

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



**Draft.**

**3.02.2021 km**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Friday, January 22, 2020**

**Time: 1:00pm**

Location: virtual meeting via Zoom  
Zoom Meeting ID #8082816682 password Thrive  
Zoom 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 1:02pm 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, Rick Kang, Charles Woolfork  
Commissioner missing: Sam Kippen (excused), David Lunceford (unexcused)  
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: Lydia Leanos (Ho`ola Nā Pua & the Starfish Mentoring Program),

**HS-COF MISSION Statement** - was read by Kang.

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) Special Planned Guests (requested prior)
    - i. Commissioner Cardines informed the commission about the spike in sex trafficking and the need for prevention, especially for youth. He expressed his involvement addressing human salary and prevention of sex trafficking. He expressed the importance that fathers must be involved in this fight and stated “our children are not for sale”. He then introduced Lydia Leanos, the Program Manager of the Starfish Mentoring Program (SMP) with the Ho`ola Nā Pua (HNP) 501c agency. Using a power point presentation, Lydia shared that HNP’s mission, which started in 2011. She added information about the Starfish Mentoring Program (SMP) that she over-sees, which is working with at-risk or vulnerable children with suspicion or involvement in sex trafficking. The SMP recruits and trains volunteers to commit for one year to the long-term mentoring and longevity of supporting these confirmed or non-confirmed vulnerable youth. Children ages 11-24 are served, which includes males,

females and LGBT youth. She further explained sex trafficking in detail and expressed the need for support of this movement across Hawai`i, both prevention and intervention. She expressed the important role of healthy role-modeling for our youth, also providing statistics, general facts of a study done in Hawai`i and various contact information. Currently there is a waiting-list of youths waiting for paired mentors. Mentors will go through a thorough screening process. The program is looking for qualified adult mentors on all islands who they will train. Lydia asked the fatherhood commission to be aware of their efforts. Further sharing included that Ho`ola Nā Pua will be presenting at the upcoming IVAT – Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma Conference. Lydia’s chat box share: [starfish@hoolanapua.org](mailto:starfish@hoolanapua.org) to register for mentor interest meeting and mentor training. Also, their next meeting is on February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm via Zoom. Commissioner Cardines recapped the presentation and also stated his plan on how to multiple the awareness of this important issue across the islands. Expressions of appreciation was made by Chair Mattos. Commissioner Sunio chimed in on his previous involvement with Big Brothers-Big Sisters as a mentor for 15 years, along with being a Board Member and being recognized nationally. Sunio shared he also worked with Adult Friends for Youth and expressed his understanding of the importance of adult mentoring. Chair Mattos commented that the commission will discuss future involvement with HNP/SMP at a future meeting, which must be voted upon if any commissioner is publicly speaking on behalf of the Commission on Fatherhood about HNP/SMP in his commissioner role.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - The meeting minutes were reviewed. No corrections needed and a motion to approve was made by Cardines and 2nd by Woolfork. Ayes – 7 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed to approve the December meeting minutes.

*[Note: Commissioner Kang left the meeting at 1:55pm for another appointment / previous advised.]*

V. Review of the Commission’s Statutory Duties – briefly high-lighted by Chair Mattos

VI. Ethics & Boundaries – (no discussion)

VII. Discussion:

- a. Ex-Officio(s) updates / shares:
  - i. Matt Shim / DOH: Matt gave an update of the current public vaccine schedules of phases 1A and 1B. He gave information about registration, phase qualification and criteria. He shared details of status of vaccine availability, partnership of geographic distributions, etc. He also presented and shared an informational pdf doc. Mendez asked a question about vaccine side effects and Matt shared with information and clarity about public’s concerns about side effects in general and how our bodies sometimes react to foreign things like immunizations, etc. He closed with information about the current two vaccine brands available and its differences. Chat box share: Hawaii State Department of Health : <https://hawaiicovid19.com/vaccination-registration/>
  - ii. Chet Okayama / OYS: Chet shared about an upcoming resource caregiver workshop that he is involved with in implementing on February 16. He shared about the invitation (father’s talk-story), which is opened to all male resource caregivers (formally foster fosters); including, hanai fathers, and/or adult men who previously or currently care for non-biological children. In addition, Chet shifted to another share, highlighting the poem

spoken by Amanda Gorman at the recent Presidential Inauguration. He closed his sharing with information about the Hawai'i Youth Commission and its importance for the future.

b. Budget / Finance

i. Budget for FY 2020-21: Update of Budget / Expense Approvals & Status

1. Finance Chair Mendez opened the discussion with questions to AG Counsel–Erin Yamashiro to clarify the process of items put on the agenda for discussions and decisions. The question was “can we vote on items that are not specifically stated on the agenda as a decision making item?”. AG-Erin clarified that for this meeting, it was not publicly posted that any new expense proposals will be made and/or voted on, or the topic did not indicate that. So because it was not stated on the agenda filed, we need to wait for another meeting and post that information. Mendez then ask if we are only restricted to one monthly commission meeting, especially because we are on time crunch to make decisions about our commission’s budget and spending. AG-Erin clarified that we are welcome to have more meetings as necessary, however we must also make it clear on our agenda about possible decision making and must have the minimum of five commissioners to make a meeting quorum. And Chair Mattos chimed in that the minimum vote to approve decisions is 5 ayes/yes.

