

POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS (PABEA) MEETING  
IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM  
No. 1 Capitol District | 250 South Hotel Street | Conference Room 410  
Friday, July 5, 2024 | 11:30 AM

**MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: Beverly Gotelli called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Appointed members present: Poki'i Balaz (joined the meeting at 11:33 a.m.), Beverly Gotelli, Louise Johnson, William Kinaka, Stephen Lung, Sara Lenzer Medeiros, Barbara Service, Gary Simon, Lisa Spencer, Charlene Taketa, Leslie Tanoue, and Raelene Tenno.

Appointed members excused and absent: Shelly Ogata, Suzie Schulberg, Marilyn Seely, and Rick Tabor.

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

Ex-officio members present: Kathy Ishihara, DHS; Debbie Kim Morikawa, DOH; and Sharon Yee, CMS.

EOA staff and AAA staff present: Derrick Ariyoshi, Caroline Cadirao, Kristell Corpuz, Horace Farr, Norma Kop, Josephine Lum, John McDermott, Jan Mori, Lynn Niitani, Lauryn Reich, Lani Sakamoto, Tani Salazar, Kealoha Takahashi, Wesley Tanigawa, Cristina Valenzuela, and Jeffrey Woodland.

Guests present: Charlene Iboshi and Audrey Suga-Nakagawa, Director of Advocacy, AARP Hawaii.

Beverly reminded PABEA members that Sunshine Law requires those PABEA members who are attending by Zoom to have their video on throughout the entire meeting.

Beverly welcomed the new PABEA members.

Each PABEA member introduced himself/herself.

Beverly distributed a directory of PABEA members for the PABEA members to review and correct (if necessary), an emergency contact information form to complete, and a PABEA Committee signup sheet. The directory and the emergency contact information form will be emailed to PABEA members attending today's meeting by Zoom. Beverly provided a summary of the duties and responsibilities of the three PABEA Committees – the Legislative Committee, the Plans and Projects Review Committee (PPRC), and the Recognition and Awards Committee (RAC). PABEA members can sign-up for more than one committee. PABEA members who are attending today's meeting by Zoom are asked to email their committee preferences to Beverly by July 24, 2024. Those serving on a committee who would like to continue on the same committee need to sign-up again. Beverly encourages PABEA members to switch to another committee to learn from and contribute to other committees. She also encourages PABEA members to join the RAC.

## EOA DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Attached is Caroline's report. Caroline provided highlights from her report:

- Caroline asked PABEA members to review Acting ACL Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging Alison Barkoff's message, "*ALL MEANS ALL: Removing Barriers to Community Living for LGBTQI+ Older Adults & Disabled People.*"
- HB 2224 Long-Term Care Plan was signed into law on Monday, July 1, 2024. Caroline attended the bill signing. The law requires EOA, in coordination with the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), to create a comprehensive long-term care plan to accomplish certain long-term care policy goals that ensure the availability of a full continuum of institutional and community-based services; and establishes and appropriates funds for one long-term care planner position within EOA to oversee the development and implementation of the long-term care plan. The last plan was from 1988. Many of the current programs and services began as recommendations from the 1988 plan.
- SB 2305 Silver Alert also was signed into law. The law establishes a Silver Alert Program within the Department of Law Enforcement to help locate and safeguard missing persons who are of age 65 years or older, cognitively impaired, or developmentally disabled.
- EOA embarked on a strategic visioning on June 17 and 18, 2024. Staff reviewed the current vision to create a vision better aligned with EOA's mission and position as the lead state agency for aging services and supports.
- On June 19, 2024, support front line staff from the Area Agencies on Aging received training on selfcare, caring for staff, and providing continuing support while experiencing adversity and trauma.
- EOA is launching a yearlong elder abuse awareness media campaign. The campaign will include public service announcements (PSAs) and interviews on the shows *Living 808* and *Kupuna 808/Kupuna Caregiver*. The first PSA began airing on June 26, 2024. The PSA debut coincided with a Living 808 interview with Caroline and APS Administrator Lisa Amador on Wednesday, June 26, 2024. Cristina presented the PSA at the PABEA meeting.
- EOA's grant continuation application for Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) Year 2 (2024 –2025) has been approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Emergency Preparedness - Hawaiian Electric's Public Safety Power Shutoff program (PSPS): EOA will partner with the AAAs to educate and prepare older adults on the PSPS and its potential impact on older adults.

