



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

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023 AT 2:00 PM

VIA VIRTUAL APPLICATION ZOOM: VIDEO / AUDIO CONFERENCE

Commission Members Present were:

Maenette Ah Nee-Benham	-	Governor's Designee
Snowbird Bento	-	Community Member At-Large
Māpuana de Silva	-	Community Member At-Large
Sylvia Hussey	-	Office of Hawaiian Affairs Designee (OHA)
Kalani Ka'anā'anā, Chair	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority Designee
Jarrett Keohokālole	-	Senate President's Designee
Jamie Lum	-	Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT)

Guests:

Lynn Martin Graton	-	Public Member
Monte McComber	-	Public Member
Chansen Fukushima	-	Public Member
Jose Inigo Santos	-	Public Member
Pris Texeira	-	Public Member
Ngahiraka Mason	-	Public Member
Brandon Bunag	-	Public Member
Hailama Farden	-	Public Member
Eric Chang	-	Public Member
Lynn	-	Public Member
Mamiko Carroll	-	Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture & the Arts
Malia Sanders	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
Ka'iulani Spencer	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association

Staff:

Elise Amemiya	-	Deputy Attorney General
Micah 'Ākau	-	HTA
Maka Casson-Fisher	-	HTA
Irina De La Torre	-	HTA

Apologies:

Richard Onishi	-	House Speaker's Designee
Kehaulani Pu'u	-	City and County of Honolulu Designee

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kalani Ka'anā'anā at 2:06 p.m., who welcomed everyone present via ZOOM and Facebook Live.

Chair called upon Commissioner Snowbird Bento to provide the *wehena* (opening).

Commissioner Bento began by sharing her desire to reorient the commissioners and attendees to the global view through Moananuiākea. The term means “great expansive ocean” and is a contemporary native Hawaiian term of reference of this oceanic space. Commissioner Bento continues to share that it is the ancestral homelands of the indigenous people of the Pacific. It includes every island and continental coast touched by Pacific waters. There are approximately 25,000 islands in the Pacific Ocean. Moananuiākea is 60 million sq. miles – every land mass on earth can fit within the Pacific Ocean with room to spare. The longest stretch of Moananuiākea is approximately 19,800 km – a length longer than 5 moons placed side by side. More than ½ of the world’s volume of water is in Moananuiākea, making the Pacific Ocean responsible for every other breath we take. Commissioner Bento concluded the *wehena* with the closing thought about our collective responsibility and that we, in Hawai‘i, are part of the largest concentration of people with shared heritage and culture in the world. We have the capability to look at real world problems and to find solutions for it because it will be the people of the Pacific that will face the devastation of climate change first. It will be the people of the Pacific that will turn to all the different technologies whether it’s based on traditional wisdoms or moving forward that will find the way to make the Pacific continue to be a place of people who are thriving. It is important that we are cognizant and share awareness of the finite resources of our planet because we live on islands and have this mindfulness. As people of Moananuiākea we have something to offer the rest of the world in the way of thinking - how can we insure that this planet and this place that we live on will be around for at least the next 100 generations of our descendants.

Chair Ka'anā'anā thanked Commissioner Bento for her *wehena* and the reminder of our blessing to call Hawai‘i home and to be part of Moananuiākea.

Chair Ka'anā'anā conducted roll-call. Commissioners Benham, Bento, deSilva, Hussey, Keohokālole and Lum responded that they were present and alone at their respective location. Commissioners Onishi and Pu‘u were excused. Chair recognized that there were no public attendees at the in-person venue, at the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority offices, for the day’s meeting.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS

No testimony received in advance of the day’s meeting. Chair invited members of the public to testify on the agenda items. Hearing none, he continued with agenda items.

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

Chair reported that none of the committees met and asked if there were any other permitted interactions. Hearing none, he continued with agenda items

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 13, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The minutes were distributed and reviewed by Commissioners. Chair Ka'anā'anā made a motion to approve the minutes unamended and it was seconded by Commissioner Benham. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion to approve the minutes: Chair Ka'anā'anā, Commissioner Benham, Commissioner Bento, Commissioner de Silva, Commissioner Hussey, Commissioner Keohokālole, Commissioner Lum. Commissioners Onishi and Pu'u were excused.

