Services. She updated the website to include all meeting minutes for the 2016, 2017 and 2018 and the latest 2020. She still need to add the 2019 given to her to the website. Stevens also updated and added the 2020 commissioner's names and added the screenshot picture of all nine (9) commissioners. Chair Mattos also made other suggestions to DHS about redesigning the commission's website.
 - ii. Commissioner's picture and contact information per County/District - *(no further discussion)*

- g. Creating Authorized email/system per County/District
 - i. Creating Authorized email/system per County/District - Chair Kawika Mattos discussed how Henny Saraswati (DHS) created a chair, vice-chair and secretary email. He suggested that districts be created for the commissioners. Commissioner Sunio suggested that the O`ahu commissioners be divided into five districts to include the division by neighborhood boards. Commissioners Kang, Mendez and Cardines expressed their supporting Sunio's idea. Sunio will do further research of neighborhood boards and their contacts. This issue will be researched further and discussed at the December's meeting. They tentatively discussed that Kang and Sunio will be responsible for North shore and Central Oahu including Wahiawa and Waialua, Cardines will cover Leeward (west) Oahu. East O`ahu & Waikiki & Honolulu will be covered by Kippen and Mendez. Kippen shared that neighborhood boards are going through elections currently in December and will be seated in May, therefore decisions should be made on who should handle what areas. Deputy Attorney Erin suggested that documents in preparation for the December meeting be added as an attached document to the draft meeting minutes and then be available for the public.

- h. Business Cards - Chair Mattos asked commissioners to give Henny (DHS) information wanted on their commission's business cards. Sunio to send past card of example to Henny.

- i. Brochure updates / fliers, etc. - *(no discussion or updates)*

- j. Marketing options - *(no discussion or updates)*

- k. Neighbor-Island meetings – Chair Mattos expressed that we will continue to plan to travel to Hilo, Hawai'i and to Kaua'i in late April, May or June 2021, unless we are restricted by no travel rules by DHS or the Governor's direction. No further discussions.

- l. National Fatherhood Conference - Chair Mattos described how there was an event held back in November 2019 called the 2nd Annual - HI State Fatherhood Conference and may be an event in the future. However, it's at a standstill because of travel restrictions. Chair Mattos spoke with Lisa, the Executive Director of Parents, Inc. is looking to do an event in February 2021 and to do a potential Father/Daughter - Dance. She wants to share information with the commission at an upcoming commission meeting soon.

VIII. 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 – (*no action taken*)
- d. Public Awareness – (*no action taken*)
- e. Marketing – (*no action taken*)
- f. Neighbor-Island Meetings – (*no action taken*)
- g. National Fatherhood Conference – (*no action taken*)

IX. Next meeting:

- a. Friday, December 18th, 2020 at 1:00pm virtually via Zoom.

X. Executive Session – *none*

- XI. Adjournment – Chair Mattos expressed his gratitude to the guests, to the Deputy Attorney and Commissioners for being present. Motion was made by Cardines and 2nd by Mendes to end the commission meeting. Ayes – 8 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed to adjourn at 3:05 pm.

12.10.2020km