



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

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

**MONDAY, MAY 17, 2021 AT 2:30 PM**

VIA VIRTUAL APPLICATION ZOOM: VIDEO / AUDIO CONFERENCE

Commission Members Present were:

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

Guests:

Jacob Aki	-	Senate Communications Office
Kiele Amundxon	-	Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts
Mamiko Carroll	-	Public Member
Hailama Farden	-	Public Member
Maka Casson-Fisher	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA)
Karen Ewald	-	Hawai'i State Art Museum
Ilihia Gionson	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
Jonathan Johnson	-	State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA)
Lynn Martin Graton	-	Public Member
Emalia Keohokālole	-	Public Member
Monte McComber	-	Public Member
Michi Moore	-	Public Member
Aaron Salā	-	University of Hawai'i/Royal Hawaiian Center
Malia Sanders	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association

Staff:

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

Apologies:

Snowbird Bento - Community Member At-Large

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kalani Ka'anā'anā at 2:34 p.m., who welcomed everyone present via ZOOM and Facebook Live.

Chair Ka'anā'anā called upon Mr. Keohokālole to introduce Ms. Emalia Keohokālole. Commissioner Keohokālole introduced Ms. Keohokālole as the matriarch of the Keohokālole 'ohana (family) who graciously agreed to do the *wehena* (opening).

Ms. Keohokālole expressed *mahalo* (gratitude) to Commissioners for their commitment to the *kuleana* (privileges and duties) of FestPAC. She explained that the Keohokālole 'ohana grew up on Kāne'ōhe Bay, once the site of the only black sand beach on O'ahu named *Nāoneala'a*. This area was the kuleana of chief La'amaikahiki who settled there in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. In 1737, a peace accord was agreed to on the beach of Nāoneala'a between La'amaikahiki and other chiefs of lands nearby. The chiefs met on the shores of Nāoneala'a, embraced, and wept together as a confirmation of the peace accord that called for a ceasefire. This area is where Sen. Keohokālole grew up. Our *limu 'ele'ele*, (dark edible seaweeds) varieties of *i'a* (fish) and other foods were gathered there. To honor this sacred place, the Keohokālole 'ohana composed an *oli* (chant) to honor the chiefs of this *wahi pana* (storied place) and to create a commemoration of the peace accord that occurred there. Ms. Keohokālole shared the *oli* (chant).

Chair Ka'anā'anā expressed gratitude to Ms. Keohokālole. Other Commissioners expressed thanks, too. Ms. Salā commented that it was an appropriate story to share with Commissioners since Hawai'i will be inviting people from all over the Pacific to Hawai'i for this Festival.

### **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 MAY 3, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes were distributed and reviewed by Commissioners. Chair Ka'anā'anā asked for a motion and it was made by Commissioner Lum and seconded by Commissioner de Silva to adopt the minutes unamended. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion to approve the minutes: Chair Ka'anā'anā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Lum, Ms. Wong-Kalu, Ms. Salā, Mr. Keohokālole, Mr. Onishi. Motion was unanimously approved.

### **NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF COMMISSION VICE CHAIR**

Chair Ka'anā'anā mentioned that the nomination and selection of a Commission Vice-Chair was discussed during the last meeting. Only one nomination was presented during the last meeting for Ms. Salā; however, Chair expressed that he wanted to open the floor to see if Commissioners had other nominations. Hearing none, Ms. Lum moved that nominations be closed and Mr. Oishi seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners

approving nominations be closed: Chair Ka‘anā‘anā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Lum, Ms. Wong-Kalu, Ms. Salā, Mr. Keohokālole, Mr. Onishi.

Upon closure of the nominations, a motion was made by Mr. Onishi to approve Ms. Salā as Vice Chair of the Commission and was seconded by Ms. de Silva. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion of Ms. Salā as the Vice Chair of the Commission: Chair Ka‘anā‘anā, Ms. Salā, Ms. Wong-Kalu, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Lum, Mr. Keohokālole, Mr. Onishi. Motion was unanimously approved. Chair Ka‘anā‘anā invited Ms. Salā to speak. Ms. Salā expressed *mahalo* to Commissioners for their vote of confidence and looks forward to working hard on the Commission.

### **DISCUSSION OF HONORARY FESTIVAL CHAIR**

Chair Ka‘anā‘anā expressed that regarding the discussion of appointing a Festival Chair, Commissioners were asked to think about making suggestions at today’s meeting. Chair Ka‘anā‘anā mentioned that after receiving suggestions today, he would call each candidate to determine their interest. He also mentioned that by the Quarterly Meeting, he is hopeful that the Commission would be able to vote and appoint an Honorary Chair of the Festival.

