



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

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

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022, AT 3:00 PM

VIA VIRTUAL APPLICATION ZOOM: VIDEO / AUDIO CONFERENCE

Commission Members Present were:

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|------------------------|---|--|
| Kalani Ka'anā'anā | - | Hawai'i Tourism Authority Designee |
| Maenette Ah Nee-Benham | - | Governor's Designee |
| Māpuana de Silva | - | Community Member At-Large Designee |
| Sylvia Hussey | - | Office of Hawaiian Affairs Designee |
| Jarrett Keohokālole | - | Senate President's Designee |
| Jamie Lum | - | Department of Business, Economic Development and
Tourism (DBEDT) Designee |
| Richard Onishi | - | House Speaker's Designee |
| Kehaulani Pu'u | - | City and County of Honolulu Designee |

Guests:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Danny Akaka | - | Public Member |
| Mamiko Caroll | - | Public Member |
| Maka Casson-Fisher | - | Hawai'i Tourism Authority |
| Jonathan Johnson | - | Public Member |
| Lynn J. Martin Graton | - | Public Member |
| Ngahiraka Mason | - | Public Member |
| Monte McComber | - | Royal Hawaiian Center |
| Mālia Sanders | - | Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association |
| Kanoe Takitani-Puahi | - | Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association |
| Margo Vitarelli | - | Public Member |
| Mikki-tea Tapara | - | Public Member |

Staff:

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Elise Amemiya | - | Office of the Attorney General |
| Marlene Hiraoka | - | DBEDT |
| Timothy Tiu | - | DBEDT |
| Scott Tome | - | DBEDT |

Apologies:

- | | | |
|----------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Snowbird Bento | - | Community Member At-Large Designee |
| Aaron Salā | - | Festival Director |

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:03 p.m., Chair Kalani Ka‘anā‘anā welcomed all present. Chair then conducted roll call of Commissioners: Chair, Ms .AhNee-Benham, Ms. Hussey, Mr. Keohokālole, Ms. Lum, Ms. de Silva, Mr. Onishi, Ms. Pu‘u.

The *wehena* (opening) was conducted by Mr. Danny Akaka.

Mr. Onishi introduced Mr. Danny Akaka as the son of late U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka and appreciates Mr. Akaka’s support of East Hawai‘i as well as the state, and the many blessings that the Akaka family has shared with Hawai‘i. Mr. Akaka thanked Mr. Onishi and shared that his wife Anna Akaka (who was initially scheduled to present the *wehena*) sends her regards.

Mr. Akaka briefly introduced the Mālama Honu the turtle program curated by the Mauna Lani Resort in partnership with Sea Life Park, where green sea turtles have been raised and released at the resort for over 30 years. The *honu* are a wonderful symbol that represent everyone coming together, while caring for earth. He encouraged all to visit Mauna Lani and said he would be happy to share the *honu* with everyone. He then presented a *pule* (prayer). Mr. Akaka translated the *pule* shared in ‘*Ōlelo Hawai‘i* (Hawaiian language), by expressing that as we gather as one ‘*ohana* (family) to prepare for FestPAC, a tradition of song and dance that we need to follow the *ala pono* (path of righteousness) forward. As Hawai‘i prepares to invite and bring together people from the Pacific for the celebration of indigenous people as artists, scholars, dancers and other performers of the Pacific community convene in Hawai‘i, this event will help to perpetuate the arts and culture of the Pacific people to preserve and revive traditional arts and culture and share a sense of unity among the Pacific people. He asked to keep all safe, protected and healthy as everyone overcomes the challenges from the past few years due to the global pandemic. He asked that healing hands be placed upon everyone and that all will come together so that the spirit of *aloha* will be shared with all.

Chair expressed his thanks to Mr. Akaka for the grounding message shared in the *wehena*.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Ka‘anā‘anā invited members of the public to testify on the agenda items. Hearing none, he proceeded with the rest of the agenda items.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 27, 2022, YEAR MEETING MINUTES

The June 27, 2022, minutes were distributed and reviewed by Commissioners. Chair asked if there were any comments or changes to the minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to be made and it was made by Mr. Onishi, seconded by Ms. Ah Nee-Benham. Ms. Ah Nee-Benham asked that a spelling correction be made by replacing the word “gap” on page 3 with “GANTT” as the appropriate spelling. A roll call vote was requested by the following Commissioners approving the motion to approve the minutes of June 27, 2022 with non-substantive changes: Chair, Ms .Ah Nee-Benham, Ms. Hussey, Mr. Keohokālole, Ms. Lum, Ms. de Silva, Mr. Onishi, Ms. Pu‘u all approved the June 27, 2022, minutes.