## CHAIR'S REPORT

Beverly reported that she and Caroline are preparing and planning for the PABEA orientation meeting. Beverly has been appointed to the AARP Hawaii Executive Council. She attended her first Executive Council meeting this past Tuesday, July 2, 2024.

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Barbara reported that the Committee met this morning. The Governor signed several aging related bills on Monday, July 1, 2024. HB 1800 State Budget remains unsigned due to issues unrelated to aging. The Committee's current six priorities are:

- Falls prevention,
- Caregiver tax credit,
- Paid family leave,
- Hawaii Retirement Savings Program,

- Condominium issues related to disaster preparedness, and
- Hearing aids.

The Committee is interested in learning of any Kupuna Caucus legislative issues at today's Kupuna Caucus meeting. The Committee is also interested in potential legislation regarding amending qualification for unemployment compensation to include family caregivers.

#### PLANS AND PROJECTS REVIEW COMMITTEE (PPRC)

Beverly announced that the Committee did not meet today. Caroline announced that the Committee will meet next week Friday, July 12, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

#### RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (RAC)

Beverly announced that the Committee last met in June and that the Committee did not meet today. The next Committee meeting will be by Zoom on Thursday, August 1, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

#### STANDARDS OF OPERATIONS AD HOC COMMITTEE

The Committee is established to define procedures not addressed in the bylaws, such as appointment of a committee vice chair to perform the duties of the committee chair in the event that the chair is unavailable. The ad hoc Committee has been unable to meet. Beverly announced that a suggestion has been made for each committee to draft a guidebook on its procedures and timelines.

#### CLARIFICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES (OIP) ON MINUTES

Clarification from the OIP on meeting minutes will be presented at the August PABEA orientation meeting. OIP has informed EOA that the PABEA agendas and minutes need to be modified to be in full compliance with Sunshine Law.

#### AFFIRMATION OF THE ELECTION OF PABEA OFFICERS FOR 2024 – 2025

A motion to affirm the election of Beverly Gotelli as Chair, Poki'i Balaz as First Vice Chair, and Suzie Schulberg as Second Vice Chair for 2024 – 2025 was moved, seconded, and approved.

#### EOA'S ZERO TOLERANCE FOR UNLICENSED CARE HOMES

Caroline stated that EOA has zero tolerance for unlicensed care homes. Hawaii law requires all adult residential care homes to be licensed to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the individuals in those homes. Licensure also allows for LTC Ombudsmen to perform unannounced visits.

John remarked that the number of unlicensed care homes is unknown, but people are making referrals to these homes. Making a referral to an unlicensed care home is a misdemeanor. Unlicensed care homes are not inspected annually by the Department of Health. The qualifications of the staff of these unlicensed care homes are unknown. Ombudsmen visiting such homes would be trespassing. The operations of these unlicensed care homes are unfair to licensed care homes. Care homes are required to be licensed because they care for our most vulnerable population. For those who are using LTC insurance to pay these unlicensed

care homes, the insurer might request reimbursement and cancel the policy when the insurer learns that the care home is unlicensed.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: No public testimony was offered.

APPOINTED MEMBERS REPORTS: No reports were offered by appointed members.

#### EX OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORTS

Kathy Ishihara reported that DHS has launched a community based palliative care program after receiving approval from CMS. DHS has contracted with Hui Pohala, which is affiliated with Kokua Mau, to perform provider network outreach and community education on palliative care. Kathy will contact Beverly to provide a presentation on the DHS community based palliative care program at a future PABEA meeting.

