

LANGUAGE ACCESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

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

444 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 9:40 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:

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|---------------------------------|---|
| - Dominic Inocelda | Language Access Advisory Council, Chair |
| - Serafin "Jun" Colmenares | Executive Director, Office of Language Access, Ex-officio |
| - Ruth Mabanglo | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Betty Brow | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Namaka Rawlins | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Lito Asuncion | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Mary Santa Maria | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Melba Bantay | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Azi Turturici | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Livia Wang (for Bill Hoshijo) | Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission, Ex-officio |

Excused:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| - Gerald Ohta | Language Access Advisory Council, Vice Chair |
| - Dr. Tin Myaing Thein | Language Access Advisory Council Member |
| - Kristine Pagano (for Francine Wai) | Executive Director, DCAB, Ex-officio |

- Edelene Uriarte Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Alohalani Boido Language Access Advisory Council Member
- Jennifer Dotson Language Access Advisory Council Member

Others Present:

- Mindy Emmons Certified Interpreter, Kauai.

2. Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Ruth Mabanglo was introduced as a new member of the Council. Mindy Emmons from Kauai was also introduced.

3. Approval of minutes of the August 10, 2011 meeting

- Minutes were approved as presented.

4. Executive Director's Report

- OLA was officially informed that it was not being abolished nor its budget cut. The two restored positions remain in the budget.
- Attended Round Table on Immigrants sponsored by the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders at Chaminade University.
- Held quarterly meeting of state language access coordinators on August 24, 2011.
- Multilingual poster being checked for possible errors.
- Language access conference committee has continued to meet. As of today, 122 have registered.
- The 2011 summer issue of the quarterly OLA Newsletter came out on July 18.
- Attended IAC meeting on July 20 and reported on OLA status.

5. Report of the Chair

- The chair has just returned from vacation and has no report to give.

6. Report on the 4th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access

- A printed conference evaluation report was distributed. The conference was attended by 185 individuals but only 77 returned their evaluation sheets. Most of them represented state/county (58%) and non-profit agencies (32%). 98% strongly agreed/agreed that the content of the conference presentations was appropriate and informative; 88% strongly agreed/agreed that the conference gave them opportunities for collaboration and new contacts; 88% agreed that it was a valuable professional development; 87% thought that the food was excellent/very good/good; and 86% considered the facilities as excellent/very good. Overall, the quality of speakers was ranked excellent/very good (89%). In terms of overall satisfaction, 84% rated the conference as excellent/very good. Emails were sent to all speakers, panelists, moderators, volunteers, sponsors, and all those who assisted in making the conference a success.

7. Production of the Multilingual Poster and OLA Flyer

- A semi-final version of the poster was printed and distributed at the conference for feedback from the public. Among the feedback: there was something missing in the Chinese translation (Dr. Sue Zeng will provide the missing part); a word in the Chuukese translation needs to be removed since it is very informal and may be considered offensive; and there is a need to rewrite the Lao translation since it was written in Thai script.

- The OLA brochure also needs to be updated and reprinted since it still has the name of the former governor.

8. 2012 Legislative Agenda

- OLA will work on legislation that would transfer OLA to another department or agency (as part of the administrative package). The executive director presented a grid identifying possible agencies and the pros and cons for transferring OLA to each. It was also discussed that amendments to the language access law provisions on the requirements for advisory council membership, as well as other amendments that would strengthen OLA's compliance functions, will be included in the proposed legislation.
- A motion was made and approved that an ad hoc committee be formed composed of the council chair, the vice chair, and the OLA executive director to come up with the legislative proposal, to be presented to the council for discussion during its next meeting.

9. Training/Workshops/Project Proposals

- The executive director mentioned that one of the expressed needs and recommendations mentioned during the conference was for additional trainings. He requested members of the council to come up with suggestions for training or workshops that the office can hold, based on the feedback received from the conference. Proposals may be brought up and discussed during the next council meeting.

10. Announcements

- IAC Update – next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 28, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. at Susannah Wesley Community Center.
- Mainland visitors from the Food and Drug Administration/Office of Minority Health will be in town and would like to meet with the OLA on September 28, 2011. The executive director will see if they can attend the IAC meeting.
- Next council meeting: October 12, 2011, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m., same time and place.

11. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

**Language Access Advisory Council Meeting
September 14, 2011
Report of the Executive Director**

Updates/Activities:

- **Officially informed by DLIR Director on August 18 that OLA is not being abolished and that its budget remains intact for the biennium. The two restored positions remain in the budget.**
- **Met with the DLIR Director, personnel and WDD on August 18 re possibility of getting SCSEP volunteers and other trainees.**
- **Attended the August 23rd Round Table on Immigrants sponsored by the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders at Chaminade University.**
- **Held the quarterly meeting of State Language Access Coordinators on August 24, 2011; discussed the content of Gov. Abercrombie's memo of June 2, 2011 and other developments.**
- **Attended commissioning ceremony for new language access advisory council member Melba Bantay on August 24 at the House of Representatives, State Capitol.**
- **Held the final meeting of the language access conference committee on August 26; checked East-West Center facilities on August 25.**
- **4th Annual Hawaii Conference on Language Access held on August 31. A total of 185 attended. Conference evaluation results are out.**
- **Attended commissioning ceremony for new language access advisory council member Ruth Mabanglo on September 1 at the House of Representatives, State Capitol.**
- **Reviewed language access plan of County of Hawaii's Office of Housing and Community Development; also reviewed OCS' Temporary Food Assistance Program State Plan.**
- **Next issue of OLA Quarterly (Fall 2011) being prepared.**
- **OLA 2011 Annual Report draft due to DLIR on October 15, 2011.**