

HAWAII STATE - COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 16, 2021

Time: 1:00pm



Approved
5.12.2021km

Location: virtual meeting via Zoom
Zoom Meeting ID #8082816682 password Thrive
Zoom room opened at 12:55pm to log-on prior to 1:00pm.

I. Call to Order – Chair Mattos called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.

Commissioners present: David (Kawika) Mattos, Chad Hasegawa, Charles Woolfork, Allen Cardines Jr, Alan Sunio, Anthony Mendez, Sam Kippen (*Kippen came in to meeting at 1:43pm*),

Ex-Officio(s):

Amanda Stevens (DHS-Public Information's Officer, O`ahu for Malia Taum-Deenik)
Matthew Shim (DOH – Maternal Health Branch)
Chet Okayama (OYS)
Erin Yamashiro (Commission Counsel / AG)

Public Attendees:

Catherine Sorenson (DOH - Child Abuse Neglect and Prevention Program, O`ahu),
Claire Kamalu Carroll (Hana Community Association, Maui),
Darlyn Chen Scovell (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Action Group - SAFTC, O`ahu),
Genevieve DeRego (IMUA Family Services, Maui, & Parent Leadership Cohort with HCAN),
Jeff Esmond (HS-COF nominee, O`ahu),
Jimmy James Thennes (Kāne Connections & starting a men's/father's support 501(c) org., Maui),
Maka Brautigam-Suapaia (Kāne Connections & starting a men's/father's support 501(c) org., Maui),
Mason Chuck (Kaua`i County Council & Resiliency Project),
Michael Connor (retired Psychologist, Maui),
Puafisi Tupoa (East Oahu Administrator for CWS),
Shannon Carrier (former HS-COF commissioner of Maui, CA.),
Susan Kim (Hawaii - Zero To Three Court, O`ahu),
Ted Haden (Parents and Children Together – Domestic Violence Intervention Programs Director, O`ahu),
Tim Hitchens – Ho`ola Na Pua (Prevention of Sex-Trafficking Work)
Venus Rosete-Medeiros & Jonathan Stenger (Kamehameha Schools, Maui Regional Office)

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

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 or call DHS (808) 586-4855.

- II. Conduct Agreement & reminder
 - a. Rules of Conduct – *read by Chair Mattos*
- III. Quick Review Of Commission’s Statutory Duties – *read by Chair Mattos*
- IV. Community shares or concerns:
 - 1. Public Testimony (introductions made - allowed 2 minutes)
 - 2. Special Guests (needed prior request) - *None presented.*
- V. Approval of Minutes
 - a. March 10th, 2021
 - i. Commissioner Woolfork motioned to approve the March 10th meeting minutes as presented and 2nd by Mendez. Yes – 6 / No – 0. Motion passed and minutes approved to be posted on the DHS HS-COF website.
 - b. March 19th, 2021
 - i. Commissioner Hasegawa motioned to approve the March 10th meeting minutes as presented and 2nd by Sunio. Yes – 6 / No – 0. Motion passed and minutes approved and will be also posted on the website.

Note – Commissioner Sam Kippen joined meeting at 1:45pm

- VI. Ethics & Boundaries / Office of Information Practices (OIP): updates or information
 - a. Chair Mattos reached out regarding what is current to honor travel for public meetings. Waiting to hear the next Governor’s Proclamation & directive soon.
 - b. The OIP has current updates and resources to make sure commissions or boards are in line.
- VII. Discussion
 - a. Ex-Officio(s) updates:
 - 1. Department of Human Services (DHS) – *no further shares*
 - 2. Department of Health (DHS) – *no further shares*
 - 3. Office of Youth Services (OYS) – *no further shares*
 - 4. Department of Education (DOE) – *(still vacant)*
 - 5. Department of Public Safety (DPS) – *(still vacant)*
 - b. Budget for FY 2020-21
 - 1. Update of Budget / Expense Status / Revisions Updates / Other Matters
 - a) Current budget of \$20,000, confirmed that DHS supported to maintain the annual budget. Goal is to eventually get paid staff to support the commission. Currently, commissioners are volunteers. Currently at the tail end of the fiscal year. Chair Mattos stated friendly reminder to not discuss HS-COF business outside of commission meetings.
 - b) \$100 for business cards
 - c) \$50 for postage
 - d) \$3,420 allocated to airfare for two public meetings on O`ahu and Hilo
 - a. Includes transportation, parking, per diem
 - e) \$2,000 for Commissioner Sunio to work on updating marketing materials
 - f) \$1,350 for registration fees for virtual National Conference, WA.