With the members present the minutes of February 13, 2023 were adopted unamended.

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

Chair Ka'anā'anā shared that Festival Director Salā was called away to another meeting and unavailable to attend the day's meeting therefore deferring this agenda item.

Festival Director Salā will submit a written report for the commissioners to consider and will be distributed. Festival Director will be present at the next meeting.

UPDATE ON RFP FOR FESTIVAL PROVIDER. THE COMMISSION ANTICIPATES GOING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO HRS §92-5(A)(4) TO CONSULT WITH THE COMMISSION'S ATTORNEY ON QUESTIONS AND ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE COMMISSION'S POWERS, DUTIES, PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES, AND LIABILITIES.

Prior to turning the floor over to Commissioner Lum, Chair Ka'anā'anā expressed that there is not a lot that can be disclosed about the RFP due to the State Procurement Code in 103D and the associated Hawai'i Administrative Rules related to procurement.

Commissioner Lum thanked the Chair for his comments. She also shared that the Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) did conduct a solicitation for a Festival Provider for the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture. The RFP deadline was today (March 31, 2023) at noon and responses were received. DBEDT will now go into the evaluation portion of the solicitation process and move on from there.

Chair Ka'anā'anā posed the question, "based on the timeline, when do you anticipate issuing a notice of award?" Commissioner Lum responded with "The timeline that was set in the RFP, the goal is to issue an award by the end of next week, so the committee will have to spend some time evaluating." Chair Ka'anā'anā expressed his appreciation to the evaluation committee for their service. It was confirmed that the procurement was completed on HANDS

(<https://hands.ehawaii.gov/hands/>). There were no further questions from other Commissioners and Chair moved on to the next agenda item.

UPDATE DISCUSSION ON HONORARY CHAIR POSITION FOR FESTIVAL OF PACIFIC ARTS & CULTURE

Chair Ka'anā'anā reminded Commissioners of their homework, which was to think of potential names for consideration for an Honorary Chair and his responsibility was to create a draft Position Description related to the Honorary Chair. Staff shared screen and made visible the draft Position Description. Chair Ka'anā'anā read through the document starting from the top with Position Title and Position Summary followed by Key Responsibilities and Qualifications. Chair Ka'anā'anā paused for questions from Commissioners. Commissioner Benham asked about the possibility of plural Honorary Chair(s). Based on feedback from previous meeting, Chair Ka'anā'anā tried to steer clear from the Honorary Chair having any direct

planning/implementation type responsibilities. The Honorary Chair(s) responsibilities would focus on promoting the festival, getting it out to community, stakeholders, and sponsors, being like a spokesperson, serving as an ambassador. There is no compensation related to this. Commissioner Hussey inquired if there is a budgetary line for modest support of this role and function. Chair Ka'anā'anā reminded Commissioners that in the September 2021 budget that the Commission approved, there is an admin line that could support reimbursements for travel and expenses on behalf of the Festival. Commissioner Hussey suggested that a component of time commitments and expectations be included in the Position Description. Chair Ka'anā'anā requested that staff share out a word doc version of the Position Description to all Commissioners. He further requested that the Admin Committee take a swing at making edits prior to next full commission meeting that can be presented for discussion. Support staff will also create a separate document to receive and compile names for consideration to Festival Honorary Chair.

PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Ka'anā'anā deferred this agenda item as the committee did not meet.

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

Chair Ka'anā'anā deferred this agenda item as the committee did not meet.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Ka'anā'anā shared that he recently saw a press release (March 30, 2023) from the Senate Communications Office that noted an appropriation was added to House Bill 300 relating to the FestPAC in the amount of \$5mil which was in the committee report that had come across from the House. Chair continues to note that the budget bill still has a road ahead of it, there is still more vetting of the state budget that needs to happen but in the most recent hearing before the WAM committee, it was included.

NEXT MEETING

Chair Ka'anā'anā confirmed that the next meeting will be held on April 24th.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ka'anā'anā adjourned meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kalani Ka'anā'anā
Chair

Date