Motion to adopt the June 27, 2022, minutes, amended with one spelling correction, was approved.

REPORT ON PERMITTED INTERACTIONS, PURSUANT TO ACT 103, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAI‘I 2021

Chair Ka‘anā‘anā reported that no committee meetings were held.

PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

As there were no Administrative Committee meetings held, the chair moved on to the next agenda item.

PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING VENUES AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE UPDATE

As there were no Venue and Programming Committee meetings held, the chair moved on to the next agenda item.

PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Chair turned over this portion of the meeting to Ms. Mālia Sanders who provided the Festival Director report from Mr. Aaron Salā via pre-recorded video from Fiji. The FD reported that outstanding action items discussed previously will be reported during the Commission meeting in August. He reported that he was invited to attend the Pacific Islands Forum being held in Fiji where one session will be focused on FestPAC 2024. He commented that the forum is focused on the design of the Blue Pacific Strategy. The FD further commented that climate change dominates the meeting which outlines a long-term path for the region with a focus on climate change and fostering sustainable development.

FD Salā shared the FestPAC save-the-date flyer created by a graduate of the University of Hawai‘i, Academy of Creative Media. He also shared a digital video spot that was created by 4Miles LLC. FD, Commissioner Bento, Dr. James Viernes of the East-West Center’s Pacific Islands Development Program, and a Fijian University of Hawai‘i student all assisted with its creation. The FD will be sharing the video during the 50th anniversary reception at the forum. He also indicated that the reception will be attached to an exhibit that will feature FestPAC through the years. He will provide a summary of his participation in the forum at the next Commission meeting.

Chair Ka‘anā‘anā asked members if there were any questions.

Ms. de Silva called attention to the artwork and that The Pacific Community’s (SPC) logo should be placed on all visuals/communication pieces regarding FestPAC 2024. She mentioned that the FD may not have participated in those discussions as they occurred previous to his role as the FD, however, since the video that was just shared was produced in a rush, the SPC logo may not have been considered at the time of production. Ms. de Silva also mentioned that all materials must be translated into French, as well. This information was noted by staff who will follow up with FD.

Following the FD's report, Chair expressed that there are several areas that requires further discussion with regards to FestPAC planning. He is concerned that plans are not moving as quickly, and he will include these agenda items for the next Commission meeting. While the major areas such as housing, etc. appear to be set, he feels there needs to be more movement in other planning areas. He will be discussing these matters with committee chairs in terms of prioritizing outputs and outcomes.

Mr. Keohokālōle agreed with Chair's remarks. To be very specific, the one piece he feels is missing is a timeline for fundraising. He requested that this topic be included on the next Commission meeting agenda. Mr. Keohokālōle also feels that if the FD needs more support to assist with fundraising and other matters, we may need to consider onboarding additional staff to assist the FD. Ms. Ah Nee-Benham, as Chair of the Admin Committee, understood the concerns and requests.

At the suggestion of Ms. Sanders, Ms. de Silva reported on the Pacific Islands Forum that the FD is currently attending in Fiji. Organizers invited the SPC to participate with less a month's notice. Included in the forum is the reception for the 50th Anniversary of the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture. The intent is to launch a strategy concurrent with FestPAC and the Pacific regional cultural strategy. The SPC invited Ms. de Silva to provide closing remarks and she will be doing so followed by the President of Fiji. She stated that this is a great opportunity and presents good visibility for Hawai'i within the Pacific community. The video that the FD shared will also be presented. Ms. de Silva read her closing remarks to Commissioners.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS

Chair invited the public to again offer comments. Hearing none, he moved into announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Ka'anā'anā congratulated Mr. Jonathan Johnson on his retirement after 34 years of service with the State Foundation of Culture and the Arts. Mr. Johnson expressed that he would be continuing to support FestPAC as a volunteer as planning continues.

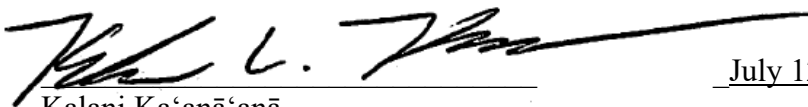
NEXT MEETING AUGUST 15, 2022

The next FestPAC Commission meeting is confirmed for August 15, 2022, at 3:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ka'anā'anā adjourned meeting at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kalani Ka'anā'anā
Chair

July 12, 2022

Date