LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

Workforce Development Council Conference Room 417
830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

181 Hawaiiana Street
Kapaa, Hawaii 96766

Aging & Disability Resource Center
1055 Kino’ole St., Suite 101, 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 9:40 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
- Gerald Ohta
- Serafin “Jun” Colmenares
- Azi Turturici
- Mary Santa Maria
- Sr. Earnest Chung
- Dr. Suzanne Zeng
- Edelene Uriarte
- Lito Asuncion
- Livia Wang (for Bill Hoshijo)

Language Access Advisory Council, Chairperson
Language Access Advisory Council, Vice Chair
Executive Director, Office of Language Access, Ex-officio
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio

Excused:
- Namaka Rawlins
- Dr. Tin Myaing Thein
- Jennifer Dotson
- Alohalani Boido
- Betty Brow

Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Kristine Pagano (Francine Wai) Language Access Advisory Council Member, Ex-officio

Others Present:
- Linda Song-Bradford Pacific Gateway Center (representing Dr. Myaing)
- Dr. Gishu Watanabe Dean, Konan Law School, Kobe, Japan
- Prof. Makiko Mizuno Kinjo Gakuin University, Nagoya, Japan
- Prof. Sachiko Nakamura Aichi Gakuin University, Aichi, Japan

2. Welcome and Introductions
- Those in attendance introduced themselves.

3. Approval of minutes of the February 9, 2011 meeting
- Minutes were approved as corrected (page 1, no. 1 – correct spelling of “Betty Brow”; page 2, no. 8 – should be “Burmese” instead of “Tongan”).

4. Executive Director’s Report
- Request to establish and fill two restored OLA positions awaiting action by Budget and Finance.
- Training workshops for Oahu nonprofits to be held on April 11 and 20, 2011.
- List of state language access coordinators being updated.
- Revised language access plans of federally-funded state agencies due July 1, 2011.
- 4th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access to be held in August at East-West Center.
- Project to produce a directory of agencies with language resources under discussion.
- Research projects in collaboration with DLIR Research and Statistics Office.
- OLA Newsletter (Spring 2011 issue) being prepared.
- On out-of-state vacation from March 18 to March 27, 2011.

5. Report of the Chair
- Letter from DLIR Director in response to letter sent by Council to the Governor re the establishment and filling of two OLA positions was received. It informed the group that the request is still being reviewed by Budget and Finance.

6. Update on the Multilingual Poster
- Trying to resolve font issues for the Burmese translation. There is space for one more language. Sue to determine additional language (Portuguese, Russian, etc.) based on LEP population statistics and contact experience.

7. Update on Legislative Proposals
- OLA is tracking the following legislations: HB298 (exempts court interpreters from parking violations for expired meters – passed by the House and referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor); HB1452 (requires OCS, in coordination with other relevant state agencies, to provide social services for survivors of human trafficking – referred to House Labor, Judiciary and Finance committees; not heard, considered dead); SB997 (companion bill to HB298 – referred to Senate Judiciary and Labor committee but not heard); SB1139 (appropriates monies to community health centers – passed Senate Health and Human Services committee and referred to Senate Ways and Means committee; not heard; considered dead); and SB1503 (relates to special education; establishes criteria
for persons who provide interpretation services for children who are deaf or hard of hearing and certain students with disability – passed Senate, goes to House).

8. **Training for Non-Profit Agencies on Oahu**
   - OLA is scheduling two one-day trainings on Oahu on Serving LEP Individuals Through Interpreters and The Role of Bilingual Staff. The trainings will be held on April 11 at the Susannah Wesley Community Center and on April 20 at the DLIR multipurpose conference rooms. To get better attendance, it was decided to open the trainings to state and county agencies. It was also recommended that lunch or refreshments be solicited from sponsors.

   - OCS and OLA agreed to have separate conferences. OLA will provide a speaker or panel during the OCS’ July conference on barriers to economic security. OCS will provide limited funding support to OLA’s August conference.
   - OLA will hold a one-day conference, tentatively set on August 17, 2011 at the East-West Center. Focus will be on first responders (police, firefighters, EMS, hospital ER personnel, etc.) and how their services to LEP individuals can be enhanced. Need to collaborate with county agencies and hospitals. Conference planning committee will start meeting soon.

10. **Announcements**
    - It was recommended that a protocol be laid down by OLA and the Council as to how emails from one member of the Council to the rest of the membership are going to be handled, especially on account of the sunshine law. The chair will consult with deputy AG Frances Lum on this.
    - IAC Update – next meeting will be on Thursday, March 24, 2011, 2:30 p.m. at SWCC.
    - Lecture on language access in courts in Japan, March 10, from 12:45 to 2:00 p.m., UH Law School, Room 254.
    - Sr. Earnest will be on sabbatical in New York from June to September 2011.
    - Gerald will have several travels to the mainland and Japan for the rest of the year.
    - Next council meeting: April 13, 2011, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m., same time and place.

11. **Adjournment**
    - Meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.
Language Access Advisory Council Meeting  
March 9, 2011  
Report of the Executive Director

Updates:

- Request to establish and fill the two restored OLA positions (senior legal analyst and clerk) still under review by B&F.

- Training for non-profit agencies on Oahu is scheduled for April 11, 2011 (Susannah Wesley Community Center) and April 20, 2011 (DLIR Multipurpose Rooms). Request help to send flyers out.

- Updating list of state language access coordinators. Some state agencies have not yet responded to memo re designation of language access coordinators.

- Memo to federally-funded state agencies reminding them of the July 1, 2011 deadline for the submission of revised language access plans has been sent out.

- Tracking of legislation related to language access and submission of testimonies, as needed, are on-going.

- Office of Community Services will provide limited funding support for the holding of the 4th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access in August 2011 focusing on LEP and the role of first responders (police, fire, EMT).

- Working with Civil Defense, DOH, SWCC and OCS on a project to produce a directory of agencies with language resources.

- Initiated conversation with DLIR’s Research and Statistics Office re collaboration on research projects: mapping of LEP population, language needs assessment survey, compliance study.

- OLA Newsletter (Spring 2011 issue no. 14) being prepared; contributions welcome.

- Will be on vacation (out-of-state) from March 18 to March 27, 2011.