Ms. de Silva commented that if the Commission is considering appointing a Festival Director, she felt it would be appropriate to wait until the Festival Director is selected before selecting an Honorary Festival Chair. She further commented that she would like the positions to be complementary and include a male and female. She indicated that after the last meeting, she consulted with Mr. Kīhei de Silva and they both felt that it would be better for the Commission to wait to select an Honorary Chair; however, she is happy to follow the wishes of the Commission.

Ms. Wong-Kalu expressed support of Ms. de Silva’s comments. She further mentioned that when it comes to on-the-ground leadership, it would be important for the Festival Director to be sure that the work gets done. She sees the Honorary Festival Chair as one who would fulfill the roll as an Ambassador for the Festival as well as for the Hawaiian community. Ms. Wong-Kalu agreed with Ms. de Silva that both individuals would need to work together in a complementary way, would need to be in sync in terms of clarity of important matters, as well as offering a balance in approach and thought.

Chair Ka‘anā‘anā agreed and asked for other comments. Chair indicated that he would defer action on this agenda item until the next meeting since the Commission is not prepared to discuss the position of the Festival Director at this meeting. He requested that Commissioners think about individuals for both positions that could be discussed at the Commission’s Quarterly Meeting.

Ms. Wong-Kalu also suggested that agenda items be written in a more standard manner to allow the Commission to discuss certain business. Chair Ka‘anā‘anā expressed that he will revisit the agenda item descriptions to give the Commission more flexibility and will seek guidance from Ms. Ahn. He further stated that assuming Governor Ige signs the legislation that extends the life of the Commission, it will give the Commission more flexibility in discussing items outside of

Commission meetings provided those matters are discussed at the following Commission meeting.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE CHAIR OR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR GRANTS AND SECURE SPONSORSHIPS**

Chair Ka'anā'anā said this agenda item was part of the conversation from the last meeting during the process of applying for the ANA grant and other opportunities. For the purpose of transparency, he asked the Commission to consider giving him the authority to allow him to affix his signature on applications, with the Commission's full support.

Ms. Lum made a motion that the Commission delegate authority to the Commission Chair or Chair's designee to apply for grants and secure sponsorships and it was seconded by Mr. Keohokālole.

Mr. Onishi asked whether there were any concerns about this matter by the AG's office. He specifically asked whether the "designee" needed to be an individual approved by the Commission. Ms. Ahn commented that the decision would be up to the Commission. Ms. Ahn asked Chair Ka'anā'anā if he had anyone in mind. Chair used the Request for Information (RFI) as an example of using staff or another individual to draft the RFI. He would not want any delays to occur and if he is able to delegate the work, it would be helpful. He would continue to oversee the work.

Mr. Onishi expressed that he does not have any problems with the Chair coordinating and overseeing work so long as the Chair signs applications on the Commission's behalf. Mr. Onishi commented that he would have difficulty approving a designee to sign applications but agrees to have the Chair oversee the work. Mr. Onishi also commented that if there is a contractual relationship, for example with an individual who would be securing funding, he would be comfortable with this individual being allowed to sign certain documents if it is stated in the contract document. Chair Ka'anā'anā asked if Ms. Lum would consider removing the "designee" language in her previous motion. Ms. Lum amended her previous motion to remove the reference of a "designee", to which Mr. Keohokālole re-affirmed his second to the amended motion.

A roll call vote was taken to authorize the Commission Chair to be authorized to sign grant applications with the following Commissioners approving: Chair Ka'anā'anā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Lum, Ms. Wong-Kalu, Ms. Salā, Mr. Keohokālole, Mr. Onishi. Motion was unanimously approved.

**DISCUSSION OF REVISIONS TO THE FESTIVAL BUDGET**

Moving on to the next agenda item, Chair Ka'anā'anā indicated that staff did not receive any requests for revisions to the draft budget presented during the last meeting. He asked Commissioners if more time was needed for them to offer comments regarding the budget.

Ms. Salā commented that with respect to the venues and facilities budget, under venue production related to security, crowd control, etc., it would depend upon whether it was an

outdoor venue for the Festival Village. The budget allocation might be sufficient; however, it also might be way under budget.

