

LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Wednesday, January 09, 2013

DLIR Conference Room 320
830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

4444 Rice Street, Suite 330
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Maui District Health Office, State Office Building
54 South High Street, Room 415, Wailuku, Hawaii 96703

746 Hele Mauna Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 A.M. with quorum by Chair, Dominic Inocelda. Neighbor Island council members from the Big Island and Maui joined in via video and teleconferencing.

1. Attendance

Present:

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| – Dominic Inocelda | Language Access Advisory Council, Chair |
| – Gerald Ohta | Language Access Advisory Council, Vice Chair |
| – Serafin “Jun” Colmenares | Executive Director, Office of Language Access, Ex-officio |
| – Livia Wang for Bill Hoshijo | Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio |
| – Melba Bantay | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Jennifer Dotson | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Patricia Harpstrite | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Margarita Hopkins | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Dr. Ruth Mabanglo | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Mary Santa Maria | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Edelene Uriarte | Language Access Advisory Council Member |

Excused:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| – Lito Asuncion | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Dr. Tin Myaing Thein | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| – Kristine Pagano for Francine Wai | Executive Director, DCAB, Ex-officio |
| – M. Alohalani Boido | Language Access Advisory Council Member |

Guests: None

Staff:

- Rebecca Gardner, legal analyst
- Gail McGarvey, secretary

2. Welcome and Introductions

- The Chair welcomed all present including those participating by video and/or teleconferencing. There were no guests; therefore there was no need for introductions.

3. Approval of minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting

- Meeting minutes were approved by the council.

4. Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Jun Colmenares submitted a written report which was very short as he had been out ill for two weeks.
- We are still looking for appointments of representatives from a Hawaiian language advocacy organization and the County of Kauai to the council.
- No news regarding Office of Language Access (OLA) transfer to a new location. DAGS is still looking.
- The OLA staff had two meetings with Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland (December 13, 2012 and January 07, 2013, respectively) and some stakeholders regarding the proposed legislation for the establishment of a Language Access Resource Center (LARC).
- OLA staff attended an informational meeting on US Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- State Language Access Coordinators' Quarterly meeting was held on November 28, 2012, with Senator Chun-Oakland as guest.
- Worked with staff on finalizing plans for the Language Access Law Forum scheduled for Friday, January 25, 2013 at the UH School of Law.
- Received County of Hawaii Department of Public Works' (DPW) Language Access Plan.

5. Report of the Chair

- Dominic Inocelda wanted to remind the council about the Sunshine Law and the council responsibilities in regards to attendance. According to the Sunshine Law if you miss three unexcused meetings you will be off the council immediately. The council had discussed unexcused absences at previous meetings. No notification from the council member that they will not be attending the meeting will be considered an unexcused absence.
- There were emails circulating recently about changing the monthly meeting time of the council to the afternoon instead of the morning. The council meeting times had been discussed at previous meetings. The general consensus today was as it was before, to leave the meeting time for Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM.

6. Reports of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

- **Legislative Committee** Dominic Inocelda, Jun Colmenares, Becky Gardner, Livia Wang, Alohalani Boido, Melba Bantay and other non-profit stakeholders met on December 13, 2012 and January 7, 2013 with Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland regarding the LARC bill which the Senator will file in January. Basically, there are two parts. 1) Create LARC that functions as

a part of OLA, to support, recruit and train translators and interpreters and 2) design/create a multi-lingual website as a pilot project with OLA, to have the top 12 LEP languages on the website. The pilot project would explore the feasibility of such a website as a part of OLA with links to other government agencies, etc. Need to request money to be appropriated and staffing for both LARC and for the multi-lingual website. There was a question of who would sponsor the bill from the House side; it would depend on who will be assigned as the new House chairs.

- **Special Projects Committee** Edelene Uriarte added some stories from the school system. Rebecca Gardner requested the need for more stories to get out to the public and for these stories about language access be there to support our issues.
- **Plans Review Committee** has not been formed yet.
- **By-Laws Committee** has not met yet.
- **2013 Language Access Month:** no activity yet.
- **2013 6th Language Access Conference Committee:** the committee has not met yet, still developing ideas, topics, themes for the conference; the committee is open to receive ideas from anyone. The East-West Center conference rooms have been reserved for two days Wed/Thurs August 7, 8, 2013 and a room deposit has been mailed.
- **Language Access Law Forum:** as reported by Becky Gardner, the date has been set for Friday, January 25, 2013 at 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM, at the William S. Richardson School of Law, Classroom 2. This is a free event; it has been approved by the Hawaii State Bar Association (HSBA) for 3.25 CLE credits. The focus is on language access law and it is open to everyone. Justice Sabrina McKenna will give opening remarks and Bill Hoshijo is the moderator for the panel of state agencies. There will also be a panel of community leaders in language access; Jen Rose will be the moderator for that panel. There was a question if OLELO will be taping this in order for the Neighbor Islands to have access. This will have to be researched. No registration required; attorneys who want to receive the CLE credits must register and sign in and out. Parking cost \$5.00 and refreshments to be discussed. Also, there was a question if air fare would be covered for neighbor island LAAC to attend, need to check with Jun.

7. **“I Speak” Cards**

- Becky Gardner had seen an article on “I Speak” cards that had been used in Washington, DC. The cards were business card size for LEP persons to carry in their wallet to use in situations where they would need to establish that English was not their first language and they would need an interpreter. The LAAC has already worked and printed their own “I Speak” cards, stating the Hawaii Language Access law and the rights of an LEP person to request an interpreter or translator. It was suggested that we invite Marsha Tamura of Hawaii Civil Defense to come and update the council on their “I Speak” emergency cards. IAC and DOH also helped in putting out the card. Hawaii Judiciary has printed their own “I Speak” cards. Council discussed the distribution possibilities for the cards, thru agencies used by LEP persons, the schools, other community organizations and events and for there to be more public access to the cards. Ruth Mabanglo suggested that UH can also distribute in their respective programs.

8. **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- There was a reminder by the Chair, Dominic Inocelda, that any new agenda items to be put on the next meeting agenda, must be submitted at least two weeks before the meeting by notifying the OLA office, either Jun or Gail McGarvey.
- Dominic also suggested that it would be a good time to invite Office of Information Practice (OIP) to a council meeting to discuss and review the Sunshine Law, especially since we have new council members. Copies of Tony Bernabese's (Boards and Commissions Office) email with ethics articles and HRS statues pertaining to council members were distributed. A pdf will be emailed to all LAAC members.

9. **Announcements**

- Inter-Agency Council (IAC) not sure if there will be a January meeting, most likely the next meeting will be in February, to be announced.
- Dr. Ruth Mabanglo announced that she is coordinating and planning the next "Filipino as a Global Language Conference" 2014, it is a three day, international conference and she is suggesting that it be planned back to back to the Annual OLA Language Access conference and that maybe we could have an international component to our conference. She is hoping to have it in late August of 2014 at the East-West conference center.
- The Eighth National Conference on Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations will be held March 11-14, 2013 at the Oakland Marriott City Center in Oakland, California. Jun and Gerald Ohta are registered to attend. Becky will not be attending as she announced her pregnancy.
- Dr. Ruth Mabanglo was one of 29 overseas Filipinos selected from among 137 nominees to receive President Benigno S. Aquino III's, 2012 Presidential Award for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas who have excelled in their field. The award was given at Malacañang Palace on December 5, 2012.
- Next Language Access Advisory Council Meeting date is Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM.

10. **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM