

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM (DBEDT)
MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION ON THE 13TH FESTIVAL OF
PACIFIC ARTS & CULTURE (FESTPAC) MEETING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019, AT 3:00 P.M.

HAWAI'I STATE CAPITOL
SENATE CHAMBERS, CHAMBER LEVEL
415 S. BERETAINA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813

Commission Members Present were:

J. Kalani English, Chair	-	Senate President's Designee
Snowbird Bento	-	Community Member At-Large
Māpuana de Silva	-	Community Member At-Large
Mehanaokalā Hind	-	Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Kalani Ka'anā'anā	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority Designee
Dennis Ling	-	Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) Designee
Monte McComber	-	Governor's Designee
Richard Onishi	-	House Speaker's Designee

Guests:

Jacob Aki	-	Senator English's Office
Vicky Holt Takamine	-	PA'I Foundation
June Matsumoto	-	Pacific Islands Institute
Jay Rojas	-	PA'I Foundation
Pamela Young	-	KHON2

Staff:

Margaret Ahn	-	Attorney General's Office
Jamie Lum	-	DBEDT
Selma Malcolm (Recording)	-	DBEDT

Apology:

Misty Kela'i	-	City & County of Honolulu Designee
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CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair English on Wednesday, December 19, 2019, at 3:15 p.m., who welcomed everyone present.

DEFERRAL OF DECEMBER 11, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes of the meetings held on December 11, 2019 were deferred for approval until the next meeting by Chair English.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. DBEDT Report:

Chair English reminded the Commissioners that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss/confirm the venues for the opening ceremony, the closing ceremony and funding for FESTPAC. Representative Onishi then indicated that the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) is willing to do both ceremonies.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā presented a proposed budget for FESTPAC Opening Ceremony at the 'Iolani Palace. The total cost is \$237,000. He stated that all the costs were estimates and the information is based on PA'I Foundation's July 2019 proposal. The Commission discussed the following: Rental of the venue - \$15,000 which would include full buy-out of the grounds and palace with the palace open to the public. Ms. Takamine indicated that she requested that the parking at the back of the Palace be reserved for the FESTPAC. DLNR special permit, required 45 days prior, will be obtained by Ms. Takamine. Mr. Ling stated that he would request a waiver from the State Film Office. The Commissioners also discussed safety, security and sanitation; audio visual technology (Ms. Takamine is working on credentials for the media); staging, tents, chairs/tables, catering, transportation, etc. Copies of the budget were distributed to the Commissioners.

Chair English thanked Mr. Ka'anā'anā for the report and noted that it was very helpful to the Commissioners. He further indicated that Representative Onishi will be meeting with Hawai'i Tourism Authority regarding the closing ceremony. Mr. Ling indicated that the Commission/DBEDT will not be able to meet the December 23, 2019 deadline to make the deposit to the University of Hawai'i until sometime in January 2020 as the funds are not available. Chair English then stated that the Commission cannot make any commitment until funds are available. Ms. Takamine indicated that Creative New Zealand and Taiwan are ready to pay for everything upfront (airfare, housing, meals and ground transportation). DBEDT will be working with Ms. Matsumoto to invoice Creative New Zealand and Taiwan for housing, meals and ground transportation.

Confirmation of the Venues for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies:

The Commission confirmed that the Opening Ceremony for FESTPAC will be held at the 'Iolani Palace and the Closing Ceremony at Kapi'olani Park.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā stated that this will be formalized when the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) Directors vote at their Board Meeting in January 2020. Mr. Ling inquired if the event will be handled completely by the HTA. Mr. Ka'anā'anā stated that it will be in partnership with the Festival Director - they are aligned and will take care of everything for the opening and closing ceremonies. The funds will not be disbursed to DBEDT.

During discussion regarding request for sponsorship, Chair English recommended that a representative of Hawaiian Airlines be invited to the next meeting.

Venue for FESTPAC:

The Commission requested that a Food Court be set-up in the Hawai'i Convention Center for the duration of FESTPAC.

The Ala Wai Promenade will be retained for the official Festival Village. Ms. Takamine indicated that PA'I Foundation and Howard Hughes are discussing in-kind contributions, in addition to spaces for the art exhibitions, road closures, night markets in the streets, etc.

Budget:

Mr. Ling presented the current budget outlook. Revenue is \$2,537,500 (includes funds received from the State as well as the OHA & the NEA grants). Total expenses of \$3,591,123 minus revenue will put us in the need of \$1,053,623.

Ms. Takamine reported that PA'I Foundation received: \$35,000 from the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation and asked if that could be used for programming; \$40,000 from Royal Hawaiian Center; \$100,000 from Smiths Boats; and \$15,000 from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. A question was asked as to whether the donation from Smiths Boats was made for a specific purpose. Ms. Takamine said no, although Smiths hoped there might be some activity directed to Kaua'i. With this response, Chair English stated that the \$100,000 from Smiths should be used to help cover the primary FESTPAC expenses (housing, food, transportation).

Wa'a Arrival:

Ms. Bento stated that the people who are associated with the wa'a are inquiring about invitation for the events. Ms. Takamine stated that the wa'a crew are all part of the official delegation and that they should contact their head of delegation. Ms. Bento also stated that between 8-10 canoes will be coming from the Pacific (not including our canoes), and she is concerned about accommodation, transportation and food for them. The Marine Education and Training Center will serve as a home base for the wa'a throughout the Festivals but will not be able to provide the crew with accommodations.

Chair English stated that next year, the Commission will have only four (4) months to prepare for the Festivals. Ms. Bento reiterated her previous suggestion about “backwards mapping” to establish clear deadlines as to when things need to get done and asked if she could create a google file with a calendar to share with all the Commissioners and the Contractors, etc. Ms. Ahn said yes, that was okay. Ms. Takamine will be sharing the files that PA‘I Foundation has been working on with everyone.

Representative Onishi revisited the budget and inquired if an agreement was reached with DBEDT and PA‘I Foundation contract renegotiation. Mr. Ling stated that discussions are ongoing. During discussion, Chair English asked if there was any available office space at DBEDT that PA‘I Foundation staff could occupy to minimize administrative costs, and Mr. Ling said yes. The Commission decided that in order to eliminate overhead expenses, PA‘I Foundation staff should use the available office space at DBEDT. The Commission will review the budget at the next meeting and make a determination regarding overhead expenses and salaries in order to renegotiate PA‘I Foundation’s contract.

Ms. Bento stated that Nainoa Thompson indicated there are some big sponsors who are willing to assist with FESTPAC, but he does not have any information to share with them. Ms. Bento said that at previous meetings she has asked for sponsorship packages/information.

The Commission decided that: \$800,000, the approximate balance in the account, go towards the housing expense; PA‘I Foundation will invoice DBEDT only for salaries of \$14,000 per month; DBEDT will provide an office space for PA‘I Foundation to reduce overhead costs; \$100,000 from Smiths Boats will be transferred to DBEDT to be used for the housing expense; \$40,000 from the Royal Hawaiian Center will be transferred to DBEDT to be used for the housing expense; \$35,000 (conditional) from the Native Hawaiian Arts and Culture will be used for programming. PA‘I Foundation will calculate the amount for monthly overhead costs and advise DBEDT. Mr. McComber stated that as part of the Royal Hawaiian Center package, they are giving an empty tenant space for official visitor’s center and PA‘I Foundation has the option of using it as their new office space.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2020, at 8:30 a.m., at the Hawai‘i State Capitol, Senate Caucus Room, Chamber Level (subject to availability).

ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator J. Kalani English
Chair

Date