

Approved
3.19.2021 km

HAWAII STATE - COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, February 26, 2021

Time: 1:00pm



Location: virtual meeting via Zoom
Zoom Meeting ID #8082816682 password Thrive
Zoom waiting room opened at 12:55pm 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 five commissioners (initially).

Commissioners present: David “Kawika” Mattos, Alan Sunio, Allen Cardines Jr., Chad Hasegawa, Charles Woolfork,
(then at 1:23pm) Anthony Mendez & Sam Kippen,

Ex-Official(s): Matthew Shim (DOH), Chet Okayama (OYS) & Malia Taum-Deenik (DHS)

Guests Present: Maka Su’apaia, Jimmy James Thennes, Antone Kapalu III,
Claire Kamalu Carroll, Sharon Ibarra (Boards & Commissions, Office of the Governor),
Sam Holi

AG Counsel present: Erin Yamashiro (Office of the Attorney General)

Commissioners Missing: Rick Kang (excused), David Lunceford (unexcused)

MISSION Statement - 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

- a. Rules of Conduct: Chair Mattos went over meeting function and etiquette on Zoom.

III. Quick Review Of Commission’s Nine Statutory Duties

Chair Mattos recited the Commission’s Nine (9) Statutory Duties.

IV. Community shares or concerns:

- a. Public Testimony - *None*
- b. Special Guests - *None*

V. Approval of Minutes

- a. January 22nd, 2021 - *Not yet completed and will be present at another meeting.*
- b. February 17th, 2021 – Draft completed. Chair Mattos expressed the need to get meeting minutes completed sooner. The state requires to post meeting minutes within 40 days to the DHS website.

There is an organization that scrutinizes these tasks. Unapproved meeting minutes in draft form can be posted as draft/pending-approval, then later can re-post the approved minutes. An unapproved Jan 22nd draft will be posted for now. Chair Mattos went over meeting minutes for February 17, 2021. Motion made by Commissioner Mendez to accept minutes and 2nd by Hasegawa. Yes(s) -7, No(s) - 0. Minutes approved and will be posted on DHS HS-COF webpage.

VI. Ethics & Boundaries

Ex-Officio Taum-Deenik (DHS) shared that information can be found on the Gov's - Boards and Commissions' website. The commission and public can have access to the resource page as well. Chair Mattos expressed that all commissioners did complete the ethics training a few months back put on by the Ethics Commission.

VII. Discussion

a. Ex-Officio(s) updates:

- i. Ex-Officio Okayama (OYS) shared that he volunteered for the Resource Caregivers - Fathers Talk Story Webinar that was held the previous week, in which there were 10 participants. Okayama shared his excitement about the event, expressing support to foster fathers, including sharing high-lights about the guest speaker and his experiences.
- ii. Ex-Officio Shim shared that O'ahu County has been approved by the Mayor and Governor to move into Tier-3. Masking and social distancing is still required. Information can be found on the City and County - COVID website. Other counties are doing well. Maui recently had additional cases due to an outbreak at MCCC. Vaccinations of the 1A and 1B groups and for Kupuna (elders) are still progressing. The state has the capacity to give a lot of shots, however supplies coming from the Federal Government is limited. Vaccines are just one part of mitigating the spread of COVID-19. He shared that getting your flu-shot also helps. Reminder that COVID-19 vaccines are free and encouraged to get vaccinated when they become available. He also stated that vaccines are voluntary. He reminded everyone as we move through the pandemic to continue to wear masks and social distance and be conscious of your bubbles to protect others.
- iii. Ex-Officio Taum-Deenik (DHS) shared that she also serves on the Emergency Management Function (EMF) and that Longs, aka CVS is part of the Federal Pharmacy Program that will be giving out the COVID vaccine. One of the problems being discussed at the EMF is that people have been turned away from being vaccinated due to not having a valid ID at other vaccine locations. CVS is not going to require a valid photo ID and will be a good source for folks to still have access to the vaccine. The HI-EMA (Hawaii - Emergency Management Agency) is still accepting requests for PPEs (Personal Protective Equipment). If a person is working with an organization that needs PPE, there are processes to go through. She stated to either go through the County - Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and they will put in a Request for Assistance (RFA) through a system called WEB-EOC, then HI-EMA will take the request and get PPEs to the organization. If someone doesn't know who their County-EOC is, requests can also sent to Taum-Deenik and she will put it through the EFT16. There are lot of churches that are doing food distribution or other places helping with vaccine rollout and/or other people working with homeless outreach. They just need to inform on who they are and what the PPEs will be used for. PPEs include masks, gloves, gowns and booties.
- iv. Chair Mattos then requested that Taum-Deenik follow up with Director Betts regarding his request to recruit missing Ex-Officio(s) from the Department of Education (DOH) and the

