



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, JANUARY 8, 2024 AT 03:00 P.M.
HYBRID VIA ZOOM

Commission Members Present were:

Kalani Ka'anā'anā, Chair	-	Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) Designee
Shanty Asher	-	City & County of Honolulu
Snowbird Bento	-	Community
Māpuana de Silva	-	Community Member At-Large
Stacy Ferreira	-	Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)
Jamie Lum	-	Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT)
Makana McClellan	-	Governor's Designee
Rep. Richard Onishi	-	Hawai'i State House of Representatives

Guests:

Aaron Salā	-	Festival Director
Pua Sterling	-	Program Director
Kim Vo	-	Data House

Staff:

Elise A Cole	-	Office of the Attorney General
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Apologies:

Sen. Jarrett Keohokāhole	-	Hawai'i State Senate
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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kalani Ka'anā'anā (Chair) at 03:08 p.m., who welcomed everyone present via ZOOM.

ATTENDANCE

Chair conducted the roll-call attendance. Chair Ka'anā'anā, Commissioner Asher, Commissioner Bento, Commissioner Ferreira, Commissioner Lum, Commissioners McClellan and Commissioner Onishi were present via Zoom. Commissioner de Silva and Commissioner Keohokāhole were both excused. Commissioner de Silva arrived late to the meeting.

Deputy Attorney General Elise Amemiya, Festival Director (FD) Aaron Salā and guests along with HTA support staff Maka Casson-Fisher were also present via zoom.

WEHENA

Chair Ka‘anā‘anā called upon Maka Casson-Fisher to provide the wehena (opening). Mr. Casson-Fisher invited all to join in Nā ‘Aumākua.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS

No testimony was received in advance of the day’s meeting. The chair invited members of the public to testify on the agenda items.

Kristin Young of Australia shared that she’s looking forward to attending FestPAC in June. Hearing nothing further, he continued with the next agenda items.

REPORT ON PERMITTED INTERACTIONS, PURSUANT TO ACT 103, SESSION

LAWS OF HAWAI‘I 2021 The Administrative Committee did meet and the Venue and Programming Committee did not meet. Hearing no additional meetings, the Chair continued with the next agenda item.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The minutes were previously distributed and reviewed by Commissioners. Chair Ka‘anā‘anā requested a motion to adopt the December 18, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Lum motioned, and it was Seconded by Commissioner Ferreira. With no additional discussion, Chair conducted a roll-call vote. Chair Ka‘anā‘anā, Asher, Bento, Ferreira, Lum, McClellan, and Onishi voted in favor of approving the unamended minutes of the December 18th 2023 meeting. Commissioners de Silva and Keohokālole were excused. Motion carried.

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

Festival Director Salā provided an update regarding the “Home Stretch” on the hosting of the Festival and following items:

- 1) Budget & Financial Status
- 2) Program and Content
- 3) FestPAC Operations
- 4) Digital Platform (festpachawaii.org)

Festival Director (FD) provided some highlevel updates to the Commission:

- On budget and finance, the 2023 legislative appropriation in contract
- The 2023 Governor’s discretionary fund also in contract
- Matson, is working with the Festival Director on a \$250,000 in kind shipping service, in support of Pacific countries shipping their cultural needs to Hawai‘i in addition to a \$10,000 cash gift from Matson for the Festival.
- The Smith family from Kaua‘i has given another quarter of \$1,000,000. That makes their total give a half a million
- Hawai‘i Community Foundation has approved a \$100,000.00 give

- Pending, there is an ask to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for \$1.5 million. FD acknowledges Commissioner Ferreira and thanks her for her support on getting FestPAC on the OHA Board agenda and allowing FestPAC to present to the trustees of the office.
- Festival Director
- Additionally, there is an ask of the HTA Signature Events fund of \$750,000. FD acknowledges that this is probably the largest ask an organization has made of HTA signature events.
- Festival Director introduced Pua Sterling as the Director of Programs with Gravititas Pasifika as of January 8th, 2024.
- The intent to participate has stayed at 1945 delegates, 24 of 28 countries, with intents to participate in to our inbox. This number will fluctuate a bit as countries are now going through the process of visa acquisition and organizing their respective delegations
- The art exhibit call at Capital Modern Hawai'i State Art Museum titled Our Sea of Islands, closed on December 31st, 2023 and therefore is now in the jury process.
- 312 entries from 68 artists; this is representative of the region.
- The goal with this exhibit is that it does a soft opening in May of 2024 and then stays through the end of the of the calendar year.
- Dr. Makaanani Salā, Director of Operations, shared about the Festival Ops Biweekly Standing Meeting, Biosecurity Working Group (WG) Standing Meetings, Security & Protocol WG and Comms/PR Standing meetings
- Australia hosted the first Consular Affairs Roundtable, inclusive of Australia and New Zealand, Tonga, RMI and Micronesia FSM.
- The goal is to establish a direct communication between host and country such that heads of delegation will be able to ask questions directly and for information that they would like to obtain

Chair Ka'anā'anā recommended that Festival Director not have to bring every request of orgs to the admin committee for approval with our blessing here today. Furthermore that Festival Director Salā and Chair be able to sign the letter requesting the volunteers, the tents, etcetera. Chair asked the Commission if they were OK with that or if there's preference that it goes through admin.

Seeing a lot of thumbs ups and head nods – Chair instructed FD to proceed. When the letter is ready, Chair will review it and then append his signature to make that formal ask.

Festival Director continued to inform the Commission that the SPC is planning a tech visit that starts on the 20th of January and goes through February 3rd.

FD announced that the festpachawaii.org website is up. It will be updated regularly as programming comes online. FD then introduced the Commission to Kim Vo from DataHouse, who is working to build out the digital platform piece of the website.

The full presentation and discussion can be viewed on the recording.

Commissioner Ferreira asked Ms. Vo if there'll be opportunities to get real time feedback via surveys and if there'll be an app that will be paired with this website?

There will be opportunities to facilitate questions and surveys. There will not be an app.

Kristen (from Australia) also inquired about volunteer opportunities for attendees from outside of Hawai'i.

So long as all the risk management things on Hawai'i's side are in place and with proper waivers are signed, FestPAC Hawai'i would absolutely welcome the volunteers.

Chair requested that further questions be sent directly to the Festival Director and expressed his thanks to Kim for the presentation and work being done to provide the website and resources.

No actions taken by the Commission on this agenda item and Acting Chair moved to the next agenda item.

Presentation, Discussion and/or Action Regarding Administrative Committee Update

The committee did not meet prior to today's Commission meeting. Hearing no questions by the Commission on this agenda item, Chair moved on to the next agenda item

Presentation, Discussion and/or Action Regarding Venues and Programming Committee Update

The committee did not meet prior to today's Commission meeting. Hearing no questions by the Commission on this agenda item, Chair moved on to the next agenda item

Public Testimony on Agenda Items

Hearing no testimony, the Chair moved on to announcements

Announcements

A schedule was sent to Commissioners by Maka. Chair Ka'anā'anā reminds Commissioners and attendees about the upcoming Legislative Session and asks for everyone's flexibility and understanding.

Due to conflicting schedules, Chair asked to see if Commissioners were available on January 30th and that Maka would send out polling to establish quorum.

Commissioner de Silva requested that the Commission meet at 2p on the 30th and apologized for her lateness to today's meeting.

Hearing no further announcements, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:55PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Kalani Ka'anā'anā
Chair

Feb 5, 2024

Date