

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021 AT 2:30PM

VIA VIRTUAL APPLICATION ZOOM: VIDEO / AUDIO CONFERENCE

Commission Members Present were:

J. Kalani English, Chair	-	Senate President's Designee
Kalani Ka'anā'anā	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) Designee
Māpuana de Silva	-	Community Member At-Large
Monte McComber	-	Governor's Designee
Richard Onishi	-	House Speaker's Designee (arrived at 2:56pm)
Makanani Salā	-	City and County of Honolulu Designee
Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu	-	Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Designee
Jamie Lum	-	Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT)

Guests:

Jacob Aki	-	Director of Communications, Hawai'i State Senate
Jackie Burke	-	Public Member
Mamiko Carroll	-	Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (HSFCA)
Cross Crabbe	-	Legislative Staff of Rep. Gates
Hailama Farden	-	Kamehameha Schools
Lawson Fernandes	-	Mayor's Office of Culture and Arts (MOCA)
Jean-Emmanuel Frantz	-	Public Member
Rep. Cedric Gates	-	Chair, House Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs
Jimmy Hamada	-	Legislative Staff of Rep. Gates
T. Ilihia Gionson	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
Dede Howa	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority
Terrance Liu	-	Public Member
Blaine Kia	-	Public Member
Terence Liu	-	Public Member
Lynn Martin Graton	-	Public Member
Malia Sanders	-	Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association

Staff:

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

Scott Tome - DBEDT
Selma Malcolm - DBEDT

Apologies:

Snowbird Bento - Community Member At-Large

Call to Order

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

Chair English called upon Mr. Ilihia Gionson to do the *wehena* (opening).

Public Testimony On Agenda Items

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

Approval of January 11, 2021 and January 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Chair English requested a motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2021 with non-substantive corrections. Mr. Ka'anā'anā shared these edits with DBEDT and announced them verbally in the meeting. A motion to correct the January 11, 2021 minutes was made by Mr. McComber and seconded by Ms. de Silva. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion: Chair English, Mr. Ka'anā'anā, Ms. Lum, Mr. McComber, Ms. Salā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Wong-Kalu. Motion was unanimously approved as corrected.

Chair English requested a motion to approve the minutes of January 25, 2021 with non-substantive corrections. Mr. Ka'anā'anā shared these edits with DBEDT and announced them verbally in the meeting. A motion to correct the January 25, 2021 minutes was made by Mr. McComber and seconded by Ms. de Silva. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion: Chair English, Mr. Ka'anā'anā, Ms. Lum, Mr. McComber, Ms. Salā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Wong-Kalu. Motion was unanimously approved as corrected.

Financial Report – Update on Festival Funding

Ms. Lum provided an updated financial report on Festival funding.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā asked a question related to the Profit and Loss Statement that was prepared by DBEDT. He asked for clarification regarding the 2018-2020 period since he recalled that the legislative appropriation was confirmed in 2017. Ms. Lum clarified that the appropriation approved during the 2017 Legislature and effective from FY2018.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā also asked whether the existing donation noted on the statement was from Stanford Carr and Ms. Lum confirmed that it was.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā also had a question related to the category of restricted funds. Ms. Lum clarified that those funds were never received because 5-10% of funds were restricted and held back by the Department of Budget and Finance. Ms. Lum confirmed that those funds lapsed. Mr. Ka'anā'anā advises that the commission needs to ensure that funds such as these are recorded in the clearest and most accurate way and are reported appropriately as they were never technically "received".

Council of Pacific Arts and Culture (CPAC) Working Group Update

Mr. McComber provided an update to the CPAC Working Group as follows:

Clarification made regarding CPAC contacts and the (3) groups.

CPAC is chaired by Hawai'i and the point-of-contact is Ms. de Silva. Under CPAC is the FestPAC Working Group who uses the abbreviation (WG). WG chaired by Aotearoa/NZ. The WG is chaired by Ms. Paula Carr assisted by Miki-Tae Tapara. The WG is Vice-chaired by Hawai'i in which Mr. McComber serves as the point of contact. Under the WG is a sub-working group (SWG) or the Youth Ambassador Program.

Overview and draft calendar were presented related to the RFP. Dates were listed as Hawai'i Standard Time (HST). Mr. McComber noted that the RFP deadline was approaching. Once all proposals were received, a Technical Review Panel will evaluate all submissions. The proposals will then be reviewed by the WG, then CPAC and lastly forwarded to the SPC for procurement and will eventually be executed. The intent is to provide information to the council members guidance as Festival planning continues.

Also, from the last CPAC meeting, it was decided that 2022 would be focused on a virtual Youth Ambassador Program. The idea was well received by the WG and should be well received by CPAC as well.

Mr. McComber also confirmed that contact was made with Kaimuki High School, Kamehameha Schools, and Kaneokana who were initially part of the planning committee during the planning of the 2020 event which was cancelled.

Youth from Hawai'i, Aotearoa also may be interested in assisting with planning of the 2022 event. Originally, it was important to conduct a needs assessment to determine what countries required in order to participate in the forum. For example, broadband and internet connectivity continue to be major issues for some countries. Mr. McComber will continue to follow-up with the SWG. Initially, financing from the supporting groups was secured. Mr. McComber is hopeful that the event will be funded by having each CPAC member finance their own youth ambassador. The Commission might be asked to pay for honorarium for keynote speakers, etc. WG Chair Ms. Paula Carr would like a meeting with the Commission as a courtesy. Ms. Carr would like to be informed about what is being considered and share information from the WG with this commission.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā asked Mr. McComber if there was any assistance he needed from the Commission for the CPAC meeting on March 8, 2021. Mr. McComber confirmed that no decision or other assistance is needed by the Commission at this time.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā also asked a question regarding the SWG and what is needed from the FestPAC Commission. Mr. McComber indicated that SWG may ask for input in the future however, they had already planned and envisioned 3-day programming for the 2020 event which was cancelled but are considering the same concept to be planned for 2022, however, virtually.

Ms. de Silva commented that the CPAC meeting was scheduled for March 9, 2021 in Fiji, which would be March 8, 2021 in Hawai'i. Ms. de Silva and Mr. McComber will be attending the CPAC meeting and, therefore, will not be present for the FestPAC Commission meeting already planned for March 8, 2021 taking place over the same time period.

Festival Program – Offerings, Venues, Schedules, and Other Logistics

Chair English requested that this agenda item be deferred until the next meeting.

Festival Venues Update

Mr. Ka'anā'anā reported that programming would need to be decided before venue determinations are made. He and Ms. Sanders will be checking with respective Commissioners for fact sheets for each proposed venue. The fact sheet will be helpful in answering anticipated questions that the heads of delegations may have. A determination needs to be made whether the programming and venues would be suitable. Mr. Ka'anā'anā indicated that we would need information related to City and County of Honolulu venues, the Hawai'i Convention Center and 'Iolani Palace, as examples. Chair English reminded the Commission that the Opening Ceremony will be held at 'Iolani Palace. Venue kuleana to be headed by Commissioner Salā. Ms. Sanders and Mr. Gionson will work on a template.

Delegations – Hawai'i and Country Delegations' Size, Make-up, and Other Logistics

Mr. Ka'anā'anā opened for discussion regarding the number of participants in each delegation. He proposed that, for 2024, 60 members be considered for discussion purposes and being mindful of financial constraints.

Chair English asked Commissioners for their input regarding the cap for delegations:

- Mr. McComber concurred that 60 is a reasonable number.
- Ms. de Silva also agreed to 60. Initially she felt that 50 would be the maximum and that 60 is generous.
- Ms. Lum will go along with Commissioners who have been involved in previous festivals. She feels that 60 is a good number to offer.
- Ms. Wong-Kalu expressed that there are pros and cons to the number of festival invitees. Large groups are always good, however, 60 is fine. The number will affect presentations and performances. When she traveled with students, she chose larger numbers that represented the concept of "village."

- Rep. Onishi considered 50 members with the flexibility of increasing at a later date.
- Ms. Salā was supportive of 60 participants per delegation. She emphasized that programming also needs to be presented when announcing the delegation size so that countries will be able to prioritize their representation.

Chair English reminded Commissioners that FestPAC will be a hybrid event including in-person and virtual participation. There are still uncertainties regarding travel protocols in 2024 and funding may be challenging. He supports 60 as the number and adjust as needed. Programming will need to be adjusted to determine events that would resonate with a virtual or in-person presentation. For example, he reminded Commissioners that in 2020, only one blacksmith would have been presenting and two for surfing so these may not need to be included in 2024.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā made a motion to adopt 60 as the maximum delegation size for planning purposes and if it needs to be revised or amended in either direction to meet current circumstances then we allow ourselves that ability. Mr. McComber seconds the motion. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion: Chair English, Rep. Onishi, Mr. Ka'anā'anā, Ms. Lum, Mr. McComber, Ms. Salā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Wong-Kalu. Motion was unanimously approved.

Legislation

Chair English recognized Rep. Cedric Gates, Chair of the House Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs who was in attendance. Chair English noted that HB625 was scheduled for decision making on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. He noted that the Office of Information Practices (OIP) submitted testimony when the bill was heard in committee.