Department of Public Safety (DPS). These ex-Officio(s) should also be attending these meetings according to statutes. Taum-Deenik will follow-up with Director Betts.

1. Department of Education (DOE) – *none present*
2. Department of Public Safety (DPS) – *none present*

b. Budget / Finances

i. Budget for FY 2020-21:

a) Update on Budget / Expense Status: Chair Mattos shared an email that verified some new budget information from the Department of Human Services - Finance Office. They confirmed that this year's current annual budget is \$20,000 and then next year 2021-22 and the following year 2022-23 budgets will be reduced to \$16,000 per year. Chair Mattos expressed gratitude to DHS for advocating for the commission.

Finance-Chair Mendez recapped the HS-COF budget spreadsheet of expenses for this FY. A quick breakdown included: \$0 for phones, cost for travel & expenses associated with one commission meeting on O'ahu and one meeting on a neighbor-island. Discussion took place about future and continuous virtual meetings, which is all still uncertain in a few months. Chair Mattos shared that current directive from the Governor's office is still limited travel for government business. Mattos also stated that that the commission still has the minimum 2 in-person meetings requirement in place. Mattos will ask Taum-Deenik to update the commission on the current proposed virtual meeting laws going through legislation. He expressed that the commission should plan for two meetings as previously stated. Mendez continued recapping expenses. Chair Mattos shared that expenses should also reflect work towards the Nine (9) Statutory Duties. He shared the brief history of the sponsorship award system they did 2&3 years ago. If an award system is voted on again, he expressed the need to distribute funds in a more fair fashion and that all commissioners should reach out to their community non-profits.

Next, Chair Mattos shared that the budget reflects an allocation for marketing of \$3,000 (referenced on line 59). He asked Commissioner Sunio if that amount was necessary or if it could be decreased to \$2000 based on past spending for literature revisions and printing. Sunio agreed that \$2000 would probably be sufficient and will work with DHS-Henny Saraswati on the revisions. Chair Mattos expressed to considering that the commission is currently not doing public events as was done in the past, especially because of COVID-19 and may not need as much print materials over the next year. Sunio, who is the commissioner in charge of marketing, did agree that \$2000 is probably sufficient. Taum-Deenik also interjected to remind commission that money must be encumbered by June 30, 2021 and that if the commission does not use it, it will lose it. Unspent budget will go to the State's General Fund. Chair Mattos posed the question about receipts needing to be dated by June 30th and he will call DHS to confirm. Taum-Deenik expressed that funds should be encumbered (allocated) by the beginning of June, just because the books close on June 30th.

Chair Mattos asked Taum-Deenik about the intent for DHS to hire paid support staff to help the commission administratively. Taum-Deenik expressed that a proposed bill for part-time staff was submitted in 2019, but was not accepted by legislation due to lack of funds. She further explained that it was noted that the commission has statutes in

place to raise funds for the position allocation, but legislation still did not support the bill. Ibarra (Boards & Commissions) expressed that she spoke with DHS-Director Betts to consider shifting the p/t from the Coalition on the Status of Women to support the fatherhood commission, since they have a f/t Executive Director and a p/t staff. Taum-Deenik responded that it is not possible due to the work load done with the women's coalition. She continued they are overwhelmed and cannot share their staff. She expressed that "In 2019, we had a bill. When it got to the Senate, they lined it out because there was not an appropriation attached to it. Part of our argument was that the Commission can receive private funds for a staff position, but the Senate was not willing to put it into statute without an appropriation. So that's where it ended. We tried it again the next year, (last year) but it didn't make it into the package. But we have it all drafted and it's ready to go. We just need to get some dollars."

