

Approved  
4.16.2021km

## HAWAII STATE - COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD

### MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Time: 6:00pm



Location: virtual meeting via Zoom  
Zoom Meeting ID #8082816682 password Thrive  
Zoom waiting room was opened at 5:55pm to log-on prior to 6:00pm.

**I. Call to Order** – Chair Mattos called the meeting to order at 6:10PM.

Commissioners present: David (Kawika) Mattos, Chad Hasegawa, Sam Kippen, Allen Cardines and Anthony Mendez

AG Counsel to Commission: AG Erin Yamashiro

**MISSION Statement** read by Kippen

**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: (*quorum present*)
  - b. Ex-Officio(s): (*none present*)
  - c. Counsel to the Commission AG Erin Yamashiro (*present by phone*)
  
- II. Conduct Agreement & reminder - Mattos expressed a verbal reminder to stay on Zoom video due to only five commissioners present and all must be present for meeting quorum.
  
- III. Quick Review Of Commission's Statutory Duties - Mattos gave quick review
  
- IV. Community :
  - a) Public Testimony - *No public present, no action*
  
- V. Approval of Minutes
  - a) January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 - Commissioner Hasegawa motions to approve the January 22<sup>nd</sup> minutes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Kippen. Yes(s) – 5 / No(s) – 0. Motion to approve the Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> minutes passed. Approved minutes will be posted on the DHS HS-COF website as a final copy.
  
- VI. Ethics & Boundaries – Mattos shared:
  - a) There may be a Legislation bill that states that departments with commissioners attached to it will be responsible to train new commissioners.
    - i. Proposal is that a qualifying training must take place for the commissioner to vote on board or commission business. More information to follow.
  - b) Any/other matters to impact support fatherhood & healthy family engagement

Note: Individuals who require special needs accommodations may request assistance in writing to the Commission three days prior to the meeting or by contacting the Commission at [fatherhoodcommission.hi@gmail.com](mailto:fatherhoodcommission.hi@gmail.com) or call DHS (808) 586-4855.

- c) Mattos has spoken to OIP Attorney Don Amano to get clarity on information passed on to commissioners. Per approval from OIP, Mattos will forward commission documents and information via email of whatever is posted on the state calendar with agendas for meetings. Any discussion or question must be reserved for meetings.
- d) Mattos expressed his intent to post meeting agendas and materials the day before the state posting must be done. Cannot alter information if within 6 days prior to the scheduled meeting.
- e) If the commission determines an outside agency or entity is in line with the statutory duties and a commissioner wants to be a part of that agency or organization, Mattos asked OIP what steps can be taken. OIP's response:
  - i. The commission can decide for a commissioner to represent the commission at agency's meetings. Cannot make decisions on his own, but can relay the discussion and commission will then vote on future actions.
  - ii. Topic should be on the meeting agenda on upcoming next meeting.
- f) If commissioners are not discussing commission business, commissioners can meet and discuss other non-commission matters/business.

Break at 6:22 while Commissioner Hasegawa steps off  
Resume at 6:25

## VII. Discussion

- a) Commission representation within community work, events & planning, fatherhood advocacy and any/other matters to impact support fatherhood & healthy family engagement:
  - i. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fatherhood Conference – Cardines shared that the conference was tentative scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> because IVAT conference was going to promote it. Lisa Groulx, Executive Director of PARENTS Inc. did not like the April date because of the closeness of date. Lisa was open to moving the date from April 30<sup>th</sup> to either June 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>, which is closer to Father's Day holiday. Some planned conference speakers were committed to April 30<sup>th</sup>, but Cardines will need to work through this change. The later June date will give more time to prepare. Lisa likes the idea of partnerships in line with positive parenting and fathers. By next week Friday, Cardines will have more information.
    - a) The commission did vote previously to approve the \$2,000 of funds requested by PARENTS, Inc.
    - b) Hasegawa motioned for Commissioner Cardines to represent the Commission for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fatherhood Conference as the planning or event to move forward. Mendez seconded this motion. Yes – 5 / No – 0. Motion passed
  - ii. Mattos recapped about the presentation previously done by Lydia Leonas of the Starfish Mentoring Program on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. He expressed that he gathered all state documents of the commission's history since inception and that prevention of sex trafficking was specifically stated as a reason for forming the commission at that time. He continued that Ho'ola Na Pua's work is in line with the commission's work. Mendez motioned for the commission to support Ho'ola Na Pua - Starfish Mentoring Program with Commissioner Cardines to represent the commission at their meetings. Kippen seconded the motion. Yes – 5 / No – 0. Motion passed.

