LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Wednesday, March 07, 2012

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

4444 Rice Street, Suite 330
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

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 9:37 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
– Edelene Uriarte	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
– Livia Wang (for Bill Hoshijo)	Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio

Excused:

– Alohalani Boido	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Betty Brow	Language Access Advisory Council Member
– Kristine Pagano (for Francine Wai)	Executive Director, DCAB, Ex-officio

- Dr. Ruth Mabanglo — Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Melba Bantay — Language Access Advisory Council Member

Guests:

- Frances Lum, Department of the Attorney General
- Sonya Chung-Hirano, staff, new 89-day hire
- Gail McGarvey, staff

2. **Welcome and Introductions**
   - The meeting began with introducing, new staff member, 89-day emergency hire, Sonya Chung-Hirano.

3. **Approval of minutes of the February 08, 2012 meeting**
   - Gerald Ohta said that there was a date correction to the "Announcements" regarding the Pacific Global Health Conference which will be held October 8-10, 2012. A motion was made to approve the minutes with the aforementioned corrections by Dr. Myaing and seconded by Livia Wang. The February 08, 2012 minutes were approved unanimously as corrected.

4. **Executive Director's Report**
   - Executive Director Jun Colmenares submitted a written report.
   - HB 2374 was approved by the House on third reading and would be crossing over to the Senate.
   - The next quarterly Office of Language Access (OLA) newsletter for spring will be ready in April.
   - OLA had a joint project with the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Hawaii of the State Executive Office on Aging for four separate weekends in the past two months on the neighbor islands, Kauai, Maui, Lanai and Big Island, respectively. Average attendance was 30, with one-half to one third of the participants being Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals.
   - Provided a letter of support for grant renewal to SMP.
   - Venue for five day "The Community Interpreter Workshop" with Cross Cultural Communications will be at two different locations, two days at Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) ground floor conference room and three days at the McKinley Community School for Adults (MCSA).
   - The February 22, 2012, State Language Access Coordinators' (SLAC) meeting focused on revised plans and submission of reports.
   - The Executive Director plans to continue to meet with members of the Legislature on OLA related bills. He clarified that the effective date of OLA's transfer to State Department of Health (DOH) is July 1, 2012.

5. **Report of the Chair**
   - Dominic Inocelda, Chair, has and will provide a letter of support on behalf of the advisory council for legislative bills that propose the OLA office transfer to the Department of Health as agreed upon by the advisory council.
   - The chair has also attended and participated in the planning sessions for both the Training committee and the OLA annual conference committee.

6. **Reports of Ad Hoc Committees**

- **CCC Training/Workshop** - Mary Santa Maria reported there were 30 participants confirmed, with two names on the "Wait List". There was also a list of observers and volunteers. Mary asked if there would be anyone from LAAC going to observe. Jennifer Dotson and Edelene Uriarte volunteered to be there.

- **Legislative Committee** - The Executive Director Colmenares has met with and talked to Senator Josh Green, Chair, of the Senate Committee on Health and Senator Clayton Hee, Chair of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee. Both legislators expressed support to HB2374. If approved by the two committees, the bill will next go to the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Jun plans to meet and talk to the chair. So far there has been no community opposition.

- **5th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access.**
  Chair, Jennifer Dotson reported on the preparations for the conference. There is a proposed agenda and schedule. Mr. Kleber Palma from New York City Department of Education, Translation and Interpretation Unit, has confirmed as a speaker. Pending speakers are Deanna Jang, from the Department of Justice, Jason Reed, DSHS, Washington, Michael Leoz, Civil Rights, San Francisco and Christina Perez, Office of Minority Health, San Francisco, California. The theme for the conference was discussed and Namaka Rawlins will help select a Hawaiian word to match the meaning or idea of "Translation: Maximizing Quality" or communication. *Unuhina* is the Hawaiian word for translation. *Olelo* means tongue in Hawaiian. The committee is asking suggestions for speakers to invite for track #1 and track #2, as well as suggestions for topics. Mary Santa Maria suggested Keola Downing as a speaker. He does translating for Marshallese and is on Maui. Regarding the "Save the Date" flyer it was suggested to modify the conference objective and include a basic definition of "interpretation" and "translation" as it was felt there needed to be a definition of these terms on the flyer. It was suggested that the flyer be sent to government agencies. The conference pre-planning committee's next meeting is on April 2, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the OLA office.