Debbie Kim Morikawa reported that Justin Lam currently is the acting Chief of the Office of Health Care Assurance. DOH will be announcing the hiring of the new Medicare Certification Officer. DOH will be releasing the most recent draft of the care home rules for public comment before the final draft is adopted. Regarding care homes, even with the minimum standards included under licensure, ensuring that care homes are providing adequate care to its residents is challenging. Although the senior populations continue to increase, funding to perform additional inspections has not increased. Debbie and Justin are brainstorming ways to ensure that care homes are meeting the minimum standards and addressing quality of life issues as well. All visits are unannounced. When a visit is unannounced, the care home operator is unable to review the rules and ensure compliance. When care home operators are non-compliant, they focus on correcting deficiencies. When an inspection is announced, the care home operator has an opportunity to review the regulations and ensure compliance or at least be aware of the nature of deficiencies. DOH would like to teach compliance with the regulations as well as promote quality of life for residents.

#### CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU ELDERLY AFFAIRS DIVISION (EAD)

Attached is Derrick's report.

Derrick reported that EAD's On-Demand Rideshare Transportation for Older Adults pilot program now has 8 participant riders. The pilot program is limited to 10 riders. The Hawaii DOT and other agencies have contacted EAD to learn how the pilot program was established. EAD is working with the City and County Department of Emergency Management and other partners, including DOH, on Hawaiian Electric's Public Safety Power Shutoff program (PSPS). EAD is coordinating outreach efforts for Oahu and currently is focusing on the Leeward coast. EAD is partnering with HECO and the Board of Water Supply to perform outreach at public housing properties beginning at the end of July. Medically fragile individuals will be registered for HECO to provide them preemptive advice and information before power is shutoff. Outreach education is critical for residents, especially those residents who rely on electrical durable medical equipment, to plan and prepare.

#### HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING (HCOA)

Horace reported that June was a terribly busy month. Horace has been to Oahu every week since the end of May. June is the end of the County fiscal year and is the end of the term of HCOA contracts with the State. HCOA has been processing new contracts to be executed by

July 1, 2024. All contracts were executable by July 1. Also, HCOA has had problem issues with its WellSky software. HCOA scheduled five candidate interviews for June 25, 2024, but only three attended their interviews. One of the candidates received a second interview this past Wednesday. The candidate might accept the position for employment beginning August 1, 2024. HCOA has been recruiting for its data analyst position (Horace's former position) for the last four years. Horace has been performing the duties of the data analyst for the last four years. Horace and Derreck depart tomorrow for the USAging conference in Florida. HCOA is working closely with Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency on Hawaiian Electric's Public Safety Power Shutoff program (PSPS) and all disaster planning and preparation. HCOA knows where its program and service participants reside. HCOA encourages all seniors to register with HCOA.

#### KAUAI AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS (KAEA)

Attached is Kealoha's report.

Kealoha reported that a personal care provider has requested for a particular client one additional personal care worker (for a total of two personal care workers) for the safety of the one existing personal care worker. KAEA asked the client whether the consumer was willing to pay for the additional personal care worker. The client is not willing to pay for the additional worker. KAEA is considering denying the request. If KAEA denies the request, the provider might discontinue services to the client to ensure the safety of the one personal care worker. The case manager will call Caroline on Monday to brainstorm a solution that meets the client's needs and ensures the safety of the provider's employees.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PABEA Executive Committee meeting, July 5, 2024, after the PABEA monthly meeting.
- Kupuna Caucus virtual meeting, Friday, July 5, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
- PABEA orientation meeting, Friday, August 2, 2024, 9:30 a.m.
- PABEA monthly meeting, Friday, August 2, 2024, 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker: Kealii Lopez, State Director, AARP Hawaii.
- Generation Magazine's Aging in Place Workshops, Saturday, August 3, 2024, 8:00 a.m. - 2:15 p.m., Ala Moana Hotel. Josephine will email the flyer to PABEA members.

#### CMS

Sharon announced that CMS will have an information/listening sessions on:

- Innovation in Behavioral Health (IBH) Model Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO); and,
- System Transformation and Continuing to Increase Access to Patient Navigation Services as part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot.

Sharon reported that CMS is considering selecting the State of Hawaii for participation in the States Advancing All-Payer Health Equity Approaches and Development (AHEAD) Model.

Sharon will forward the announcements on the CMS information/listening sessions and the AHEAD Model to Josephine for distribution to PABEA members.

#### ADJOURNMENT OF PABEA MEETING:

Beverly adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.