LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

HIOSH Conference Room 427
830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

4444 Rice Street, Suite 330
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Aging and Disability Resource Center
1055 Kino-ole St., Suite 101, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Aha Punana Leo
96 Puuhonu Place, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

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

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A.M. with quorum by Chair, Dominic Inocelda. Neighbor Island council members from Kauai, Maui and the Big Island joined in via videoconferencing.

1. Attendance

Present:

– 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
– Jennifer Dotson	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Lito Asuncion	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Alohalani Boido	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Dr. Ruth Mabanglo	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Azi Turturici	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Namaka Rawlins	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Dr. Tin Myaing Thein	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Mary Santa Maria	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Edelene Uriarte	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Betty Brow	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Livia Wang (for Bill Hoshijo)	Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio

Excused:

- Kristine Pagano (for Francine Wai) Executive Director, DCAB, Ex-officio
- Melba Bantay Language Access Advisory Council Member

2. **Welcome and Introductions**
   - None.

3. **Approval of minutes of the December 14, 2011 meeting**
   - Minutes were approved as presented.

4. **Executive Director's Report**
   - The Executive Director gave an oral report. The highlights of the report were: (1) that the two OLA staff positions have been approved by the governor and that, hopefully, they will be filled within the month; (2) that he has met with Bruce Coppa, the governor's chief-of-staff, on January 9, 2012 and that he has relayed the council's preference that OLA be transferred to DOH, that Bruce suggested that OLA write a memo to state agencies (to be signed by him) regarding the need to comply with language access law requirements, and that he will attend the next advisory council meeting on February 8; (3) that the Executive Director has sent an email to the chief-of-staff on January 10, 2012 requesting that a decision on OLA's transfer be made before Friday, January 13 so that the legislation can be finalized; and (4) that the joint project between the Senior Medicare Patrol and the Office of Language Access to hold town hall meetings in the neighbor islands on Medicare Fraud Prevention has been set – February 18 in Kauai, February 25 in Lanai, March 3 in Maui, and March 10 in Hilo.

5. **Report of the Chair**
   - The chair has nothing to report.

6. **Reports of Ad Hoc Committees**
   - 5th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access – the date has been set: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at the East West Center; conference theme to be determined soon.
   - 2012 Language Access Month (August) Activities – the committee has not met.
   - Training/Workshop on Community Interpretation – Committee is composed of Alohalani Boido as chair and Ruth Mabanglo and Mary Santa Maria as members. The chair reported that so far, seven people have registered; letters have been sent out to agencies; participants need not take a language competency test to attend the 40-hour training. Tentative date is February 27 to March 2, but this can move to the week of March 12 or even to April to allow more time for preparation. Alohalani to check with Marjory Bancroft.
   - Legislative Committee – The legislation transferring OLA is on hold pending the decision by the office of the governor. Need to change the number of advisory council members to make it an odd number; it was recommended that an at-large member be added.

7. **Update on OLA Brochures**
   - The distribution of the new multilingual poster is going on.
   - The OLA brochure is still being worked on.

8. **Announcements**
   - IAC Update – next meeting will be January 25, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. at the Susannah Wesley Community Center.

- General announcements:
  - Mary Santa Maria announced that starting this Saturday and the next four Saturdays, she will be teaching a course on Introduction to Interpretation at Maui College.
  - Alohalani Boido announced that the Hawaii Interpreters Action Network (HIAN) will be holding an interpretation training in the near future. She also announced that the National Board and Commission on Medical Interpretation will be opening up offices in Honolulu to pilot a certification exam on a couple of languages.
  - Ruth Mabanglo also mentioned that a Marshallese class is being offered at UH and that other classes on Micronesian languages, e.g. Chuukese, could not be offered due to lack of funding.
- Next council meeting: February 8, 2012, at 9:30 – 11:00 a.m., DLIR Conference Room 320. The executive director reminded members to attend and come ahead of time next meeting since the chief-of-staff will be in attendance from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

9. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

Language Access Advisory Council Meeting
January 11, 2012
Report of the Executive Director

Updates/Activities:

- **On vacation from December 16, 2011 to January 8, 2012.**
- **Two positions approved by the governor. Filling of two positions in process.**
- **DLIR, AG and DOH Directors met with governor's office. According to deputy AG Frances Lum, indications are that OLA will be transferred to the DOH.**
- **Met with chief-of-staff Bruce Coppa on January 9, 2012. Conveyed preference for OLA transfer to DOH. Preparing memo on compliance for state agencies to be signed by Bruce. Bruce to attend February 8 council meeting.**
- **Neighbor island meetings (SMP project) set.**