



HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD

MEETING MINUTES

Approved
10.16.2020

Friday, January 24, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Liliuokalani bldg. 1390 Miller St.
Conference Room
Honolulu, HI 96813

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Commissioners Present: Caleb Milliken, Samuel Kippen, David (Kawika) Mattos, Alan Sunio, Daniel Kittredge

- Ex-Officio Present: Matthew Shim (DOH), Chet Okayama (OYS), Malia Taum-Deenik (DHS),
- AG Counsel for Commission: Erin Lau
- Public Attendees: Donna Lucero, Claire Kamalu Carroll, Dr. Michael Connor, Doug Imig, Hide Wu, Vernon Viernes, Chet Adessa, Anthony Mendez, Ka`ina Bonacorsi, Brian Alston

II. Commission on Fatherhood (COF) - MISSION Statement recited by Milliken.

The mission of the Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood (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.

III. Public Testimony

- a. Brian Alston: Working on looking into Radio Broadcast to bring attention to male health awareness. - addressing issues to radio shows, leading to Fall Kaua`i Coalition For Men Conference around October 2020. This will be the fifth conference. The theme is Health and Wellness. There will be a call to action.
- b. Anthony Mendez: Business Owner. Utilizing motivation games and incorporate the games into treatment.
- c. Vernon Viernes: works with LT (Lili`uokalani Trust). Works with Native Hawaiian Men with focus work on Men`s Health. There will be Aha Kane event this summer – Gathering for Hawaiian Men learning to be Hawaiian Men. Ahakane.org for more information
- d. Chet Okayama (ex-officio) of OYS.
 - i. New statewide prevention plan for Child Abuse and Neglect, hoping to align with Commission on Fatherhood.
 - ii. Arranging for Matt Burton to come to Hawaii – Author of the book “The Unbound Man – Breaking the Shackles of Trauma & Abuse Experienced by Men” Dates are not set.

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- iii. Annual IVAT Trauma conference will be in April 2020.
- iv. Question: Does OYS sponsor neighbor island participants to travel to attend conferences?
- e. Donna Lucero: Malama Family Recovery Center on Maui. A women and children gender specific treatment center. Just received a SAMSA grant, to fund Donna's position to incorporate the male partners as a key to the women's treatment. Looking to have a male mentor in the future to increase male involvement.
 - i. Comment: to utilize data to emphasize the need for father involvement.
- f. Dr. Mike Connor has been working with fathers since 1960 – reference to a 1974 News Article made by Commissioner Mattos about Dr. Conner's history and work with fathers and families. Dr Conner's extensive professional career shared.
- g. Claire Kamalu Carrol – Hana Community Association. Expressed the need to address drugs and alcohol abuse and seek support in the east Maui.

IV. Nomination and Election of Officers

- a. Question: Could you have an ex-official member as a chair? A: No
- b. Motion to have only commissioners vote for chair, and keeping an open session.
- c. Nominations:
 - i. Chairman
 - 1. Kawika Mattos by Alan Sunio
 - 2. Sam Kippen by Caleb Milliken
 - a. Note: Kippen declined due to being new on the commission
 - 3. Vote conducted and 5 unanimous yes. New Chairman for the commission is confirmed to be David "Kawika" Mattos.
 - 4. Clarity: Do we need 5 favorable votes to pass a motion? Priority to define this.
 - ii. Vice Chair
 - 1. Dan Kittredge by Kawika Mattos and no other nominations made
 - 2. Vote conducted and 5 unanimous yes. New Vice-Chair for the commission is confirmed to be Daniel Kittredge
 - iii. Secretary
 - 1. Caleb Milliken by Alan Sunio
 - a. Note: Caleb Milliken declined due to not being able to fulfill duties of position and load work of past experience on the commission
 - 2. Sam Kippen by Kawika
 - 3. Recap: Vote conducted and 5 unanimous yes. New Secretary for the commission is confirmed to be Sam Kippen
- d. Motion passed: Mattos elected for Chair, Kittredge elected for Vice Chair, and Kippen elected for Secretary

V. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Kittredge noted that paragraph C in Section 4, last line: Strike the incomplete sentences and include "Continue as discussion item at a later date."

