

LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

HIOSH Conference Room 427
830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Piikoi A Conference Room
4444 Rice Street, Lihue, Hawaii

DLIR Hawaii District Office
75 Aupuni Street, Room 108, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

MINUTES

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

1. Attendance

Present:

- Dominic Inocelda Language Access Advisory Council, Chairperson
- 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, HI Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio
- Azi Turturici Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Lito Asuncion Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Sr. Earnest Chung Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Alohalani Boido Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Dr. Suzanne Zeng Language Access Advisory Council Member

Excused:

- Jennifer Dotson Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Namaka Rawlins Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Mary Santa Maria Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Canisius Filibert Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Betty Brow Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Dr. Tin Myaing Thein Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Kristine Pagano for Francine Wai Executive Director, DCAB, Ex-officio

Others Present:

- Frances Lum Department of the Attorney General

2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **Approval of minutes for the November 18, 2009 meeting**
 - Alohalani moved and Gerald seconded that the minutes be approved as distributed. Motion carried.
4. **Executive Director's Report – See attached**
 - It's been almost a month since the departure of OLA staff. Executive director is trying to complete unfinished tasks left by staff.
 - Student practicum may include tracking of language access legislation during the legislative session. May also ask them to testify.
 - OLA is keeping its office space and equipment, including computers (except one), which volunteers and student interns will use. The computer previously used by the legal clerk will be borrowed by HIOSH on a temporary basis.
5. **Report of the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee**
 - Chair Sister Earnest reported that the committee has not met but that there are some ideas being floated around regarding the preservation of staff positions as well as strengthening the office and making it more independent by moving it to another department or branch of the government. The question is: what should the Council's stand be on these issues? After some discussions, it was moved and seconded that the Council will focus on three things: preserving the office, keeping staff positions in the books, and funding the positions. The motion was unanimously approved.
 - The Committee will come up with a proposal for action by the Council during the January 2010 meeting.
 - The Committee will collaborate with other community groups to gain their support and work on other issues.
6. **2010 Language Access Month Celebrations & 3rd Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access**
 - The OLA executive director and the incoming volunteer will plan out a couple of events for the language access month celebration. However, it was suggested that a member of the Council, or somebody from the community should chair the conference.
 - The office will look into possible partnerships with the university, foundations, the private sector and other non-profit groups.
7. **Announcements**
 - The Inter-Agency Council (IAC) is having its annual Christmas luncheon today at 11:30 a.m. in Kalihi.
 - Meeting this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. on Census 2010 called by Sen. Chun-Oakland at the DAGS building.
 - Next meeting will be January 13, 2010 from 9:30 – 11 A.M. at DLIR Director's conference room.
8. **Adjournment**
 - Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 A.M.