- g) \$3,000 for 3rd Annual – HI. Fatherhood Conference virtually spearheaded by PARENTS Inc.
- h) \$5,395 for Professional Development Training through One Shared Future for commissioners and ex-officio(s)
- i) Estimated leftover of unspent from previous approved budget of \$4,685, which will try to allocate to sponsorship award to programs or fatherhood events.
- j) Every year, we are obligated to put together an HS-COF annual report that goes to DHS, which is put in their over-all DHS annual report. It's important to show what the commission is accomplishing.
- k) O`ahu previously hosted an annual Celebration of Fathers with Look-A-Like Contest. If done last year, it would have been 20th annual event.
- l) Maui Family Support Services, Inc. (MFSS) is having their 14th Annual Celebration of Fathers – Drive Thru Event on June 12th, 2021 from 9am-12pm. Every family will go home with food and donations.
- m) All islands did not host events last year as all events were cancelled due to COVID-19.
- n) Okayama (OYS) Oahu stated that O`ahu had a holiday party for foster families, last one was hosted doing a drive-thru. He shared that he thinks fathers may be more interested in a drive-thru scenario.
- o) Mattos suggested that commission consider having a presence at the Maui event on June 12th on behalf of the commission.
- p) Woolfork stated that Maui's event aligns with the Statutory Duty #7
- q) Sunio suggested idea to have dads in each of the tents and maybe having a contest incorporated. He also hopes to incorporate an event on Oahu either this or next fiscal year. He suggest to do something on each island and it doesn't need to be specifically on father's day.
- r) Mattos shared that the commission shouldn't be putting on events. The commission should be supporting events. Mattos suggested that non-profit agencies take the lead on running events.
- s) Commissioner Sunio, Cardines, Woolfork, Hasegawa, and Mendez would be willing to go to Maui for the Maui's Celebration of Fathers to represent the commission and promote the commission
- t) Mendez asked if a survey can be done at this event. Mattos expressed that MFSS is already planning a survey to be given at the first booth and turned in at the last booth.
- u) Cardines & Sunio expressed that it would be beneficial to organize breakfast with Maui leaders, including Mayor & leaders
- v) Past Commissioner Carrier expressed that showing up to this event and representing the commission would be beneficial enough, and should be replicated on the other islands
- w) Amanda (DHS) stated that she can help with creating a press release for any event that the Commission supports. She expressed that having testimonials and statistics will be helpful.
- x) Mattos expressed the need to have a solid budget allocation and need to spend the funds by end of May/June. Must be encumbered.
- y) Commissioner Woolfork motioned for 6 commissioners to travel to Maui on June 12th to attend the Maui Family Support Services (MFSS) 14th Annual - Celebration of Fathers Event. Commissioner Cardines 2nd the motion.

Commissioner Mattos recused from this decision due to conflict of interest. Yes – 6 / No – 0. Motion passed. Motion also notes that MFSS’s mission statement does reflect the statutory duties of the fatherhood commission.