Also commented: Budget item B: the minutes omits a large amount of conversations and is incorrect, due to this, does not support the minute's approval. Specifically, paragraph 2 regarding dispersing funds is incorrect.

Commissioner Dan motions to postpone approving the May 2019 Minutes. Kawika and Alan second the approval of minutes. Motion approved - Pending discussion of revisions, will be revisited at the next meeting.

VI. Reports

a. Strategic Planning

- i. Review of Strategic Plan from DHS shared by Commissioner Milliken

b. Finance

- ii. Current financial position shared by Milliken
 1. Remaining budget is \$15,615. Current balance and the breakdown of this FY spending not presented in detail by Milliken.
- iii. **Proposed** budget by Milliken to increase this year's award dollar amount proposed. However, motioned by Chair Mattos to postpone any further discussion about the budget and direction until the next meeting. Mattos will review and present a clear budget proposal next month under his leadership. Motion 2nd by Vice-Chair Kittredge. Motion passed.
 - a. UH Report on Status of Fathers And Fatherhood Programs
- iv. Report was finalized by researcher Selva Lewin-Bizan, former professor at UH. She requested that the report be posted publicly asap. The report will be posted by DHS under the fatherhood website soon.
 1. The report spearheads a stronger connection between neighbor islands
 2. Feedback obtained: report may be too ambitious

VII. Discussion

a. Strategic Planning

i. Tactics and responsibilities

1. Comment: Commission may want to contact governor directly to add the position in the budget as a budget move.
2. Question posed of need to clarify the amount of years and terms that a commissioner is able to serve as a commissioner. Answer: two consecutive 4-year terms for total of eight years. However, if a commissioner is appointed to replace another commissioner's term, only the remaining year(s) is served, then has the option to apply for the 2nd 4-year term.

ii. Additional items

1. Question on status of additional applications to be a commissioner: Are there applicants that were not accepted that are still on file? Will they need to re-apply? Chair Mattos will research and report at the next meeting.
2. Application process is through the governor's office and would need to request the list of applicants from them. Commission will contact the governor's office regarding 3 previous applications.

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- a. To apply, go to the state website and go to the Boards and Commissions section. Chair Mattos will send the quick-navigation document he created to perspective applicants to apply ASAP.
3. State of Hawai'i Commission on Fatherhood: Strategic Plan 2019 presented. Chair Mattos also presented a created working Document with COF Overview on page 1, which also breaks down statutory duties on the following pages. Commission will make some time to go over these tasks to see if their work that's being done is effective and efficient.
 - a. Comment: It is important to prioritize previous discussions, but cannot leave out what is in the statute. Mattos shared that especially without paid staff, it is essential to collaborate with other agencies.
4. Question: Is the hawaiifatherhood@gmail.com email still valid and accountable? There was work towards getting each position and county an email that is able to be carried on. Mattos will follow up.
5. Question: How does 'Ohana Nui apply to the Commission on Fatherhood? Malia (DHS) shared that In 2016 DHS started a multigenerational framework – 'Ohana Nui, that practices applying services to the whole family at once. DHS includes the Commission on Fatherhood, but it is up to the commission to decide how they want to be involved.
 - a. Terminology question: Social capital refers to social connection/positive social connection.
6. Comment: ECAS rep (Doug) shared that Early Childhood Action Strategy has a list of Policy Priorities that may overlap with the Commission on Fatherhood. Action Strategy can also adopt any additional bills may arise.
7. Question: How does research get decided on? A: (Malia) Priority is brought on at the discretion of the commissioners.
8. Question: Does the process for funding program organization exist? It's done once a year by RFP through a sponsorship system.
9. Creation of formal policy and procedure for testimony delivery for policymakers.
 - a. This is a legacy of Commissioner Riley who was already at the Leg and was able to testify on behalf of the Commission
 - b. Suggestion to make it a goal for next year to have a process for legislative session (tracking legislation, potential impact of having a policy voice). Community guests present said they would like to be involved.
10. Does soliciting and receiving ethics training law happen regularly? No, it happened in 2019, and will be given to new commissioners.
11. How many bills were testified for 2019 by the Commission? Focused on +/- 12, including paid parental leave.

