

LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Monday, April 28, 2008
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
DLIR Conference Room (Rm. 310)

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome & Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2008 Meeting
4. OLA Executive Director's Report
5. Legislative Matters
 - SB 2395 SD2 Relating to Language Access
 - SCR67 SD1/SR40 SD1 Establishing September as Language Access Month and Requesting OLA to Conduct a Feasibility Study on the Establishment of a Centralized Language Access Resource Center
6. Conference Reports
 - First Hawaii Language Access Conference, March 28-29, 2008
 - Annie Casey Foundation Language Access Convening, April 1-3, 2008
7. Announcements
8. Adjournment

If you have special needs due to disability or limited English proficiency, please contact the Office of Language Access (OLA) at 586-8730.

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

Monday, April 28, 2008
DLIR Conference Room 310

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Attendance:

Present:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| - Serafin "Jun" Colmenares | Executive Director, Office of Language Access, Ex-officio |
| - Bill Hoshijo | Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio |
| - Dominic Inocelda | Language Access Advisory Council, Chairperson |
| - Gerald Ohta | Language Access Advisory Council, Vice Chair |
| - Sr. Earnest Chung | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Canisius Filibert | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Dr. Tin Myaing Thein | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Dr. Suzanne Zeng | Language Access Advisory Council Member |

Excused:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| - Nāmaka Rawlins | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Alohalani Boido | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Lito Asuncion | Language Access Advisory Council Member |

Others Present:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| - Frances Lum | Department of the Attorney General |
| - Kendall Zukeran | Research Analyst, Office of Language Access |
| - Jeremy Low | Research Analyst, Office of Language Access |
| - Uilani Pauole de Sa | Senior Legal Analyst, Office of Language Access |
| - Kristine Pagano | Disability & Communication Access Board |
| - Katherine Hallet | Interpreter |
| - Keri Lee | Interpreter |
| - Melody Kubo | Office of Equality & Access to the Courts |

3. Approval of minutes of March 18, 2008 meeting.

- Motion to approve minutes, made by Gerald Ohta, seconded by Sr. Earnest Chung.
- Minutes approved unanimously, no corrections.

- another island besides Oahu. Jeremy Low recommended that since annual conferences usually take one year to plan, action steps should begin as soon as possible.
- Executive Director Colmenares also noted that the UH Department of Language and Linguistics contacted the office and wanted to develop a project to address the language access needs of Hawaii state agencies.

Annie Casey Foundation Conference

- Executive Director Colmenares attended this conference in Maryland along with Gerald Ohta, Uilani Pauole de Sa, and Jeremy Low. He shared that various mainland speakers praised and made references to the Hawaii Language Access Conference. Aryan Rodriguez, LA Program Director for the Office of Human Rights, Washington D.C., wanted to possibly host a similar conference in New York.
- <http://www.migrationinformation.org> is a helpful link to a language portal.

7. Update: OLA Rack Cards, Website, and Poster

- Sr. Chung asked if the OLA rack cards can be printed in larger font or split up in different languages since it is currently hard to read. Executive Director advised that the cards will be replaced with the "Complaints Process" instead.
- OLA poster is being revised and a new edition will be arriving soon.
- Kristine Pagano inquired whether the OLA website is accessible for a blind person? Does it have audio capability? Executive Director Colmenares replied that this is not available currently but may be a possibility in the future. It would be helpful if OLA is given an example of a website that has this capability. The current OLA website is not multilingual yet and is currently being worked on to improve access to more LEP groups.

8. Meeting Schedule

- Chairman Dominic Inocelda stated that the meeting scheduled for May 14th is cancelled since it is being replaced with today's meetings.
- Although many council members prefer the 2nd Tuesday of each month to meet, others have problems with the date.
- Email will be sent out again regarding a meeting date in June and future LAAC dates based on feedback from the council members.

9. Adjournment

- As there were no further discussions, meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

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830 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Tuesday, March 18, 2008
DLIR Director's Conference Room 321

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Roll Call:

Present:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| - Serafin "Jun" Colmenares | Executive Director, Office of Language Access, Ex-officio |
| - Bill Hoshijo | Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio |
| - Dominic Inocelda | Language Access Advisory Council, Chairperson |
| - Gerald Ohta | Language Access Advisory Council, Vice Chair |
| - Lito Asuncion | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Sr. Earnest Chung | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Canisius Filibert | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Dr. Tin Myaing Thein | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Dr. Suzanne Zeng | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Alohalani Boido | Language Access Advisory Council Member |

Excused:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| - Nāmaka Rawlins | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
|------------------|---|

Others Present:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| - Frances Lum | Department of the Attorney General |
| - Kendall Zukeran | Research Analyst, Office of Language Access |
| - Jeremy Low | Research Analyst, Office of Language Access |
| - Uilani Pauole de Sa | Senior Legal Analyst, Office of Language Access |
| - Khin Hnin Htwe | Guest |

3. Approval of minutes of February 13, 2008 meeting.

- Correction on page 2, number 5 under Language Access Conference.
- Speaker name, Aryan Rodrigues, should read Aryan Rodriguez.
- Motion to approve minutes, as corrected, made by Mr. Asuncion, seconded by Gerald Ohta.
- Minutes approved unanimously, as corrected.

4. Executive Director's Report

- See Attached Report.

Language Access Advisory Council Meeting
April 28, 2008

The following is the report of the OLA Executive Director for the month of April:

Operations:

- Staff working on website modifications and the next issue of the OLA newsletter (May 2008).
- OLA poster and rack card being revised/reprinted.
- Director and 2 staff attended the Annie Casey Foundation Language Access Convening in Baltimore on April 1-3, 2008.
- Staff attended the Micronesian Voices Conference at the East West Center on April 3-4, 2008.

Compliance Assistance:

- Staff met with House Speaker Say, through former Rep. Abinsay, and discussed possible funding support and issues relating to the Legislature's language access plan.
- Staff continuing to research on the issue of hiring of bilingual staff.
- Received language access plan from Read Aloud America, a non-profit agency.

Legislative Initiatives:

- SB2395 SD2, which clarified definitions in the language access law and expanded the language access advisory council to 16, was passed by the legislature and signed into law by the Governor (Act 008) on April 8, 2008.
- SR40 SD1 and SCR67 SD1 designating September as Language Access Month and requesting OLA to conduct a feasibility study on the establishment of a statewide centralized Language Resource Center have been passed.

Conferences:

- The first Hawaii Conference on Language Access was held on March 28-29, 2008 at the Hawaii Imin International Conference Center. A total of 218 registered and 214 attended. Overall, it was a very successful conference. The next conference is being planned for September 2009.
- Staff attended the Annie Casey Foundation Language Access Convening in Baltimore on April 1-3, 2008.
- The director and Gerald Ohta have been invited as panelists at the 2008 Federal Inter-Agency Conference on LEP, sponsored by the DOJ, on September 3, 2008 in Washington, D.C. Uilani Pauole De Sa, OLA senior legal analyst, will also attend. The group plans to visit other language access programs/offices in Washington D.C., Maryland and New York.
- The two OLA research analysts, Jeremy Low and Kendall Zukeran, will be attending the WACSLA Language Access Conference in Washington State on October 24-25, 2008 and will also take the opportunity to visit language access programs/offices in Seattle, Oakland and San Francisco.

Strategic Plan:

- The final strategic planning meeting will be held today, after the language access advisory council meeting, with Dr. Michael Cheang facilitating. The meeting will focus on defining and prioritizing objectives for each of the six goals that were approved.