- z) Revised budget to include 2 vans, and 4 airport parking, and off-island per diem. Commissioner Kippen explained that he is unable to attend the Maui - June 12th event due to family trip and outer state travel previously planned.
- aa) Commissioner Mattos shared that he understands to process of travel documentation and processes under DHS and that he will help the commissioners to work with Henny (DHS) to quickly get the travel prep done.
- bb) Chair Mattos also expressed that he researched the commission’s original legislation bills from 2003 to present. The 2006 bills state that the commission is expected to provide an annual Parent-Friendly Business Award each year that supports fathers. In addition, Mattos suggested that the commission considers doing at least six Father of the Year Awards at the June HI Fatherhood Conference. He suggested three (3) on Oahu (Leeward, Central and Windward) and one on each other county with a total of 6 awards, He suggested that \$100 be allocated per glass trophy to be added to the budget (\$1,200 total)
- cc) Could purchase items or gift cards to disperse out on behalf of the commission or for awards
- dd) Would need a criteria for awards. Award could be used to leverage media events
- ee) Allocated \$1,200 for trophies

- c. Proposed Commission – Professional Development - Updates on OSF upcoming training to be presented as we move forward – *no further discussions*
- d. Fatherhood Sponsorship Award Program & System, Financial & Other Details
 - 1. With Mattos recusing from voting, submitted applications were quickly reviewed for qualifications based on statutory duties, timeliness, events, etc.
 - 2. Number of applications received: Three (3)
 - 3. Applications received:
 - 1) Children’s Discovery Center requesting \$1,000
 - 2) Aloha House, Inc. requesting \$1,000 (previously awarded in 2019)
 - 3) Hana Community Association requesting \$1,000
 - 4. Priority to award:
 - a) Mendez stated that application are within the budget to approve all three (3): Total of \$3,000 request was submitted. Budget allocation is \$4,685, therefore commission can give what each requested.
 - b) Discussion took place in review of the applications and their events and activities. All are in line with the commission’s statutory duties.
 - c) Question raised if possible to award more than the request amount? Answer: yes because still have additional funds.
 - d) Commissioner Hasegawa suggesting to interview applicants to review proposed budget that could zero out awards. If not, then remainder of award funds can be utilized to buy program supplies or gifts for the Maui June 12th event. Due to the limited time of less than 2 months to finalize and spend this FY budget, Sunio suggested that final decisions be made at this meeting.

5. Commissioner Woolfork motioned to accept and approve the application for the Children's Discovery Center for \$1,000. Commissioner Cardines 2nd. Yes – 6 / No – 0 (Mattos recused from voting). Motion passed.
6. Commissioner Sunio motioned to accept and approve the application for the Aloha House, Inc. for \$1,000. Commissioner Woolfork 2nd. Yes – 6 / No – 0 (Mattos recused from voting). Motion passed.
7. Commissioner Woolfork motions to accept and approve the application for the Hana Community Association for \$1,000. Commissioner Mendez 2nd. Yes – 6 / No – 0 (Mattos recused from voting). Motion passed.
8. Chair Mattos stated that he will advise DHS of decisions and forward the announcement award letters to the three recipients by Monday, April 19th.

**Referring back to discussion under:* a) Update of Budget / Expense Status / Revisions Updates / Other Matters:

9. Commissioner Hasegawa motioned as stated per the final adjusted budget to accept allocation of 1,200 for trophies or plaques for the HI Fatherhood Conference on June 18th for awards and the remaining \$2,215 to the MFSS - Celebration of Fathers Event on June 12th. Commissioner Mendez seconded this motion. Yes – 5 / No – 0 (Mattos recused from voting / Sunio left the meeting at approximately 3:45pm just before vote) Motion passed.
- e. O`ahu and Neighbor-Island (Hilo) Commission Meetings / status & updates
1. May 21st - O`ahu Mtg - *no travel for public meetings per Governor's directive on April 20, 2021*
 2. June 25th - Hilo / Hawai'i Island Mtg - *no travel for public meetings per Governor's directive on April 20, 2021*
- f. Strategic Planning (HS-COF / SP-FY 2020-21) - - *no further discussion*
- g. Commission TEAM
1. Current Status / Updates / Boards & Commissions Info. - Chair Mattos shared that:
 - a. 3 Commissioners are being reviewed for final approval on the Senate floor and the Governor– Alan Cardines, Dan Kittredge, Jeff Esmond pre-approved by the Senate HMS Committee.
 - b. Pending: In regards to the commissioner who has been inactive, we are working to potentially remove him from the commission. We also need to help work to change the current law to state that if commissioners are inactive, regardless of reason), that they could be remove more immediately.
- h. Commission's nine (9) Statutory Duties / Status & Updates
1. Central Information Clearinghouse (informational center)
 - a. Commissioner Woolfork has been working with Hide Wu with Early Childhood Action Strategy to create a spreadsheet of community contact information and resources to be gathered and/or updated on to AUW 211. Woolfork also shared that he wants to create a Facebook group for the HS-Commission on Fatherhood. Discussion tabled till the next meeting
 2. Identify Best Practices – *no discussion*

