DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM (DBEDT)

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION ON THE 13TH FESTIVAL OF PACIFIC ARTS & CULTURE (FESTPAC) MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019, AT 9:00 A.M.
HAWAI’I CONVENTION CENTER
1801 KALĀKAUA AVE., BOARD ROOM B
HONOLULU, HAWAI’I 96815

Commission Members Present were:

J. Kalani English, Chair - Senate President’s Designee
Māpuana de Silva - Community Member
Mehana Hind - Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Kalani Kaʻanā’anā - Hawaiʻi Tourism Authority Designee
Misty Kela’i - City & County of Honolulu Designee
Mike McCartney - DBEDT
Monte McComber - Governor’s Designee

Guests:

Jacob Aki - Senator English’s Office
James Huang - TECO
Will Kane - Strategies 360
Honey Maltin-Wisot - Strategies 360
Ngahiraka Mason - Independent (NZ)
Michael Pili Pang - PA‘I Foundation
Jay Rojas - PA‘I Foundation
Aaron Sala - FESTPAC Planning Committee
Vicky Takamine - PA‘I Foundation
Kanoe Takitani-Puahi - MOCA

Staff:

Margaret Ahn - Attorney General’s Office
Dennis Ling - DBEDT
Jamie Lum - DBEDT
Randy Tanaka - DBEDT
Selma Malcolm (Recording) - DBEDT

Apologies:

Snowbird Bento - Community Member
Lynn DeCoite - House Speaker’s Designee
CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair English on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 9:00 a.m., who welcomed everyone present. Special welcome was extended to Mr. Jay Rojas, Managing Director of PA‘I Foundation. He invited all the guests to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, were approved on a motion by Mr. Monte McComber and seconded by Ms. Misty Kela‘i.

The motion was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Legislative Update on HB1072 HD1 and SB1493 ($5 million appropriation for FESTPAC):

Chair English reported that HB1072 HD1 moved to the Finance Committee, however, a hearing was not scheduled. SB1493 was not heard in the Senate. It is his understanding that the House Finance Committee is open to putting a line item in DBEDT’s budget for FESTPAC. He urged Ms. Takamine to continue efforts to secure FESTPAC funding. He also noted that Mr. McCartney and Mr. Ling of DBEDT are aware of the process.

B. Reconsideration of the Festival Village Site Approved at the Commissioner Meeting on October 26, 2018 and Formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG):

Chair English stated that at the October 26, 2018 meeting the Commissioners selected the Kaka‘ako Makai Park as the site to construct the Festival Village for FESTPAC; however, the Hawai‘i Community Development Authority (HCDA) has not yet transferred ownership of the park to the City and County of Honolulu. He is concerned that this delay could impact the building of the Village.

Discussion was held about the selection of alternate sites for the Festival’s activities in the event that Kaka‘ako Park is not available. Some of the venues under consideration are the Hawai‘i Convention Center (Village on top of building/Markets at the bottom), the Bishop Museum, the Hawai‘i State Art Museum, Thomas Square, (concerns with parking/condos/hospital in area), the Neal Blaisdell Center and the Waikiki Shell.

Mr. Ka‘anā‘anā stated that the Rotary International Convention will be held in Honolulu in June 2020 and the dates that are set for FESTPAC, June 10-21, coincide with the Rotary’s Convention. Although the Festival has the Convention Center blocked during that time, the Rotary International Conference will end on June 9th with move-out occurring on June 9th. Mr. Ka‘anā‘anā was also concerned about using the Convention
Center rooftop as a venue because some delegations can only perform their traditional dances on the ground, specifically on dirt, so the rooftop may not be suitable.

Ms. Takamine said she will reach out to Kuiniselani Tago-Elisara to see if the Pacific Community (SPC) might reconsider allowing Hawai‘i to have one main Festival Village location with the idea of building a Village at the Bishop Museum on the great lawn. She will discuss these options with Ms. Māpuana de Silva.

Ms. Takamine also stated that PA‘I Foundation would like to explore the option of creating satellite sites in the community with delegations rotating among the various sites. She suggested that the Festival Village could be split up into satellite villages at locations such as the Bishop Museum, the Hawai‘i State Art Museum, Kapi‘olani Park Bandstand as well as out in the rural areas like Waimea Valley, Waimānalo Beach Park, Wai‘anae and Kualoa. Each country will be rotated to the different venues and have the opportunity to share their cultural arts at those venues/communities, rather than having to stay in one location.

At this point Ms. Kela‘i introduced Ms. Kanoe Takitani-Puahi, Events Coordinator for the Mayor.

Chair English recommended that a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) be created to investigate alternative sites for the Festival Village and activities and asked that the Group report back at the next Commission meeting in two (2) weeks.

Motion was made by Mr. Mike McCartney and seconded by Ms. Māpuana de Silva to create a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) with Mr. Mike McCartney, Ms. Misty Kela‘i and Ms. Māpuana de Silva as members, with alternate members Mr. Monte McComber and Ms. Mehana Hind. The PIG will make recommendations to the Commission to determine the best location(s) for the Festival Village and activities consistent with the Mission of the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture, and available funds.

The motion was passed unanimously.

C. Discussion and Decision-making regarding Destination Management Company (DMC) for FESTPAC:

Discussion was held regarding a Destination Management Company (DMC) for FESTPAC. Mr. Ka‘anā‘anā noted that the DMC is an entity that can handle the logistical details of the Festival. He felt that DMCs are well positioned and have the necessary networking relationships with local partners to effectively and efficiently manage those elements of the Festival.