Chair Ka'anā'anā said he would like the Commission to feel comfortable with a base budget but understood that it would be revised as planning progressed. Ms. Lum commented that since DBEDT has the finance administration piece, she will review the budget again with a realistic view in light of the current situation and will offer further comments at the next meeting. Mr. Onishi commented that the draft budget is a starting point with the understanding that it is a working budget that is subject to change as planning continues. He indicated that attempting to determine how revenue will be raised is very important. He mentioned that previously, the Commission explored the possibility of retaining a professional fundraiser. During the 2020 Festival planning many potential individuals expressed that the timeline was too short to effectively raise funds. Mr. Onishi believes that it is a good time for the Commission to revisit this issue again and reach out to individuals and businesses to collect their thoughts regarding fundraising goals, etc. He stressed that the Commission needed to determine whether the budget is attainable. Chair Ka'anā'anā indicated that he and Ms. Lum have been working to craft a RFI draft for fundraising.

#### **DISCUSSION ON SUB-COMMITTEE PROGRESS AND FESTIVAL VENUE FORMS**

Chair Ka'anā'anā reported that he received a few venue forms – one from 'Iolani Place and the other from the Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC). He requested that Mr. Tome forward forms received to Commissioners. Chair asked for comments and/or red flags and that it would be a good time to bring these issues forward.

Ms. Salā reported that the City & County of Honolulu departments have received the forms, however, they have not submitted the completed forms to her office. Regarding comments, departments have expressed concern about the length of time being requested – from June 1 – June 17, 2024, especially related to Magic Island and Ala Moana Park. Ms. Salā also indicated that departments would need to inform the neighborhood boards before issuing permits. There will be challenges related to approving requests for the duration of use. She mentioned that if it is for a one-time event, it will probably be viewed more favorably. As a point of information, Magic Island has reduced the number of available parking stalls. Ms. Salā commented that she will need to inform departments, in advance, about all of these requests. Another issue is the need for secured and locked space for items left at the venue.

Ms. de Silva indicated that participants in past Festivals would usually leave with their items as opposed to leaving it at the venue. She further commented that during other Festivals, Hawai'i's artisans and those of other countries chose not to leave their belongings at the venue. She mentioned that it was part of their *kuleana* of not leaving things in one location when traveling elsewhere to another location.

Chair Ka'anā'anā mentioned that the June 7, 2021, meeting would be a Quarterly Planning Meeting. He asked if this was too soon to make decisions regarding venue selection. Ms. Salā said that it would be good to get into more detail regarding venues at that time. Chair indicated that if venue forms are submitted by the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Commission should plan on voting for venues at that meeting. He is especially concerned about venues that require input and

approval from the community regarding their use. Chair shared the Convention Center's website, [www.meethawaii.com](http://www.meethawaii.com) for those who would need to use a room at HCC. He asked that Commissioners visit the site to determine meeting room capacity and other details as forms are completed. Mr. Tome will include the website information when he sends the completed venue forms to Commissioners.

**PLANNING OF QUARTERLY MEETING JUNE 7, 2021 FROM 2:30 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.**

Chair Ka'anā'anā noted that for the next meeting, he would like to discuss venues, budget, grant and other fundraising opportunities, selections of the Festival Director and Honorary Chair. He also would like to review the 2021 Workplan to include deliverables for sub-committees; what needs to be done, what is yet to be achieved, and what should be included in the overall workplan. Ms. Wong-Kalu commented that the agenda wording should be written in a more general manner so that Commissioners will have more flexibility, but the general public will have a clear idea of the nature of the intended discussion. Ms. Ahn commented that she will work with the Chair to find some flexibility in the wording of agendas.

Ms. de Silva commented that the Commission should convene in-person meetings, at some point. Chair Ka'anā'anā noted that he would be able to host meetings at HCC and that if it is a hybrid format, HCC is equipped to handle Zoom and Facebook live. He asked Ms. Ahn whether hybrid meetings are allowable. Ms. Ahn mentioned that there is legislation related to open meeting guidelines that was sent to Governor Ige for signature. She will inform the Chair of her findings regarding hybrid meeting rules. Mr. Keohokālōle also offered the Hawai'i State Capitol as another option for a meeting location since it is set-up for hybrid meetings. He noted that although the Capitol is currently closed, it may become available during the third or fourth quarter.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair Ka'anā'anā invited the public to again offer comments. Hearing none, he continued with the next meeting date.

**NEXT MEETING**

Chair Ka'anā'anā confirmed that the next meeting, which will be a Quarterly Planning Meeting, will be held on June 7, 2021, from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Ka'anā'anā adjourned meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kalani Ka'anā'anā  
Chair

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05/19/21  
Date