Chair Mattos continued on with another statute issue. He shared that unlike other commissions who can actually serve a full term if approved, this fatherhood commission has a statute that limits the length of years to serve. He explained that if a new commissioner takes over for another commissioner who resigns, he/she are limited to only serve the remaining term, and then an additional four years, therefore restricting someone who is passionate about this important cause. This is different from other commissions. This information shared was confirmed by Ibarra's acknowledgement. Ibarra suggested that the commission should work on revising that statute next year.

Taum-Deenik then shared that DHS also tried to help change the commission's quorum requirements to be interpreted as a simple majority. The issue was that at many times in the past, there wasn't enough commissioners to make quorum as described in the statute and this commission would not meet. She shared that the AG's office did not interpret the simple majority statute by current commissioner seats filled. Their interpretation is that majority is the 9 seats available, so simple majority means 5 commissioners for quorum. Chair Mattos expressed that we will accept that direction and that maintaining a full nine commission is a priority. The commission will move forward with the goal to make this the best commission in the state, so that people are lining up to apply. That statement was well received.

Chair Mattos referred back to the topic of the marketing budget and asked that Commissioner Sunio jump on the marketing literature revisions and give a full report by next month. Commissioner Sunio agreed he would contact DHS asap.

Chair Mattos expressed gratitude for Henny (DHS) helping the commission for years and also asked Taum-Deenik if Henny was the only dedicated DHS person to help out, or could someone else help the commission as well. Taum-Deenik expressed that "Henny is only doing it out of the goodness of her heart and with the approval of her boss. There is nobody else, we are all scrambling. There is a hiring freeze. Every time people retire or switch department, there is another hole. You're lucky you do have Henny". Mattos stated "let the record reflect that I so appreciate Henny. And we also need staff to help us because of the amount of volunteer hours I am putting in, which a lot". Taum-Deenik added that Henny is very knowledgeable and she know a lot about processes, and she helps keep the commission informed. The commission acknowledged the input.

b) Proposed Commission – Professional Development

Chair Mattos proposed the idea and importance of Professional Development. He expressed that with the commission being a new team, it could benefit from professional developmental training to build camaraderie and strengths of the team. He shared that he checked with the AG's office, who then referred him to ethics, then on to Office of Informational Practice (IOP) to clarify that the commission can dedicate and spend funds toward professional development to grow the commission and to enhance the commission's work. He stated that he initiated the calls because he and Commissioners Woolfork and Hasegawa got invited to participate in a professional development training with One Shared Future (OSF) through the Kaua'i Fatherhood Council. This invite was for their non-commission work in their perspective counties, not in the role as commissioners. He briefly shared what they have experienced thus far while going through this OSF training and highly suggest the commission allocate funds toward that professional development avenue as well. He shared a proposal that OSF forwarded to him, giving a breakdown in details about what the training would entail. He received two options of cost and training features, which was presented and discussed. Being familiar and having experienced the One Shared Future training themselves, the 3 Ex-Officio(s) chimed in to support that proposal for their professional development. The proposal totals have two cost options of \$4,431 and \$5,395.

Chair Mattos also shared about a virtual national conference coming up in June called the IFC – International Fatherhood Conference. He received this information through his work and involvement in the Early Childhood Development field.

<https://www.npclfathersandfamilies.org/ifc2021-event-overview>. Mattos shared that he called that national conference office and was told that cost is \$150 per person for the 2-day conference (June 9th & 10th). They will also have 2 pre-conference days on June 7th & 8th, which he assumes has additional cost. That amount is unknown yet. He shared that registration should be open in about two weeks to register on-line. He will give more information as he learns more. Mattos then shared details on the event flier he received.

