Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting the health and welfare of the community is a priority. The meeting was held remotely, with Board members and staff participating via an online meeting venue. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations office, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 329 was made available to the public and board members as an on-site location.

MINUTES

MEMBER ATTENDEES:
Ian Kitajima, Committee Chair, Oceanit
Cary Miyashiro, Quad D Solutions
Debbie Spencer-Chun, Adult Friends for Youth
Winona Whitman, Committee Vice Chair, ALU LIKE Inc.
Erin Yagi, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education
Kealoha Daubert, Goodwill Industries of Hawaii
Danny Wyatt, Leeward Community College
Cheryl Matthews, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
Maureen Bates, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
Steve Sue, Bizgenics ID8 Studios
David Sun-Miyashiro, Hawaii Kids CAN
Evangeline Casinas, Department of Education Career and Technical Education
Joseph Passantino, Princess Ruth Keelikolani Middle School
Josiah Akau, Kinai ‘Eha
Stacey Ferreira, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Warren Kawano, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education
I. **Call to Order**………………………………………………………………Committee Chair Ian Kitajima
Chair Ian Kitajima called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. **Approval of Minutes**
A. **May 10, 2022, Meeting**
Chair Kitajima requested a motion to approve the minutes for the May 10, 2022, meeting. Cary Miyashiro moved to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2022, meeting. Evangeline Casinas seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

III. **Discussion on Committee’s Short and Long-Term Projects and Goals**
Chair Kitajima went over the topics, ideas, and concerns that were mentioned in the two previous meetings including:
- The high school drop-out rate due to COVID-19;
- Addressing the low graduation rate in the Chuukese population;
- Retention of special education students and teachers;
- Redirecting students to stay and/or return to school to avoid youth violence and work with them so they become employable;
- Digital media and entrepreneurial program for students to tell stories using technology, action, developing captions, and so on. Film festivals and borderless schools’ concepts.
- Partnerships with organizations with existing grants and providing counseling programs and services;
- New DOE Career and Technical Education career pathways rolling out that involve sustainable hospitality and tourism, culinary, cultural arts and media entertainment, and artisan design and entrepreneurship.
- Goal of developing Princess Ruth Keelikolani Middle School into a school that you would have your family attend.
- It is Mental Health Awareness month; promote peer mentoring, counselors, and adjusting to remote work/ back to in-person work.

Chair Kitajima reminded the members that due to legislative action in the 2021 session, the funding for the Workforce Development Council was moved to Workforce Development Division (WDD) within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to administer. Final
approval is with WDD. The proposals supported by the committee will be discussed with the Executive Committee, and then to the full WDC Board for recommendation and approval, and submitted to WDD.

A. **Sharing of proposed projects and goals by members**
Steve Sue presented a proposal going over a comprehensive Digital Media Program that includes partners with many of the organizations serving on the youth committee. It can be found at the link below: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y21HT1tMeRqAPa-anmW1hzgg4o4vIjjpIR8GdEqK-34/edit#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y21HT1tMeRqAPa-anmW1hzgg4o4vIjjpIR8GdEqK-34/edit#)

B. **Recommendations of proposed projects, goals, and next steps**
Chair Kitajima recommended, to not only to Mr. Sue but anyone that has a proposed project, to show the full project then break it into adjustable pieces to show how projects will start and the general timeline, with detailed budget.

Chair Kitajima recommended to Mr. Sue to discuss phase one with the partners to really understand what the first phase will entail, so he can bring it to the Executive meeting. Mr. Sue proposed a meeting with the committee.

Debbie Spencer-Chun asked who the target population is exactly and how the targeted population are getting reached. Chair Kitajima answered, youth ages 14-24 year old is the target population of youth, Allicyn Tasaka added that the American Job Centers and their youth centers located on each island are a good way to reach the youth.

Chair Kitajima requested a motion to accept the broader digital media concept “team” project, subject to more collaboration with the committee. Cary Miyashiro moved to accept. Winona Whitman seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

IV. **Next Meeting Schedule**
Chair Kitajima proposed another meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Mr. Sue will also schedule a side meeting to talk over the elements of phase one and the proposal as a whole. The meeting is set for Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.

V. **Announcements and Public Testimonies**
There were no announcements or public testimonies.

VI. **Adjournment**
Chair Ian Kitajima adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.