

State Commission on Fatherhood

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Lieutenant Governor's Meeting Room, Hawai'i State Capitol

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandy Baz, Greg Farstrup, Michael Kramer, Steven Nakaoka, Marika Ripke,
Merton Chinen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bernard Carvalho, Sylvia Yuen, Loretta Fuddy, Clayton Fujie, Henry Oliva,
Russell Suzuki

1. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Farstrup at 10:08 a.m. with a quorum of 5-of-9 voting members.

2. APPROVE July 26, 2000 MEETING MINUTES

Action: The July 26th meeting minutes were approved (Baz/Kramer; unanimous)

3. August 23rd and September 27th 2005 MEETING NOTES

The August and September meeting notes were reviewed.

4. SCF HILO AND OAHU COMMISSIONER VACANCIES

Michael Kramer is still talking to people about filling these positions. He will lead a Fatherhood training in Hilo in 2 weeks and will push to fill these positions. For the Oahu vacancy, Myrna Murdock is still interested. Marika has passed along the information about the SCF and how to apply to her contacts in Hilo. Greg will check with Kamehameha Schools and Partners in Development for potential applicants.

5. SCF BUDGET AND FUNDING

- a. **SCF Treasurer** – Marika Ripke has offered to serve as the SCF treasurer, with assistance from Russell Suzuki. Will vote on this at the next meeting.
- b. **Repay SCF members for SCF's Neighbor Island air fares** – SCF trust account for 20K is in the process of being set up in Office of Budget and Finance, and the money is on it's way from Japan. Once the account is set up, we will work on reimbursement for neighbor island commissioners. In the meantime, commissioners seeking reimbursement should prepare documentation for their reimbursement requests.
- c. **SCF budget proposal for DHS and Governor's budget** – Budget has been submitted for \$122,000, which would fund 2 positions (Director and Assistant) plus roughly 18K in operating costs. We'll need to testify once it gets to committee. We should know more in next month or two. Merton will e-mail around the budget to the rest of the Commission. If doesn't survive the Governor's budget, we'll will ask Rep. Greene and/or Sen. Kanno to introduce a SCF funding bill.
- d. **Commissions' Children Trust Fund Proposal** – Submitted. We should hear something in December or January.

6. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

- a. **Legislative SCF funding bill for 2006 Legislature. Action:** A motion passed to prepare a legislative bill ask for: a) \$122,000 for the SCF budget; b) deleting the "Office of Children and Youth" from ACT 156-2003, as it no longer exists, c) inserting "Chief Justice of the Supreme Court" (head of the Judiciary); and d) using introductory language saying "Whereas the State Commission on the Status of Women has been funded..." (Kramer; Nakaoka; unanimous). Baz offered to write and circulate a draft of this bill. Kramer offered write and circulate a draft resolution regarding procurement.

- b. **SB 1775 re: funding for Parenting/Play Groups in Hawaii prisons** – Still alive; held in finance committee. We briefly discussed some of the language/content of the bill (e.g., family unification, strengthening activities).
- c. **Legislative tracking-** It was suggested that we ask various legislators to help identify and track legislation related to fatherhood issues that is still active from last sessions.

Kramer will talk to Sen. Kanno and Rep. Green about this, as well as Liz Chun at GBA.

Farstrup will inform SCF of the Fatherhood legislative initiatives focused on by Sen. Chun-Oakland, Rep. Arakaki, Keiki Caucus, Commission on the Status of Women, SR40 Task Force (Family Court issues), and SCR128 Task Force (Children of Incarcerated Parents).

It was also suggested we meet in late January or early February and create a legislative package of bills that the SCF will support. Rep. Green's office is planning to hold 3 Fatherhood-focus meetings with Legislators during the 2006 Legislative session, and may be able to help us with the research. Thus, we will announce early next year our bill for funding and our legislative package.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Recognition/Events** (Chinen) – Farstrup will present the Parent Friendly Business Awards at the 2005 Outstanding Advocated for Youth ceremony at Washington Place on Friday Oct. 28th. Kramer, Farstrup, Ripke, and Oliva will be attending.
- b. **Public Info & Ed (Ripke)** – SCF brochure should be ready to go by our next meeting. We will initially print 200 copies.
- c. **Policy & Practice** (Farstrup, Kramer)
 - 1) **Agency surveys** – Kramer passed out the revised agency survey and received feedback. He will redraft based on the discussion.
 - 2) **AmeriCorps** – Ripke will contact the U.H. AmeriCorps office to begin arrangement for a volunteer to work with the SCF on its activities.

8. FUTURE MEETINGS

- a. **Schedule** – Next meeting is scheduled for November 29th from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The December meeting (tentatively scheduled for the 27th) will need to be determined at the Nov. SCF meeting (i.e., whether enough people will be able to attend due to the holidays).
- b. **Place** – Future meetings will be held in the Lt. Governor's office.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:40.

Submitted by: Marika Ripke, Recording Secretary
Date Submitted: Nov. 10, 2005

Approved by: State Commission on Fatherhood
Date Approved: November 29, 2005