

POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS (PABEA)
IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM
No. 1 Capitol District | 250 South Hotel Street | Conference Room 410
Friday, March 3, 2023 | 11:30 AM

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Roberta Murray called the meeting to order at 11:36 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Appointed Members: Colette Brown, Beverly Gotelli, William Kinaka, Stephen Lung, Roberta Murray, Shelly Ogata, Suzie Schulberg, Barbara Service, Rick Tabor, Leslie Tanoue, Raelene Tenno, and Kathy Wyatt.

(A quorum was established as twelve members were present at roll call. This board requires eight members to be present to establish quorum.)

Ex-officio Members: Alan Burdick, DLIR Office of Community Services; Kathy Ishihara, DHS; Christy Nishita, University of Hawaii at Manoa; and Keith Ridley, DOH.

EOA Staff and AAA Staff: Philip Ana, Wanda Anae-Onishi, Derrick Ariyoshi, Caroline Cadirao, Horace Farr, Tani Kalei Kagesa, Norma Kop, Josephine Lum, John McDermott, Jan Mori, Lani Sakamoto, Kealoha Takahashi, Cristina Valenzuela, and Jeffrey Woodland.

Guests: Nathan Leo, Hawai'i LGBT Legacy Foundation; Gary Simon, PABEA Past Chair; and Audrey Suga-Nakagawa, AARP Hawaii.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the February 3, 2023 in-person and Zoom PABEA meeting were approved as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Roberta announced that Tia Hartsock, the State of Hawaii Director of the Office of Wellness, will provide PABEA a presentation at the April PABEA meeting.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Barbara reported that the Committee met this morning with quorum and reviewed the Kupuna Caucus, PABEA, and EOA legislative priorities. All priorities, except SB 889, have survived either as a house bill, a senate bill, or both. SB 889 proposed standardizing the Medicaid coding and reimbursement for adult day care and adult day health care.

Caroline reported that SB 900, which appropriates funds for three Program Specialist positions within the Executive Office on Aging for the State Health Insurance Assistance Program, passed the Senate Ways and Means Committee today. Its companion, HB 649, has died in the House.

Beverly explained the legislative crossover. The first crossover is the deadline for bills to move (or “crossover”) to the other chamber. If successful, House bills are sent to the Senate and Senate bills are sent to the House for further consideration. Second crossover is the deadline for bills to pass in their non-originating chamber and to “cross back” to the originating chamber. When the Senate and House disagree on a bill, members from each chamber can meet in conference committees to reconcile their differences

Kathy Wyatt reported that HB 1341 and SB 1474, which appropriate funds for the achievement of full funding, including estimated payment increases, of Medicaid home and community-based services are alive. She also commented that Med-QUEST has invited her to participate in a task force to examine coding and reimbursement inequities.

PLANS AND PROJECTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Shelly reported that Caroline provided a presentation on the State Plan on Aging at today’s meeting. The Committee will review the Plan. The Committee also discussed workforce development and coordination. Caroline referred the Committee to the Good Jobs Hawaii website. The Committee will meet with the AAAs to discuss their area plans on aging.

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Kathy reported that the committee did not meet yesterday. Many were unable to attend. The Committee will meet the first Thursday in April. Plans for the Older Americans Month (OAM) celebration are expected to be finalized by the April meeting. Kathy will provide a full report on the OAM celebration plans at the April PABEA meeting. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor have been invited. The Lieutenant Governor has accepted the invitation. The Governor’s scheduling staff will contact Rick in the next month. Caroline will follow-up with the Governor’s office regarding the OAM proclamation.

APPOINTED MEMBERS’ REPORTS

No reports were offered.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS’ REPORTS

Alan announced that the DLIR Office of Community Services (OCS) has been awarded by the USDA an additional \$156,000 per year in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to increase the number of seniors served by the Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program. Approximately 1,680 participants will be added to serve a new total of 10,600 seniors. Tentative allocations are:

- Oahu - from 6,174 seniors plus 826 = new total of 7,000 seniors;
- Kauai - from 250 plus 150 = new total of 400;
- Hawaii County - from 1,255 plus 445 = new total of 1,700; and,
- Maui County - from 1,240 plus 260 = new total of 1,500.

Seniors may apply by visiting the website of their respective service provider: Hawaii Foodbank for Oahu and Kauai; Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council, HCEOC, for Hawaii County; and Maui Economic Opportunity, MEO, for Maui. All providers are soliciting applications from seniors aged 60 and over. The USDA award is for two years.

Christy reported that the new Dean of the Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health, Alex Ortega, will be in his new position this summer. Christy is looking forward to introducing Dean Ortega to the good work performed in aging, both on campus and in our aging network. Christy announced a new partnership with the Tokyo Institute of Technology (Tokyo Tech). A memorandum of understanding with Tokyo Tech will be signed soon. The goal of the partnership is to foster joint research and to develop technology that focuses on healthy aging and aging in place, recognizing not only our aging population, but also the shortages in our direct care workforce and the role that technology has in helping our aging population and the workforce shortages. Delegates from Toyo Tech visited UH Manoa last week. Meetings were held across UH Manoa, visiting with researchers and departments that are performing innovative work similar to the research and development at Tokyo Tech. Departments visited included Mechanical Engineering, which is developing sensor type technology, and the Business School, which has a Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship. During those meetings, Tokyo Tech shared a video demonstrating the technology that they are developing -- robots that they are designing to assist in direct care. The Center on Aging's role is to facilitate the partnership by engaging faculty across the UH system, engaging the community (particularly kupuna), identifying where the needs are, providing feedback, and participating in the research and technology development process. The Center on Aging is developing a plan for the partnership for the next year and beyond, beginning with virtual symposia and workshops and then forming research teams that include both UH and Tokyo Tech faculty. The vision for this joint partnership is to facilitate healthy aging, independence in the community, and research and technology. Christy reported that the Kupuna Collective, working through Representative Case's office, received \$1.8 million in community project funding. The Kupuna Collective requested funding to examine improving kupuna navigation and proposed a kupuna navigation program to better coordinate services around the needs of kupuna. Christy thanked Derek and the Hawaii Public Health Institute for working with Representative Case. She remarked that the funding is recognition by the Hawaii's Congressional delegation of the good work in and by the aging network.

Derrick remarked that the program was Congressman Case's number one domestic priority for funding.

Keith announced that the Director of Health sends his greetings. Debbie Kim Morikawa has been appointed the Deputy Director for Health Resources. The DOH is working with the Legislature on bills that the DOH is supporting and bills that the DOH is asking to be deferred, etc. Keith remarked that several bills are related to medical cannabis, the tobacco settlement, sugar sweetened beverages, unlicensed care homes, and administrative penalties for unlicensed care homes.

Kathy Ishihara commented that she has no updates from DHS.

EOA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attached is Caroline's report.

Regarding the State Plan on Aging and the area plans on aging, Caroline commented that EOA and the AAAs met in October 2022 and developed the overarching goals for the State. EOA and the AAAs examined the Administration for Community Living's direction with Dr. Michael Cheang. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has five topic areas:

- Older Americans Act (OAA) Core Programs;
- COVID-19;

- Equity;
- Expanding Access to Home and Community Base Services; and,
- Caregiving.

EOA and the AAAs developed a goal for each topic area. EOA also is examining the RAISE Act Report and its 26 recommendations to see how the recommendations can be incorporated into the State Plan. EOA is developing the statewide objectives and desired outcomes and strategies to address the goals of the five topic areas. The goal is to submit the State Plan to the Governor in early May. The Administration will review the Plan and approve it. The Governor needs to approve the Plan with his signature before it is submitted to the ACL. Caroline will present the Plan to PABEA at its April 14, 2023 meeting. She will email it to PABEA at least a week ahead of the meeting. In the interim, Caroline will be working with Shelly and the PPRC to examine the objectives and strategies in the Plan. The AAAs are developing their plans, which are specific to their respective counties. However, the goals of the plans are common goals. The four-year State Plan is a guiding document on how EOA extends its State and Federal funds to ensure that EOA meets the Plan goals, objectives, strategies, and outcomes. After PABEA reviews the Plan, EOA will have public hearings on the Plan in the last two weeks of April to obtain community feedback. The community outreach will be statewide, i. e. Kauai, Kona, Hilo, Maui, and Oahu. The public will be notified of the hearings by PSAs. EOA also will work with the Department of Health to publicize the hearings. Caroline will work with representative stakeholders of non-English speaking communities to help with outreach on the Plan to these communities.

For outreach in the Hawaiian community, Raelene suggests contacting Hawaiian Community Assets and the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement.

Caroline will post the Plan on the EOA website to provide the public an opportunity to review the Plan before the hearings.

Nathan entered in the Zoom chat, *“If the Hawai’i LGBT Legacy Foundation can assist in outreach to the LGBTQIA+ community, please let me know.”*

Caroline announced that Caroline and EOA are not endorsing the company which provided a presentation at last month’s PABEA meeting. The presentation was an opportunity to share information, and for PABEA to learn of alternatives. People are free to look into alternatives on their own.

Caroline announced that Colette’s and Kathy’s second terms end on June 30, 2023. Roberta’s, Marilyn’s, and Barbara’s first terms end on June 30, 2023. To serve a second term, Roberta, Marilyn, and Barbara can complete an online application with the Hawaii Boards and Commissions at <https://forms.ehawaii.gov/pages/board-survey/>. Caroline encourages applying within the next week as nominations must be approved by the Senate.

Caroline provided the in-person and virtual attendees an opportunity to vote on their preferred draft cover for the State Plan on Aging. Three draft covers were provided by Caroline and Lani (see Addendum). Draft cover number 1 received the most votes by the in-person and virtual attendees.

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU ELDERLY AFFAIRS DIVISION (EAD)

Attached is Derrick’s monthly report.

EAD will be requesting federal funding through Senator Hirono's office for a kupuna resource center which will have brochures, literature, and computer stations. Derrick and EAD will be presenting EAD's FY 2023 - 2024 budget to the City Council next week. EAD is preparing its area plan on aging. EAD hosted its last listening session. EAD is working with the Honolulu Committee on Aging and staff to determine plan objectives and desired outcomes. Listening sessions provide members of the community an opportunity to voice their challenges and needs. EAD develops its objectives and desired outcomes based upon these challenges and needs.

HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING (HCOA)

Attached is Horace's report.

Horace presented highlights from his report:

- HCOA is partnering with AARP Hawaii and Coordinated Services for the Elderly (CSE) in providing in-person tax preparation again after three years of operating under pandemic protocols. HCOA anticipates completing 900 to 1,000 tax returns. As of March 1, 2023, 266 returns have already been completed.
- A finalist for the Data Analyst position declined the offer of the position.
- HCOA's service providers continue to battle with a shortage of personnel in the workforce. The Parks and Recreation Elderly Activities Division has 16 vacant positions. To view available positions, go to: <https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/departments/corporation-counsel/employment>.
- As illustrated by the 7-month breakout for HCOA's Kupuna Care Case Management services for FY23, urban areas of Hawaii County receive more services than rural areas.
- College student Jennifer Abiley has selected HCOA as her host site for her Intro to Human Services HSER 110 class. Jennifer's project will focus on how the conception of a service becomes a reality to actual delivery to the consumer. She will outline the service need development process, resources needed, and the planning and coordination required to bring the service to life.

KAUAI AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS (AEA)

Attached is Kealoha's report.

Kealoha provided a few highlights:

- The AEA Grants Manager submitted the Exemption Requests and received approval from Purchasing to proceed in using a Qualified List of providers for both personal care and homemaker services. A new company applied. However, their unit cost is high (\$35 - \$50).
- Applicants for the Community Services Program Assistant position were interviewed on February 16, 2023. Selection was made among the three applicants. AEA is awaiting final approvals.
- AEA has begun its thriving and surviving cancer workshops. Of the eight participants, five are men. Three of the participants have cancer. Five of the participants are caregivers.

MAUI COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING (MCOA)

Caroline reported that MCOA is hosting listening sessions on Lanai, Molokai, and Maui for their area plan on aging.

KUPUNA CAUCUS

Roberta announced that the Kupuna Caucus will meet virtually at 2:00 p.m. today.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Roberta encourages those interested in serving on PABEA to apply at the State of Hawaii Boards and Commissions online application at <https://forms.ehawaii.gov/pages/board-survey/>.

NEW BUSINESS

Caroline will provide a presentation on the State Plan on Aging 2023 – 2027 at the next PABEA meeting.

Raelene thanked Derrick and Norma for the boxes of resource and fraud books for her community events with condominium audiences.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No public testimony was offered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Friday April 14, 2023, PABEA Monthly Meeting (in person and on ZOOM)
- Shelly announced that the next PPRC meeting will be on April 6, 2023.
- Barbara announced that AARP Hawaii is offering free on-line technology classes and is hosting a *Finance Your Future Conference* on Saturday, April 8, 2023, from 8:30 a. m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. She will email information on both the technology classes and the conference to PABEA members.
- Roberta announced that the Hawaii Community Caregiver Network is hosting a breakfast workshop on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, in Kona. The workshop will feature special guest speaker Kealii Lopez, AARP Hawaii State Director.
- Stephen is seeking an assessment/scoring tool for seniors to determine their needs. The tool is to be used by lay people in their own communities. Caroline has resources for Stephen to consider. Shelly recommends that Stephen contact Project Dana.

ADJOURNMENT OF PABEA MEETING:

Roberta adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

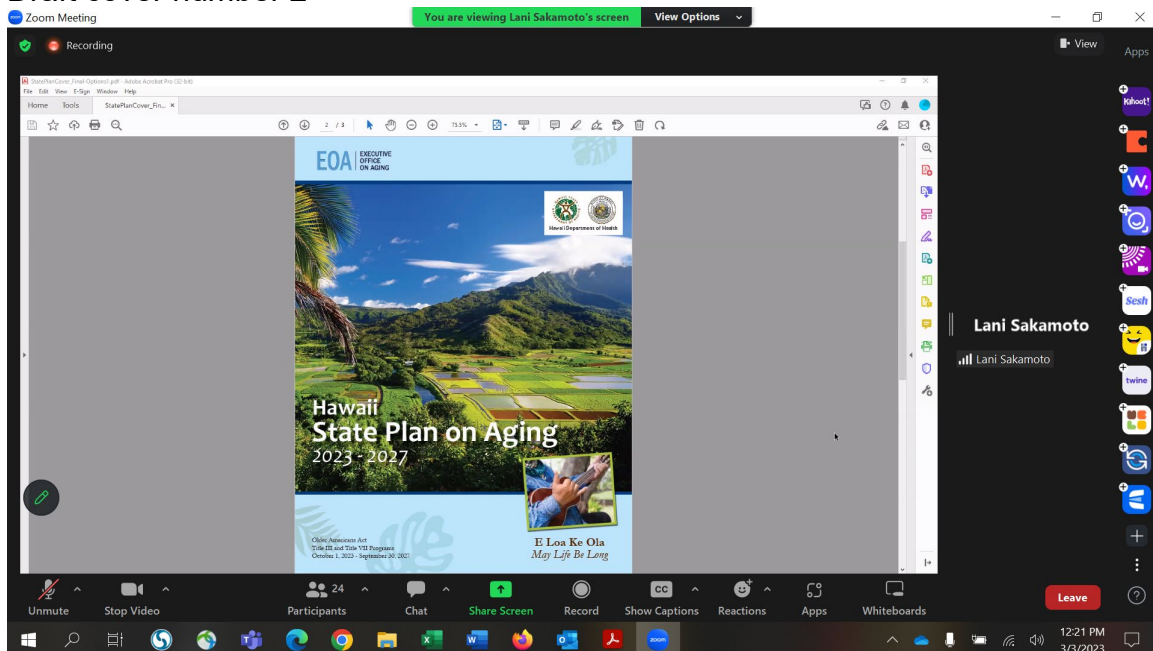
ADDENDUM

Draft covers for *Hawaii State Plan on Aging 2023 – 2027* (three draft covers)

Draft cover number 1



Draft cover number 2



Draft cover number 3