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- iii. Mattos expressed that these items, outside agencies and community work is in-line with building the importance of the commission through partnerships with the community.

Break at 6:42PM as Commissioner Kippen steps off

Resume at 6:42PM

b) Legislation Session 2021

- i. Review of current Proposed House and Senate Bills: Mendez led conversation as followed.
  - a) Some bills are still alive, some have differed to next session
  - b) Commissioner Mendez is requesting clarification of EDN/FIN/Referral Sheet from AG. Yamashiro shared:
    - i. Friday is the legislation crossover. When it says it's read and referred, it means it's moving along in the legislature and is going to the next house.
    - ii. The finance committee is on the house side.
    - iii. When a proposed bill is deferred, it means the bill is dead.
    - iv. For the bills are still alive, public can still provide testimony.
  - c) Commissioner Mendez will put together a list of what is still alive to be discussed at the next meeting
  - d) Commissioner Kippen expressed a bill of interest: Civic engagement is important, along with voting and civic engagement. SB-159 is related to automatic voter registration and tying voter registration to licenses, which will make it easier to register to vote.
  - e) Commissioner Kippen expressed another bill of interest to consider: SB-703 related to suicide prevention training at schools within the DOE. Mendez expressed that this bill could be considered because men have a higher rate of suicide and could be parents of students within DOE.
    - i. The bill provides training for the DOE staff, so this bill may not fit the statutory duties. The bill may fit by lowering youth or child suicide rates and guidance needed by fathers.
    - ii. Mattos expressed that these bills (SB-159 and SB-703) will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

7:00 Commissioner Mendez, Kippen and AG-Yamashiro got kicked off via Zoom due to lightening and technical difficulties from weather. AG Yamashiro rejoined on Zoom. Commissioners Mendez and Kippen re-joined again via phone speaker. Quorum continued.

- ii. No decision on line item 7b until next meeting.

c) Budget / Finances

- i. Budget for FY 2020-21
  - a) Update of Budget / Expense Status / Other Matters:
    - i. Recap of last week's commission meeting: Previously voted to support PARENTS, Inc for the Hawaii - Fatherhood Conference

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- a.) Commissioner Cardines will report on how the additional \$1,000 allocated will be used for sponsorship for fathers.
    - b.) Commissioner Mendez as finance chair expressed no other updates on finances
  - b) Fatherhood Sponsorship Award Program / System, Financial & Other Details
    - a. Changes reviewed by Commissioner Mattos. The application has been revised with updated dates and relevant information. Mattos read through the blank application to be distributed.
    - b. Advertisement is not necessary because the budgeted amount is small.
    - c. Promotion will be by sending out the application through community networks, not paid advertising.
    - d. Clarified that the proposed services is not limited to a father's day event.
    - e. It's easier to process these awards as a reimbursement to awardee. This is now stated on the application as reimbursement award.
    - f. Changed "Upon completion of event" to "Upon expenditure of awarded funds" and the application details to reflect this.
    - g. Commissioner Mattos will finalize the application to be approved at the next meeting.
    - h. The commission's over-all budget can be adjusted and amended to shift funds with commission's re-vote. The goal is to always balance budget by year end.
    - i. Should consider diversity of applications and the awarded amounts of up to \$1,000 will be determined based on event/program.
    - j. Commissioner Kippen motion to approve the draft of the sponsorship award application with dates and maximum \$ amount. Commissioner Cardines seconded this motion. Yes – 5 / No – 0. Motion passed to accept draft changes for final application.

VIII. Decision Making

- a. FY 2020-21 Budget – Updates / Expense Status / Proposed Expenditures & Revisions
  - i. Fatherhood Sponsorship Award Program / System, Financial & Other Details
- b. Proposed House and Senate Bills – establish Support / Oppose
- c. Commission representation within community work, events & planning, fatherhood advocacy – Any/other matters that impact & support fatherhood & healthy family engagement

IX. Next meeting:

- a. Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00pm virtually via Zoom.

X. Executive Session (*none*)

- XI. Adjournment - Hasegawa motion to adjourn the meeting and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mendez. Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.

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