Chair Mattos introduced Commissioner Cardines to speak about the upcoming Fatherhood Conference to be held on April 30th, 2021 from 9:00am to 12:00noon via Zoom. Cardines is currently working with Parents, Inc., in his f/t employment and community role as part of the conference planning committee. He shared that Chair Mattos was the keynote speakers for the 2019 event held at the Ko'olau Ballrooms, along with himself and Commissioners Kang who did breakout training-sessions there as well. He shared that the projected registration fee will be \$25 to attend. Cardines shared that they will feature guest speakers like Kapena's – Kelly Boy DeLima as a celebrity guest speaker. Other well recognized athletes are being sought to speak as well, in the hopes to draw more public awareness about the event. He then shared an event flier and a proposal request from Parents, Inc. of \$2000 for the event, to be used to create professional video recordings of the speakers, expenses for marketing, etc. He continued that the proposal includes offering scholarships for fathers who cannot afford the \$25 registration cost, and shared how Parents, Inc. is an advocate for fatherhood involvement and they put on the 2 prior events in 2018 and 2019. Sunio chimed in to express support and related importance of connections such as this

conference event. It's important and within our duties. Cardines continued with the plan to bring in a well-recognized pro-football player to draw in coaches and players to support healthy fathering, impacting and creating healthier generations of families. He expressed how we can reach out to high school athletes and can scholarship them to attend.

Mattos reference back to the budget spreadsheet and gave a quick recap of the current allocation of the budget and expressed that the goal at hand is to balance the budget and then state a motion to accept the entire budget and its allocations as being discussed with public witness. Commissioner Kippen reintroduced the idea of supporting HCAN's Parenting Leadership Training Institute and asked if that program can be financially supported as well. Chair Mattos expressed that the budget could be modified later by commission discussion and vote to include HCAN once a proposal is submitted for review. A pending allocation could be made with that amount, but an HCAN proposal would need to be submitted for review. He shared there is still an additional proposal not yet discussed here. Kippen expressed that he knows that HCAN is doing the program, but still doesn't know what their financial needs are and/or their desire for support. However, Mattos stated that the commission needs to focus on our current budget decisions at hand and the proposals brought forth here. The commission must make a final decision for a \$20,000 balanced budget was expressed again.

Chair Mattos moved the dialog forward to propose consideration to do the Fatherhood Sponsorship Award (FSA) system that was previously done by HS-COF in 2018 & 2019. The FSA would offer funds of up to \$1000 with allocation system of the following: public announcement done by commissioners reaching out to non-profits, an application process, a decision process and award announcement, etc. Mattos and Sunio gave brief recap of their past experiences doing this distribution of funds to support fatherhood events & programs. They expressed that this is in line with the statutory duties. Mattos shared a modified draft of the application and its processes. Commissioner Sunio also chimed in that the commission did this type of distribution, going even back further in the commission's history. Mattos expressed that doing this FSA system is currently a little late in this fiscal year, but it still can be done, providing that the planning be done either by vote to create a PIG (Permitted Interaction Group) to work on solidifying the application, dates, etc. or we hold an addition meeting soon, so that this FSA is refined and ready for the next March 19th scheduled meeting.

Focus went back to the budget as the commissioners continued to modify the budget spreadsheet to include the \$2000 for the HI Fatherhood Conference through Parents, Inc. In addition, dialog took place about adding \$1000 to be used for scholarship support to help fathers attend the HI Fatherhood Conference. Determination on how to provide the scholarships and who through will be discussed later. Meanwhile and once the \$2000 and \$1000 was entered in to the spreadsheet, the remaining unallocated amount was \$4685, which was allocated to the Fatherhood Sponsorship Award system. These allocations all done openly at this meeting presented a \$20,000 balanced budget.

The final allocation breakdown includes:

Supplies \$100, Mail/Postage \$50, Travel-Airfares \$600+\$1800=\$2400, Travel-Car Rentals \$195+\$220=\$415, Airport Parking \$330, Travel-Per Diem \$275, Marketing

\$2000, IFC-WA DC Virtual Conference \$1350, HI Fatherhood Conference (HIFC)/Parents, Inc.- Proposal \$2000, Addnl HIFC Scholarships \$1000, Fatherhood Sponsorship Award System \$4685, Professional Development \$5395. Total allocation = \$20,000. A motion was proposed by Commissioner Mendez to accept the budget breakdown as discussed and presented in this meeting and 2nd by Cardines. Yes(s) – 7, No(s) -0. Motion passed to accept the \$20,000 Budget, its proposal requests and breakdown as discussed.

