

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION ON THE 13TH FESTIVAL OF
PACIFIC ARTS & CULTURE (FestPAC) MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021 AT 1:30PM

VIA VIRTUAL APPLICATION ZOOM: VIDEO / AUDIO CONFERENCE



HO'OU LU LĀHUI
Regenerating Oceania
13th Festival of Pacific Arts & Culture
Hawaii 2024

Commission Members Present were:

J. Kalani English, Chair	-	Senate President's Designee
Māpuana de Silva	-	Community Member At-Large
Kalani Ka'anā'anā	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) Designee
Monte McComber	-	Governor's Designee
Richard Onishi	-	House Speaker's Designee
Makanani Salā	-	City and County of Honolulu Designee
Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu	-	Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Designee (arrived at 2:43pm)
Jamie Lum	-	Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT)

Guests:

Jacob Aki	-	Director of Communications, Hawai'i State Senate
Maka Casson-Fisher	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority
Hailama Farden	-	Kamehameha Schools
Lawson Fernandes	-	Mayor's Office of Culture and Arts (MOCA)
Jean-Emmanuel Frantz	-	Public Member
T. Ilihia Gionson	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
Dede Howa	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority
Blaine Kia	-	Public Member
Terrance Liu	-	Public Member
Lynn Martin Graton	-	Public Member
Ngahiraka Mason	-	Aotearoa Representative
June Matsumoto	-	Public Member
Malia Sanders	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association

Staff:

Margaret Ahn	-	Deputy Attorney General
Marlene Hiraoka	-	DBEDT
Timothy Tiu	-	DBEDT
Scott Tome	-	DBEDT
Selma Malcolm	-	DBEDT

Apologies:

Snowbird Bento - Community Member At-Large

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair English at 2:31 p.m., who welcomed everyone present via ZOOM and Facebook Live.

Chair English called upon Mr. McComber for the *wehena* (opening).

Public Testimony On Agenda Items

Chair English invited members of the public to testify on the agenda items. Hearing none, he continued with agenda items.

Approval of January 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The January 11, 2021 meeting minutes will be deferred for review and approval until the next scheduled meeting.

Financial Report – Update On Festival Funding

Ms. Lum provided a financial report as follows:

The financial summary that was presented to Commissioners included funds that were appropriated by the Hawai‘i State Legislature from 2017-2019. The summary identified all funds that were spent or encumbered and is included as an attachment to the meeting minutes. Ms. Lum mentioned that funds that were directed to the Hawai‘i Convention Center will be used for venue and facility costs for the 2024 FestPAC event.

A balance totaling \$9,216.25 remains in a trust account at DBEDT that was from a \$10,000 private donation. A portion of these funds was used for website hosting services provided by Strategies 360 for January – June 2021.

Ms. Lum invited questions from Commissioners about the financial report.

Mr. Ka‘anā‘anā asked about a \$10,000 private donation that was received in 2017. He indicated that it was reported at the April 10, 2019 meeting. Ms. Lum reported that private donations were received from Smith’s Motor Boats, Royal Hawaiian Center, and Stanford Carr Development and recorded accordingly. Donations from Smith’s Motor Boats and the Royal Hawaiian Center were returned at the donors’ request due to the downturn in the economy resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. The donation from Stanford Carr Development remains in a DBEDT trust account. Mentioned earlier, some funds were used for website hosting fees via Strategies 360.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā mentioned that the donation he is referring to was made from Ms. Barbara Smith. Ms. Lum will be checking with PA'I Foundation about the status of the donation Mr. Ka'anā'anā made reference to and will follow up with this inquiry at the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā asked whether the 2021 website hosting fees were included in the \$25,000 paid to Strategies 360 listed in the financial summary. Ms. Lum responded that this website hosting fee is listed as a separate item, the last item listed for \$783.75 for the first six months of 2021.

Mr. McComber asked Mr. Ka'anā'anā about how the funds to the Hawai'i Convention Center were accounted for. Mr. Ka'anā'anā mentioned that the funds were specifically directed to the FestPAC event, a licensed event, and has been paid to the Hawai'i Convention Center.

Ms. de Silva asked Ms. Lum if the funds in the Hawai'i Convention Center have been spent. Ms. Lum responded that DBEDT has a License Agreement with the Hawai'i Convention Center and that these funds will be held there until the event. Ms. Lum explained that expenses paid to the Convention Center related to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture (CPAC) meeting were accounted for in the Commission holdbacks category. Ms. de Silva asked for clarification on what has been spent or encumbered. Mr. Ka'anā'anā explained that amounts under contract with the Hawai'i Convention Center are considered spent. Meeting rooms needed to be secured and a deposit was required as part of the Licensing Agreement. Mr. Ka'anā'anā further stated that if we need to cancel the Agreement, that discussion can be held at a later time. Ms. de Silva said she was wondering how much money in private donations needed to be raised.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā requested that DBEDT prepare the financial report in a more traditional manner like a balance sheet or a Profit and Loss Statement. He mentioned again that \$9,216.25 is what remains in the trust account at DBEDT. That is all the cash that FestPAC currently has on hand.

Council of Pacific Arts and Culture (CPAC) Working Group Update

Mr. McComber provided an update to the CPAC Working Group as follows:

The CPAC Working Group issued a Request for Proposal (RFP21-007) to review the FestPAC model. More details can be found at <https://bit.ly/398sti6> The deadline for proposals is to be received on or before February 17, 2021 by 4pm Fiji time. A sub-working group was created to discuss and guide the Youth Ambassador Group. CPAC would like to know how they can engage in planning discussions and determine whether there might be costs involved.

