



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

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

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021 AT 2:30PM**

VIA VIRTUAL APPLICATION ZOOM: VIDEO / AUDIO CONFERENCE

Commission Members Present were:

Kalani Ka'anā'anā, Chair	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) Designee
Snowbird Bento	-	Community Member At-Large
Māpuana de Silva	-	Community Member At-Large
Jarrett Keohokālole	-	Senate President's Designee
Jamie Lum	-	Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT)
Monte McComber	-	Governor's Designee
Makanani Salā	-	City and County of Honolulu Designee
Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu	-	Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Designee

Guests:

Jacob Aki	-	Director of Communications, Hawai'i State Senate
Jackie Burke	-	Public Member
Mamiko Carroll	-	Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture & the Arts
Maka Casson-Fisher	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA)
Cross Crabbe	-	Legislative Staff Rep. Gates
Dede Howa	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA)
Lynn Martin Graton	-	Public Member
June Matsumoto	-	Public Member
Malia Sanders	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association

Staff:

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

Apologies:

Richard Onishi	-	House Speaker's Designee
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### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

Chair Ka'anā'anā called upon Ms. Snowbird Bento to do the *wehena* (opening).

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS**

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

### **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 8, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes were distributed and reviewed by Commissioners. A motion to approve was made by Mr. McComber and seconded by Ms. Bento.

Discussion held with Ms. de Silva pointing out that the pagination needed to be corrected.

A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion to approve the minutes with technical no substantive changes to correct the pagination: Chair Ka'anā'anā, Ms. Bento, Ms. De Silva, Mr. Keohokālole, Ms. Lum, Mr. McComber, Ms. Salā, Ms. Wong-Kalu.

Motion was unanimously approved as corrected.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

There were no transactions since the last meeting and no updated report was needed. Ms. Lum will work on updated financial reporting templates.

### **COUNCIL FOR PACIFIC ARTS AND CULTURE (CPAC) UPDATE**

Mr. McComber reported that there were no additional CPAC updates to report. He mentioned that the period to respond to the RFP related to FestPAC models review has closed and that several submissions were received. Waiting for CPAC to give final endorsement before this information can be shared.

Chair Ka'anā'anā asked a question regarding the Working Group (WG) meeting this Wednesday. Mr. McComber indicated that there are several meetings taking place. The WG meeting may be rescheduled. Mr. McComber will follow-up with Chair Ka'anā'anā directly as the Chair has expressed an interest in joining the meeting also.

No information was shared or presented regarding the Youth Ambassador Sub-Working Group (SWG).

## **FESTIVAL PROGRAM – OFFERINGS, SCHEDULES, AND OTHER LOGISTICS**

Chair Ka'anā'anā stated that the Festival program and activities offered are extremely important to be finalized first before venues are decided upon, giving consideration to logistical and other requirements. Chair requested that Ms. Bento provide an update.

Ms. Bento apologized for missing prior Commission meetings due to work-related obligations. She reported that we have worked out the finishing touches regarding we wanted to offer. Final decisions regarding offerings of symposiums, panel discussions, forums, workshops, etc. still need to be made. Ms. Bento indicated that she has not contacted venues from the 2020 list. She is considering a deadline for getting the programming set that could include topics such as climate change and revitalization and how it is affecting the Pacific. Other ideas include how nations will overcome challenges post-pandemic by using indigenous and *kūpuna* (elders) wisdom to bridge gaps and move forward.

Ms. de Silva requested that Ms. Bento forward a list or matrix of programming that is being proposed. Ms. Bento indicated that she will forward the programming content to staff who will send it to Commissioners.

## **FESTIVAL VENUES UPDATE**

Chair Ka'anā'anā wants to be sure that programming is finalized before venues are selected. He reported that Mr. Gionson is developing a template to understand specifications of each venue such as security, traffic consideration, size of venue, etc. The same template also could be forwarded to the delegations who will likely have similar questions regarding venues.

## **LEGISLATION**

Chair Ka'anā'anā reported that the HB 625 died and that the only vehicle that is currently going through the Legislature is SB 696 SD1, which is scheduled for decision-making on February 23, 2021 at 9:45 a.m. This bill would extend the life of the Commission through August 2025. It also will allow flexibility regarding Chapter 92. Discussions have been held with the Office of Information Practices (OIP) who offered amendments and suggestions to the committee.

OIP has suggested allowing nine months prior to and one month following the Festival for the Commission to conduct its work outside of Chapter 92.

Chair Ka'anā'anā asked Commissioners for questions or comments. Ms. de Silva asked why the House Bill died. Chair explained that it was due to a scheduling problem because of a triple referral. Ms. de Silva asked about the likely outcome of SB 696 SD1 and Chair indicated that he is hopeful for a positive outcome.