Mendez continued expressing being uncertain about the annual budget amount from DHS and needing clarity. He expressed that when the commission knows the exact amount for this current year, we then need to come up with ideas to spend that budget. He expressed that the original budget approved majority of the funds allocated towards inter-island travel for commission meetings by neighbor island commissioners, along with two neighbor island travels for the commission team. That has changed since the pandemic and Governor’s – no/minimum government travel rule. AG-Yamashiro advised that we should wait for another public posting of the next meeting that will state budget decision-making on the agenda. Mendez questioned about other ways of public gatherings for public witness and openness, including perhaps unofficial dialog through social media streams. AG-Yamashiro expressed that all commission meetings must be publicly posted on the state calendar as the commission has been doing and DOH-Matt Shim chimed in that the commission is not limited to having only one meeting per month, as long as the posting requirements are met. Chair Mattos then asked for clarity if AG-Counsel must be present. AG-Counsel Yamashiro clarified it’s not necessary, however she will try to be present at the additional meeting as well. Further clarity about the necessity of meeting minutes being taking and its posting process were dialoged. Confirmation was given that any public meetings must be followed up with a draft meeting minutes posted within 40 days and then followed by decision of approval at a future meeting. Commissioner Sunio shared his experience that over the years of his involvement, the commission had many additional meetings because of scenarios of needing to meet for the work at hand.

Discussion about finding a date and time took place. A motioned was made by Mendez that an additional public meeting be scheduled on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6p on Zoom and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sunio. This commission meeting with includes

discussion-only of proposed ideas for spending the budget, which will then be brought forth to the February 26st meeting for decision making. 7-ayes/yes. 0-no. Motion passed to have the additional meeting as stated.

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

i. Commission TEAM

a. Current Status / Updates / Boards & Commissions Information

Chair Mattos confirmed that both Commissioners Cardines and Hasegawa did submit their applications to Boards & Commissions Office to re-apply for the next term. Chair Mattos expressed that he will submit testimony letters when their applications go through committee for review.

- ii. Commission's nine (9) Statutory Duties. Chair Mattos shared that there is not much to report except that previous work was done of gathering information for statutory duty #1 To creating a CENTRAL INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE by former Chair Kebo, however, we are not sure where that information has been stored. Mattos expressed that we need to all give input on contact information to be put up on the commission's webpage for the public to have access. Consideration to link other information networks such as Keiki Central and 211 Information Center should also be implemented. He continued to recite the 8 other statutory duties as well. He emphasized the need to start addressing all of these and create movement.

Commissioner Woolfork shared details of an upcoming professional development workshop series that is being organized by the Kaua'i Fatherhood Council, which is being sponsored by Na Leo Kane (DOH). Further details to be reported at a future meeting.

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

- a. FY 2019-20 Annual Report – Chair Mattos expressed his apology that this report tasks was not done yet and it's difficult to do because there was not much that the commission accomplished over the FY, especially due to lack of quorum issues and the pandemic. Mimari chimed in that Amanda Stevens from DHS is responsible for completing the annual report and that Mattos should contact her. Chair Mattos then shared a draft of the information he gathered to forward to DHS to add to their over-all annual report. After sharing the report, the commoners expressed their gratitude for accomplishing this tasks and Commissioner Cardines expressed that we should add the statistical National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) poster inserts on on to the commission's webpage. He stated that these represent “the why” of our commission work. Mattos will forward to report to DHS asap. Mattos then briefly reviewed the final report from the UH-Center on the Family, also used as an attachment, which can be found on the commission's webpage.

d. Work Plans / Updates & Reports

- i. Community Volunteers and Collaborations – *(no discussion)*  
ii. County/Districts Sponsorship Award System *(no discussion)*

iii. Public Awareness

1. DHS / HS-COF webpage updates –

- a. Chair Mattos shared that meeting minutes are current and posted.
- b. Commissioner’s picture and contact information per County/District - *(no further discussion)*
- c. Creating Authorized email/system per County/District *(no further discussion)*
- d. Business Cards - *(no further discussion)*
- e. Brochure updates / fliers, etc. - *(no discussion or updates)*
- f. Marketing options - *(no discussion or updates)*

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

VIII. Decision Making

- a. FY 2020-21 Budget *(no decision/actions taken on the following three (3) items)*
  - i. FY 2019-20 Annual Report – Contracting Service
  - ii. Marketing / Public Awareness
  - iii. Other Proposed Expenditures
- b. Statutory Duties / Permitted Interaction Group (PIGs) Committees - *(no action taken)*
- c. DHS / HS-COF webpage updates - *(no action taken)*
- d. Commissioner’s pictures and contact information per County/District - *(no action taken)*
- e. Authorized emails/system by County/Districts - *(no action taken)*
- f. Business Cards - *(no action taken)*
- g. Brochure updates / fliers, etc. - *(no action taken)*
- h. Marketing – *(no action taken)*
- i. Neighbor-Island Annual Meetings – *(no action taken)*

IX. Next meetings:

- a. Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at 6:00pm virtually via Zoom.
- b. Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00pm virtually via Zoom.

X. Executive Session – *none*

XI. Adjournment – Closing remarks made by Mendez and Cardines of appreciation for everyone’s attendance and participation. Motion was made by Cardines and 2nd by Mendez to adjourn the commission meeting. Ayes – 6 / Opposed – 0. Motion passed to adjourn at 3:22 pm.

3.02.2021km