3. Identify Obstacles – *no discussions*
 - a. Create Social Media platforms to identify obstacles and issues with:
 - b. Family Court
 - c. Child Welfare Services
 - d. Other obstacles
 - e. Discussion to create a Facebook group for the Commission on Fatherhood to be tabled to the next meeting
 4. Raise Public Awareness – *no discussions*
 5. Recommend Policies and Practices – *no discussions*
 6. Promote Education to train fathers – *no discussions*
 7. Support Fatherhood Programs – *no discussions*
 - a. HI 3rd Annual Fatherhood conference updates – Allen Cardines
 - b. Potentially inviting Lisa from PARENTS Inc to be guest speaker for May event
 - c. Ho`ola Na Pua Starfish Mentoring Program update – Allen Cardines (tabled to next meeting)
 - d. Early Childhood Actions Strategizes (ECAS) update – Kawika Mattos: No pressing updates
 8. Increase Fatherhood Capacity – *no discussions*
 - a. Create a Go-Fund / Fundraising: Budget is reduced to \$16,000 next year. Table this for next meeting to increase father capacity.
 - b. Create a Financial Business Checking Account
 9. Do any and all things necessary to carry out duties and purpose.
- i. Legislation Session 2021 – *no discussions*
 - j. Work Plans / Updates & Reports – *no discussions*
 - k. 2021-22 Annual DHS Report preparation - on-going updates to be done by commissioner Hasegawa – *no discussions*
 - l. Community Collaborations and Volunteers
 - m. Hawai`i State – Fatherhood Conference update – from Allen Cardines
 - n. NPCL's 2021 International Fatherhood Conference update – *Mattos expressed that commissioners will need to register for this ASAP. More updates and discussion at the next meeting.*
 - o. Other upcoming conferences/events – *no discussions*
 - p. DHS / HS-COF webpage updates / status of Meeting Minutes & other matters: *Mattos reported that all meeting minutes is up to date on the website; meetings are posted correctly.*
 - q. County of Honolulu/districts of O`ahu and the Neighbor-Island Counties updates – *no discussions*
 - r. Marketing materials updates / Marketing options - update from Alan Sunio: *No update, Sunio stepped off at 3:45pm*

VIII. Decision Making

- a. FY 2020-21 Budget – Updates / Expense Status / Proposed Expenditures & Revisions – *See above discussions & motions*
- b. Fatherhood Sponsorship Award Program / System, Financial & Other Details – *See above discussions & motions*
- c. O`ahu and Neighbor-Island (Hilo) Commission Meetings - *See above comment/ no actions*

- d. Strategic Planning (HS-COF / SP-FY 2020-21) - *See above comment / no actions*
 - i. Commission TEAM - Current Status / Updates / Boards & Commissions Info.
 - ii. Commission's nine (9) Statutory Duties / Status & Updates
 - i. Start HS-COF Social Media streams
 - ii. Start Shared Parent Petition & Rights to/for fatherhood
 - iii. Create a Go-Fund to increase fatherhood capacity
 - iv. Create a Financial Business Checking Account
- e. Proposed Legislation House and Senate Bills - Support / Oppose – *no actions*
- f. Community Collaborations and Volunteers – *no actions*
- g. Marketing – *no actions*

IX. Next meeting:

- a. Friday, May 21st, 2021 at 1:00pm virtually via Zoom.

X. Executive Session - *none*

XI. Adjournment

- a. Commissioner Hasegawa motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:01pm. Commissioner Cardines 2nd the motion. Motion passed and meeting adjourned.