- **2012 Language Access Month** – Committee members Dominic Inocelda, Gerald Ohta and Jun Colmenares are looking for more members. Dr. Myaing said she would be interested in being on the committee. Jun is looking to partner with a lawyers organization to have a panel, and is waiting till the new legal analyst starts here in May and can assist in that area. Jun said Maryknoll High School Spanish class contacted him because they wanted to become involved with language access. Mary Santa Maria suggested that they could write an article for the Spanish newspaper. Jennifer Dotson added that they could also write an article for the OLA newsletter and offered to work with the class on this. It is planned to have an announcement about Language Access on the state August pay statements. Also, the committee is still negotiating with Olelo about filming a panel discussion at Olelo.

7. **Update on OLA Brochures**

- Printed OLA posters were distributed 3/07/12 on Kauai, Maui and Lanai.
- Printing of more OLA brochures are on hold, pending OLA's new official address after the planned transfer.

8. **Announcements**
   - IAC, Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant Services, President Dominic Inocelda said the next meeting is on March 28, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. at the Susannah Wesley Center. TheBus will have a representative at the meeting. The Transit Security and Emergency Preparedness as part of their program "Your Ticket to a Safe Ride" are printing brochures in different languages and have a CD in non English covering "Disaster Planning". Jun Colmenares added that Hawaiian Electric also came out with brochures on energy conservation printed in Cantonese, Korean and Ilokano.
   - Dr. Myaing announced that Pacific Gateway's "pop up" restaurants are now serving Ethiopian and Burmese cuisine, on Saturdays and Sundays, respectively. Seating is by reservations only at their Lemongrass Café, at 83 North King Street in Honolulu.
   - Next Language Access Advisory Council Meeting date is Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM.

9. **Adjournment**
   - Meeting was adjourned at 10:34 AM.

Language Access Advisory Council Meeting
March 7, 2012
Report of the Executive Director

Updates/Activities:

- **Sonya Chung-Hirano, OLA temporary hire, started February 21, 2012.**

- **HB2374 was heard and approved by the House committees on health and labor on February 10, 2012, and by the House committee on finance on February 29, 2012. It now crosses over to the Senate.**

- **Winter 2011 issue of the OLA quarterly newsletter has been released. Spring 2012 issue is being prepared.**

- **Gave OLA presentation at the town hall meetings on Medicare fraud prevention for the Ilokano-speaking LEP population, jointly sponsored by the Senior Medicare Project, the Executive Office on Aging, and the Office of Language Access, on Kauai (February 18), Lanai (February 25), and Maui (March 3). Hilo is scheduled on March 10.**

- **Issued a letter of support to the Senior Medicare Program for its grant application to the U.S. Administration on Aging to continue its educational and outreach programs.**

- **Venue for the Cross Cultural Communications' 5-day training on community interpretation has been set: March 12 and 16 at the DCCA conference room, and March 13 to 15 at the McKinley Community School for Adults. Met with ad hoc committee on February 27, 2012 to discuss preparations.**

- **Met with the ad hoc committee on the 5th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access on February 27, 2012 to discuss theme, objectives, program, topics and speakers. Keynote speaker from New York has confirmed.**

- **Held the quarterly meeting of State language access coordinators on February 22, 2012 at the DLIR multipurpose conference room 313. Reminded state agencies of the deadlines for submission of reports and revised plans.**

- **Attended the IAC meeting on February 22, 2012 at the Susannah Wesley Community Center and gave a report/update on OLA.**

- **Met with several legislators, particularly members of the House finance committee, to ensure that HB2374 will be scheduled for hearing.**