

LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Wednesday, August 08, 2012

DLIR Conference Room 320
830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

4444 Rice Street, Suite 330
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Maui District Health Office, State Office Building
54 South High Street, Room 415, Wailuku, Hawaii 96703

746 Hele Mauna Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. with quorum by Chair, Dominic Inocelda. Neighbor Island council and community members from Kauai, Maui and the Big Island joined in via videoconferencing.

1. Attendance

Present:

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| – Dominic Inocelda | Language Access Advisory Council, Chair |
| – Gerald Ohta | Language Access Advisory Council, Vice Chair |
| – Serafin “Jun” Colmenares | Executive Director, Office of Language Access, Ex-officio |
| – Livia Wang (for Bill Hoshijo) | Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio |
| – Melba Bantay | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Alohalani Boido | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Jennifer Dotson | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Margaret Hopkins | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Edelene Uriarte | Language Access Advisory Council Member |

Excused:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| – Kristine Pagano (for Francine Wai) | Executive Director, DCAB, Ex-officio |
| – Dr. Ruth Mabanglo | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Dr. Tin Myaing Thein | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Mary Santa Maria | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Azi Turturici | Language Access Advisory Council Member |

Guests:

- Lito Asuncion, Kauai Elderly Affairs; Mindy Emmons, Kauai; and Nancy Leano, from Maui District Health Office.

Staff:

- Rebecca “Becky” Gardner, staff

2. Welcome and Introductions

- The Chair welcomed all present including those participating by videoconferencing and guests.

3. Approval of minutes of the July 11, 2012 meeting

- The July 11, 2012 minutes were approved as presented.

4. Executive Director’s Report

- Executive Director Jun Colmenares submitted a written report.

5. Report of the Chair

- Dominic Inocelda, Chair, had nothing to report.

6. Reports of Ad Hoc Committees

- **5th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access.**
 - Jennifer Dotson, Chair for the Conference Committee, made a report on the committee’s progress.
 - Bag-stuffing is scheduled for Monday, August 20, 2012 at 2pm.
 - Food/Clean-up team is being led by Melba Bantay as captain.
 - Edelene Uriarte will be captain of parking team.
 - Gail McGarvey is captain of registration team.
 - We will need 1 or 2 additional people during the break-out sessions to look out for audio-visual concerns; water for presenters; air-conditioning; and other logistical issues.
 - Council members asked to contact colleagues and friends to get word out about the conference. Dominic Inocelda will immediately send out an email to his contacts; Gail McGarvey to send out one final flyer with an extension of registration deadline to August 15.
 - Exhibitors: there are 10 spaces available; 15 spaces total. We will extend the deadline to register as an exhibitor.
 - The Governor is unable to attend the conference, as is Loretta Fuddy, Director of Department of Health. However, Keith Yamamoto, Deputy Director will be there to give a message.
 - The program is almost ready, a draft was distributed for review.
- **2012 Language Access Month – Fall Law Forum –**
 - The law forum will be scheduled for sometime later this fall.
 - Becky will be meeting on August 9 with Dina Shek of the Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawaii based at UH Law School; Jennifer Rose, Gender Equity Specialist at the University of Hawaii; and Calleen Ching, of the Hawaii Immigrant Justice Center with Legal Aid Society – all lawyers and committed to language access, to plan and

brainstorm Law Forum topics. The main purpose of the form will be to discuss State and Federal language access law and possibly what constitutes “covered entities.”

7. **New Business**

- Rather than a council meeting, OLA will conduct a full day retreat on November 7, 2012. Possibly at Susannah Wesley Center or Paki Hale (will need to contact City & County of Honolulu to reserve).
- Purpose of the retreat is to revisit Hawaii’s language access laws; the function of the language access advisory council; and the strategic plan looking at OLA’s goals and objectives.
- Possibly ask Pamela Martin, DLIR Language Access Coordinator to be the facilitator.

8. **Announcements**

- Gerald Ohta announced an upcoming conference: Pacific Global Health on October 8-10 for Hawaii’s Public Health professionals. Cost to register is \$245.
- Melba Bantay announced that Catholic Charities has partnered with local lawyers with the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Faith Action for Community Equity (FACE), United 5, and other groups to conduct a workshop for undocumented youth on how to apply for employment authorization under the new policy by the current federal administration; as well as to avoid scams. It will be held on August 29, 2012 at the First Methodist Church on Beretania Street from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Jun Colmenares will translate the public service announcement in Visayan.
- There was general discussion over the survey concerning LEP persons and TheBus as directed by Dr. Dick Miller and conducted by a mainland company. Those receiving calls from the survey company felt the approach was too aggressive and abrasive. Jun Colmenares will contact those arranging the survey to voice concern.
- Alohalani Boido announced that she is now a union organizer/researcher for Communication Workers of America. She is working on a grant to bring in trainers for court interpreting – particularly Korean, Cantonese, Vietnamese, and Mandarin – to assist interpreters in preparing for oral examinations.
- There are now two vacancies on the Language Access Advisory Council that must be filled: the Oahu at-large seat, previously held by Betty Brow; and the seat for a Hawaiian Language expert left vacant by Namaka Rawlins.
- Next Language Access Advisory Council Meeting date is Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM.

9. **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.