The RFP was shared on Facebook via Islands Business Partners via their website as previously mentioned. Mr. McComber also shared links to the Proposal Submission form and the instructions document for submissions of proposals which can also be accessed via the previously mentioned website. Mr. McComber indicated that Aotearoa – New Zealand would be providing leadership for this process and that the Pacific Community would be making the final selection. The sub-contractor will work for the Pacific Community and CPAC. He encouraged

Commissioners to share the RFP with Hawaii based companies that may have an interest in submitting a proposal.

Mr. Miles P. Young will be the Director of Human Rights & Social Development, Ms. Leituāla Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago will be the acting Regional Director for Polynesia, and Ms. Cresantia Frances Koya Vaka'atu Ph.D. as other support staff.

A follow-up discussion regarding the 2022 Virtual Festival will be made with Mr. Ka'anā'anā. Chair English again asked about who would be paying for the 2022 Virtual Festival. The Commission needs to be mindful about costs as well as the need to have shared costs. The next update regarding the Virtual Festival will be held on February 8, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. (HST). This meeting will be held prior to the FestPAC Commission meeting that will be held on the same date at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā recommended that the Commission engage in a formal discussion and suggested that this matter be discussed during the next meeting. He believes that a virtual summit with youth will help to address topics such as climate change, meaning of culture, etc. The Commission could organize the sessions and plan on creating smaller sessions with respective countries. He requested Commissioners to think about these ideas before the next meeting. The Commission may need more time to determine costs and identify who would be responsible for costs to implement the Virtual Festival.

Festival Program – Offerings, Venues, Schedules, and Other Logistics

Mr. Ka'anā'anā asked that this agenda item be deferred until Ms. Bento is able to attend and can report on this matter at the next meeting.

Delegations

Mr. Ka'anā'anā requested that Commissioners revisit the cap for delegations which was initially considered at 100 participants. Chair English concurred that having a smaller in-person and larger virtual event would be ideal. Mr. Ka'anā'anā mentioned that based upon discussions regarding programming, with the exception of theatre, dance troupes and *wa'a* (canoe) with higher numbers of participants, other program areas would not have as many participants. Mr. McComber expressed that, as the host, Hawai'i needs to provide accommodations for participants; however, delegations would need to pay for expenses beyond what is agreed upon. Chair English mentioned that, in the past, the average number of participants per delegation was approximately 30 for in-person festivals.

Mr. Onishi recalled that two delegations with 100 participants were planning to cover their own expenses if the Festival had been held in 2020. FestPAC 2024 is three years away and we do not know what the economy will be like at that time as well as the status of the pandemic. Two delegations were willing to pay for their expenses; however, Chair English reminded

Commissioners that negotiations with these delegations will need to be revisited again. Within the next three years, there will be leadership changes representing delegations and the Commission will need to determine what would be feasible at that time. Chair English mentioned that with a hybrid format, perhaps a lower number of 30 or 40 participants per delegation could be considered.

Ms. de Silva suggested that the Commission look at delegation numbers from previous festivals and reduce the number by 20 percent because of financial considerations. She also suggested that the Commission review those numbers again six months before the Festival to make adjustments, if need be. In the past, Hawai'i was represented by 80 participants during the Festival in New Caledonia and 60 in American Samoa. She feels that delegations could pay for additional participants and that it would be a fair request to be made. She believes that people will understand about reducing the maximum number of delegates.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā requested Mr. McComber research delegation numbers from previous festivals.

Commissioners' Roles and Responsibilities

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

Festival Logo

The Festival Logo had been approved in the previous meeting and a new letterhead was designed. There was no further discussion on this agenda item.

Legislation To Extend The Commission

Chair English reported that there are two FestPAC related bills that have been introduced during this year's legislative session: SB696 and HB625. In addition to extending the date of the Commission to August 31, 2025, the measure also permits commission members to discuss matters relating to official board business without regard to Sunshine Laws because the Commission is a working commission. SB696 shows only Senator English's signature as the introducer on the hard copy, however, the measure also was introduced by Senators Gabbard, Ihara, Kanuha, Keith-Agaran, Kidani, Lee, Moriwaki, Riviere, Shimabukuro, Wakai, Baker, Fevella, Kouchi, Misalucha and Nishihara.

Mr. Onishi reported that the House of Representatives has the same process with one signature by the introducer on the hard copy which was Representative Gates as the new Culture, Arts and International Committee Chair. Other introducers included Representatives Branco, Eli, Hashimoto, Holt, Ilagan, Nakamura, Onishi, Takayama and Tarnas. The bills should move along in both houses. If it passes both houses, it will go directly to the Governor for signature.

Chair English mentioned that since no money was added to the bill, there is more of a chance that it will be heard. Chair English also mentioned that this year's session has been shortened to 55 days.

Public Comments

Chair English asked for public testimony. Hearing none, discussion moved to the next agenda item.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. The meeting calendar for 2021 was shared and will be distributed to Commissioners. Mr. Ka'anā'anā also mentioned that quarterly half-day meetings are scheduled as well as one annual meeting for a deep dive. The legislative schedule was taken into consideration in the scheduling of the Commission meetings.

Adjournment

Chair English adjourned meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Senator J. Kalani English
Chair

2/13/21

Date