Chair English also reminded Commissioners that SB696 was being heard on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā reported that he spoke to Ms. Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director of OIP, and walked her through the genesis of the Commission and how a prior arrangement with a contractor presented challenges which resulted in the Commission evolving into a "working" Commission. He emphasized to her that planning, and coordination would need to be made on a flexible basis.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā indicated that Ms. Park will suggest amendments to the bill which would offer balance and flexibility. She was unable to attend today's Commission meeting and Mr. Ka'anā'anā invited her to the next meeting. The full 2021 meeting calendar was shared with Ms. Park and Mr. Ka'anā'anā assured her that the bi-monthly Commission meetings were held in compliance with Sunshine Law. He also informed her that all meeting minutes and other information were located on DBEDT's website. Mr. Ka'anā'anā requested that Ms. Ahn discuss the amendments with Ms. Park.

Chair English commented that the language of the bill can be amended when it is heard in the House Judiciary or Finance Committee.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā volunteered to offer legislative testimony on behalf of the Commission in the future. During the House Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs, HTA, DBEDT and Mr. McComber also submitted testimony.

Mr. Ka'anā'anā indicated that he would coordinate legislative testimony with Commissioners. Chair English agreed that Mr. Ka'anā'anā be designated as the point person so that the Commission is represented as the bill moves forward. Rep. Onishi agreed that one person should testify on behalf of the Commission. Chair English thanked Mr. Ka'anā'anā for assuming this role.

A motion to approve Mr. Ka'anā'anā to represent the Commission at legislative hearings and Ms. Salā to serve as the alternate representative was moved by Mr. McComber and seconded by Rep. Onishi. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion: Chair English, Rep. Onishi, Mr. Ka'anā'anā, Ms. Lum, Mr. McComber, Ms. Salā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Wong-Kalu. Motion was unanimously approved.

Chair English advised that other Commissioners may still submit testimony as well.

Chair English announced that from the next meeting, Sen. Jarrett Keohokālole will be the Senate President's designee on the Commission. If Sen. Keohokālole is unable to attend a meeting, Mr. Aki will attend on behalf of the Senate. Chair English also suggested that Mr. Ka'anā'anā be selected as the next Chair of the FestPAC Commission. Sen. English has started briefing Sen. Keohokālole who is very interested in participating. He is very interested in learning about the Pacific.

Mr. McComber makes a motion to elect Mr. Ka'anā'anā as the next Chair of the FestPAC Commission and was seconded by Rep. Onishi. A roll call vote was requested with the following Commissioners approving the motion: Chair English, Rep. Onishi, Mr. Ka'anā'anā, Ms. Lum, Mr. McComber, Ms. Salā, Ms. de Silva, Ms. Wong-Kalu. Motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. McComber expressed thanks to Sen. English for his leadership and that he will be missed.

Ms. de Silva also conveyed her thanks to Sen. English for his leadership and for being an instrumental in getting the Commission started in Hawai'i. The process was not government driving the mission of the FestPAC Commission but rather *Kanaka 'Ōiwi* (Native Hawaiian) driving it. She expressed appreciation for his work, his leadership and that he will be missed.

Sen. English expressed that it was a pleasure serving as Chair of the Commission. He also mentioned that there have been earth shattering changes in the Pacific within the past few days. First, the internal action in Fiji which removed the Vice-Chancellor of the University of the South Pacific and which caused turmoil. The university may now consider moving to a new location. Second, the end of the "Pacific way" occurred when the Pacific Islands Forum selected the former Prime Minister of the Cook Islands to lead the organization instead of a representative from Micronesia (who was next in line to lead the Forum based upon a gentlemen's agreement

from the past). As a result, five Micronesian presidents announced that they will be withdrawing from the Forum.

The above developments are expected to have major impact on how the Commission moves ahead with policies and overall planning considerations. The Forum has been in existence for the past 60 years. These changes may present opportunities to realign the Pacific.

According to Sen. English, the Micronesian nations may form a new North Pacific Association. FestPAC's influence related to cultural connections in the region will be amplified – bridging the north-south gap. Oceania and the new Pacific will present new opportunities as well.

Ms. Wong-Kalu expressed her gratitude to Sen. English for leading this Commission. She is aware of the changes in the region which was expressed and agree that there is much that this Festival will need to do. She believes that the Pacific way is the ability to meet face-to-face. She is concerned about these matters and looks forward to carrying on and supporting Mr. Ka'anā'anā. She further stated that the operation of the Commission has been on a high level under Sen. English's leadership. She looks forward to Sen. English to continue being involved from a different vantage point.

Public Comments

Sen. English asked for public testimony.

Ms. Jackie Burke expressed that she was sad to see Sen. English leave and that she hopes he will return again.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2021, at 2:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Sen. English adjourned meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Senator J. Kalani English
Chair



Date