Mr. McCartney suggested that it would be good to have a DMC assist with the planning, logistics and coordination of the overall Festival. He also said that DMCs are excellent
hosts, and an invitation for a formal bid should be made while we work with our partners at the Hawai‘i Convention Center.

Mr. Ling suggested that the hiring of a DMC would require a procurement/bid process as the funds are with DBEDT.

Ms. Takamine noted that PA‘I Foundation was in the process of hiring a contractor pending the outcome of today’s discussion regarding DMCs. She suggested that the selection process be expedited since several countries are waiting to secure airfares and set/approve their budgets for travel.

Mr. Tanaka suggested that in order for PA‘I Foundation to accomplish its immediate short-term goals, PA‘I Foundation should be given the authority to create a limited scope Request for Proposal (RFP), select vendor and enter into a contract with the Commission’s approval, including approval of a threshold contract amount.

Ms. Takamine stated that she will do a hybrid version of a RFP for a DMC.

The Commission unanimously consented on a threshold of $25,000 for PA‘I Foundation to move ahead with the contract.

D. Festival Director’s Report:

Ms. Takamine reported the following:

DBEDT provided a spreadsheet template for the Director’s report. Mr. Ling then explained the purpose for developing the template.

**Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations:** The Commission reviewed the revised budget (per request at the previous meeting) reflecting the 2018 appropriations of $755,000. Mr. Rojas provided a synopsis of the budget; he also stated that the $755,000 was approved by DBEDT.

- Ms. Takamine stated that there are no new developments on: Housing, Venues and Facilities.
- The volunteer program is pending the release of additional funding.
- Fundraising – The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Our Town Grant for $200,000 for Kaka‘ako and the Institute of Museum and Library Science (IMLS) Grant are pending.
- Received $100,000 from Art Works and $45,000 from Map Fund.
- City and County – requested a line item in the Mayor’s Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA)’s budget for FESTPAC.

- Contacted Beth Lum and she suggested a funding goal be established once State funding is confirmed at the end of this Legislative session.

- Programs – Heritage Arts & Creative Arts: Hawai‘i Convention Center Exhibition Halls, Bishop Museum, the Hawai‘i State Art Museum and the Honolulu Museum are confirmed.

- Delegation Visit is schedule for September 9-13, 2019. The farewell reception will be held at Washington Place. DBEDT will make the request.

- Hawaiian Airlines is proposed to be the National Carrier for FESTPAC – Ms. Takamine to coordinate.

- The new Website for FESTPAC was launched at www.FESTPAC-Hawaii2020.org with changes still being made. Ms. Takamine said that individuals/organizations supporting FESTPAC will be recognized by placing their logos on the website with a hyperlink to their webpages.

Mr. Ka’anā’anā inquired if the website logo is changed to a flat bar for the canoe. Ms. Takamine will report about the design at the next meeting. Chair English asked the Commissioners to review the new website and comment accordingly.

E. Report on Hawai‘i Delegation Trip to Aotearoa – February 18-25, 2019:

Mr. Pili Pang gave an update on the trip to Aotearoa. The purpose was to promote and distribute information on FESTPAC at the Te Matatini National Kapa Haka Festival. The delegation met with representatives of various museums, artist groups, cultural practitioners and organizations regarding their FESTPAC applications. They also had multiple interviews (live) with Maori Television to promote FESTPAC. The delegation included Monte McComber (Commissioner), Misty Kela‘i (Commissioner) Jacob Aki (Senator English’s Office), Michael Pili Pang (PA‘I Foundation) Kahoku Lindsey-Asing (FESTPAC Youth Ambassador Program) and Honey Maltin-Wisot (Strategies 360).

Chair English, on behalf of the Commission, extended appreciation and thanks to Ngahiraka Mason of Independent New Zealand for the great support the delegation received in Aotearoa.
NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on the Revised Proposed FESTPAC Budget:

Mr. Ling stated that there is still $175,000 remaining from the 2017 appropriation. An amendment to the PA‘I Foundation contract is being developed to add funding from the 2018 appropriation. PA‘I is preparing a cash flow projection based on receiving $755,000 out of the $950,000 appropriation.

B. Discussion on Pre-Festival Visit September 2019:

The Heads of Delegation will be in Hawai‘i from September 9-13, 2019 for a series of meetings, bio-security checks and site visits, etc. Ms. de Silva and Ms. Takamine will confirm dates with Ms. Kuiniselani Tago-Elisara. Possible venue for the meeting is the Hawai‘i Convention Center.

C. Discussion on Hawai‘i’s FESTPAC Delegation:

Chair English proposed to make Hina Wong the Festival Delegation’s Head and Kūhiō Lewis as the Deputy. He remarked that Hina has the ability to work across the different guidelines/communities within the different Pacific Islands. Discussion ensued and Ms. Takamine advised that she has been working on the Delegation list for over a year and has already reached out to a number of groups/individuals. Ms. Kanoe Takitani-Puahi suggested that since this is nation to nation, we will need a cultural delegation separate from the structural organization of the Festival. Mr. McCartney agreed that we have to distinguish between the Host Role vs. Participant Role.

Ms. de Silva commented that as the host country, we have flexibility in structuring our own delegation size and can even designate different leaders for different art forms.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2019, at 9:00 a.m., at the Hawaiian Convention Center, Room A.
ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Senator J. Kalani English
Chair

9 April 2019
Date