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- b. Budget Priorities
 - 1. Neighbor island commissioner travel
 - 2. Sponsorships
 - 3. National Father Conference
 - 4. Neighbor island meetings
- iii. Matt Shim (DOH ex-officio): Matt can assist with Neighbor island commissioner travel (priority 1) and travel to National Father Conference (priority 3). Will work with commissioners to best utilize the \$20,000 budget. Will connect the commission to other programs that may also provide sponsorship. Will connect to see how Family Health Services can help. Matt will need a min 5 days advance request for Neighbor island travel, and 6 weeks advance request for travel to the continental US. May cover per diem, hotel, rental car/ground transportation, airfare, conference fee, baggage, airport parking. Advancement can only be made for airfare and conference fee.
 - 1. Suggestion to assure the budget is worked out with DOH before the new commissioners come on board for 2020.
 - 2. There is a need for a safeguard for the neighbor island travel, even with DOH's support for travel.
- iv. Matt Shim will cover the neighbor island meeting (priority 4) travel for the 12 meetings (2 on neighbor island, 10 on Oahu).
- v. The commission will commit to 2 neighbor island meetings: have not been to East Hawai'i so will prioritize this.
- vi. For the remainder of the year, the budget is +/- \$16,000. Suggestion made that commission can consider to utilize the funds for sponsorships and to support events or conferences (e.g. Men's March, Children and Youth Day).
- vii. There is a need to incorporate a master plan to include the logo in each Commission document. The commission may consider to utilize a PR firm to market what the commission does.
- viii. Idea expressed: Diaper changing projects in the airport – include the commission logo. "Men who change diapers change the world"
- ix. There is a need for setting up a process for when the commission cannot make quorum to assure that the sponsorships are instilled.

VIII. Decision Making

- a. Budget
 - i. Commissioner Sam motion for Caleb to represent the Commission on Fatherhood at the 2020 National Father Conference in Los Angeles in February. Clarity made that motion at hand is if DOH will cover the cost of Milliken's travel, not the remaining Commission budget. Alan Sunio seconds this motion. 5 ayes, motion passed.
- b. Sponsorship Process
 - i. Milliken suggested to allocate \$14,000 to sponsorship this year, with the remainder as a fund for the chair to decide.

- ii. Questions: How many sponsorships does the commission normally do? The commission did 5 last year.
- iii. Comment: We can always adjust the allocations, but will need to be a unanimous vote.
- iv. Suggestion for \$8,000 to go towards the award, and keep everything for now.
- v. Suggestion to make the Father's Day Celebration statewide.
- vi. As it currently stands, the budget does not have a provision for training.
- vii. Chair Mattos stated that he will meet with Matt Shim (DOH) and confirm understandings. Chair Mattos and Vice-Chair Kittredge will have discussions of commission priorities and budget plan by next meeting. As it stands, the budget is not ready to vote on. Commission confer to defer vote on the budget. No further discussion about budget.
- viii. Commissioner Kittredge makes the motion to follow last year's process for awarding money to agencies and allow the chair to make the decision. Sunio seconds this motion. 5 ayes. Motion passed.
- ix. Suggestion to be sent out no later than Feb 4th with a deadline on Feb 19th.

c. Strategic Plan

- i. Milliken motioned to strike further discussion. Sunio second. 5 ayes. Motion passed.
- ii. Kawika motion to carry the next items to the next meeting. Dan seconds. Motion passed.

IX. Commission/public generated issues/agenda items

- a. 2nd Annual – Fatherhood Conference (recap November 8th, 2019)
- b. Potential partnership on work with SOH – Early Childhood Action Strategy.
- c. Updating our SOH – Commission on Fatherhood web page
- d. Outer island Commission Meetings (plan ahead)
- e. Additional potential Commissioners / status
- f. Quorum requirements and understands

X. Executive Session

No executive session conducted.

XI. Adjournment: 4:26 PM / Motioned by Sunio and 2nd by Kippen.