Before closing out discussion about the budget, Commissioner Sunio shared that in the past, the commission always allocated funds to support two commissioners to travel to a national conference and then come back and report the experience and information learned. Although we are not traveling to the continent this year, Sunio suggested that we consider continuing this expense in the future. Mattos chimed in and thank Ex-Officio Shim (DOH) for his support and contribution of sending a commissioner to the national fatherhood conference in 2019.

[Note: At 3:22pm, Commissioner Woolfork announce needing to leave this meeting for another appointment. Six (6) commissioners remained in the meeting to still meet quorum].

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

i. Commission TEAM

a) Current Status / Updates / Boards & Commissions Info.

Chair Mattos gave quick update that he is working with the Governor's office on understanding a law that supports removing Commissioner Lunceford from the commission for missing all meetings since September and him making no contact. There may be a law that allows removal if a commissioner misses 3 consecutive unexcused meetings, which would give opportunity for him to be replaced. Meanwhile, we have eight (8) commissioners to make quorum. Mattos forwarded an email to Ibarra (Boards & Commissioner / also in attendance of this meeting) and she confirmed that she is looking in to this process.

ii. Commission's nine (9) Statutory Duties / Status & Updates:

Chair Mattos briefly expressed that all commissioners should find their passion and used their strengths and talents to work on something on the statutory duties.

He specifically talked about how the DHS webpage having outdated resources and phone numbers and emphasized the importance of being a current Central Informational Clearinghouse. - *No further discussion*

a) Central Information Clearinghouse (informational center)

b) Identify Best Practices

c) Identify Best Practices

d) Identify Obstacles

e) Raise Public Awareness

f) Recommend Policies and Practices

g) Promote Education to train Fathers

h) Support Fatherhood Programs

i) Do any and all things necessary to carry out duties and purpose.

- d. Legislation Session 2021
 - ii. Review of current Proposed House and Senate Bills:
Mendez recapped previous discussions and displayed a spreadsheet of potential legislation bills to support or oppose. He shared that most of the bills listed are considered dead bills and he will do further research to present at our March 19th commission meeting if there are any live bills to work with.
- e. Work Plans / Updates & Reports – *No further discussion*
 - i. Community Volunteers and Collaborations
 - ii. County/Districts Sponsorship Award System
 - a) DHS / HS-COF webpage updates
 - i. Meeting Minutes posting
 - b) Create authorized emails/system by County/Districts
 - i. Status of determined division for O`ahu island/County of Honolulu
 - c) Brochure updates / fliers, etc.
 - d) Marketing options
- f. Neighbor-Island meetings – *No discussion*

VIII. Decision Making

- a. FY 2020-21 Budget – Updates / Expense Status / Proposed Expenditures & Revisions:
 - a. *Motion passed above to accept \$20,000 budget.*
 - b. *The commission decided to have an additional special meeting in March prior to the scheduled March 19th meeting to review & solidify the Fatherhood Sponsorship Award System. A date will be determined asap.*
- b. Statutory Duties / Permitted Interaction Group (PIGs) Committees – *N/A*
- c. Commissioner’s picture and contact information per County/District – *N/A*
- d. Proposed House and Senate Bills - Support / Oppose - *Deferred*
- e. Authorized emails/system by County/Districts – *N/A*
- f. Brochure updates / fliers, etc. - *Deferred*
- g. Marketing - *Deferred*
- h. Neighbor-Island annual meetings – *Deferred*

IX. Next meetings:

- a. *A additional special meeting in March prior to the scheduled March 19th meeting to review & solidify the Fatherhood Sponsorship Award System. A date will be determined asap.*
- b. Friday, March 19th, 2021 at 1:00pm virtually via Zoom.

**Special request by guest Sam Holi was honored to speak briefly before ending. Holi expressed being appreciative of the commission and likewise, he was thanked for his presence and sharing.*

X. Executive Session - *N/A*

- XI. Adjournment - Motion made by Sunio to end the meeting and 2nd by Kippen. Yes(s) – 6 / No(s) – 0. Motion passed to adjourn at 3:44pm.