Ms. Wong-Kalu asked what would happen if the Senate Bill does not pass out of committee. Chair Ka'anā'anā explained that the Commission will cease to exist as of June 2021. Chair is hopeful that the Senate version will not die. Chair Ka'anā'anā encouraged Commissioners to check the [capitol.hawaii.gov](http://capitol.hawaii.gov) website to track the measure.

### **PLANNING OF THE MARCH 8, 2021 MEETING**

Chair Ka'anā'anā has set the March 22, 2021 Commission Meeting to be a quarterly meeting instead of what was previously planned for March 8, 2021. Quarterly meetings and one annual meeting are what is intended by the Commission to allocate time for planning, technical, and logistical details that will require longer discussions.

Chair asked for specific agenda items that Commissioners would like discussed during the quarterly meetings and requested for comments and suggestions.

Mr. McComber expressed that quarterly meetings should include discussions related to fundraising, timelines, milestones, entire budget including private sector funding support, etc. Discussions with UH should be made to identify ways in which UH may be able to assist.

Chair Ka'anā'anā advises that budgets for each section can be made once programming has been confirmed, however, there needs to be an overall budget that the Commission is pursuing -- for example, whether it be \$6 million or \$10 million for the overall Festival and whether future legislative requests might be needed.

Ms. Bento stated that while programming will be driving budgetary items, it should be noted that the same venues that were initially decided for the 2020 event may not be used. She asked if there is a ballpark figure that the Commission should be aiming for based upon previous Festival budgets?

Chair Ka'anā'anā indicated that although there is an understanding of costs of prior Festivals, costs will vary greatly because of geographic location, etc. What is unique is that Hawai'i has committed to house, feed, and transport delegates, however, in the past delegates have usually paid for their own costs.

Ms. de Silva suggested that the March 22 meeting be used to vet venues. She also asked whether Ms. Bento's committee or Commissioners would be making determinations as to venue selections. Chair explained that the committee will make a recommendation and the Commission will vote on the venues. Ms. de Silva asked for clarification whether Mr. Gionson will have the template with information or whether he is developing a blank template. She asked whether the template would be sent to Ms. Bento's committee?

Chair Ka'anā'anā stated that several Commissioners will be responsible for researching and contacting respective venues as determined in the Kuleana Matrix. Mr. Gionson will be setting up a template because we are looking for consistency regarding information that is collected and shared.

Ms. Salā asked whether the Commission would be selecting venues based upon the listing from the 2020 event only. She also asked whether the Commission should get UH involved to see what they may be able to offer.

Chair Ka'anā'anā mentioned that here have not been any commitments made except for the Hawai'i Convention Center since a contract has been executed; however, for other venue options, the Commission is open to exploring other sites.

Chair Ka'anā'anā asked Ms. Sanders to have Mr. Gionson share last year's venue listing with Commissioners. With the exception of the Convention Center and UH Residence Halls, venue options can be explored again. The Commission does not need to be beholden to last year's list. Venues need to be tied to the needs of the festival based upon offerings. Venues should be those that promote a safe and healthy Festival.

Chair Ka'anā'anā said that venues could be potentially ready for decision making, a fundraising and top line budget number that could help us set a goal for fundraising, and the discussion regarding the Honorary Chair of the Festival could be agendized and decided on in the March 22, 2021 quarterly meeting which will be held from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Ms. de Silva suggested that the agenda for the March 22 quarterly meeting be prioritized with decision-making on venues being the first order of business. If there is no time to discuss the other agenda items, those could be deferred to the May 17 annual meeting. Consideration could be made to include partners, possible funders, etc.

Chair Ka'anā'anā summerized agenda for March 22, 2021 meeting to be venues, budgets and fundraising, and Honorary Chair of the Festival.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Ka'anā'anā invited the public to offer comments. Hearing none, he continued with the Agenda.

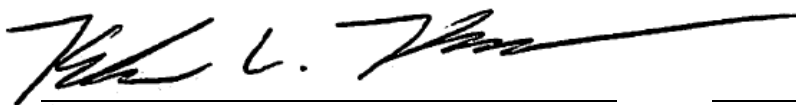
#### NEXT MEETING

Chair Ka'anā'anā confirmed that the next meeting will be held on March 8, 2022 as regularly scheduled followed by the quarterly meeting on March 22, 2021 from 2:30 p.m. – 5p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ka'anā'anā adjourned meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kalani Ka'anā'anā  
Chair

03/05/2021  
Date