

POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS  
October 4, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENTATION:

Scott Seto of DHS/APS Maui and the Maui Elder Justice Team provided a presentation on proposed elder justice enhancements and elder justice awareness education.

CALL TO ORDER:

Linda Axtell-Thompson called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. A quorum was established as nine members were present at the call to order. (This board requires eight members to be present in order to establish quorum.)

Members Present: Linda Axtell-Thompson, Beverly Gotelli, Joy Miyasaki, Shelly Ogata, Suzie Schulberg, Gary Simon, Scott Spallina, John Tomoso, and Barbara Yamashita.

Members Absent: William Kinaka, Barbara Service, Beverly Jean Withington, Kathleen Wyatt, and Sarah Yuan.

Others Present: Ex-officios: Denise Iseri-Matsubara, DLIR; Kathy Ishihara, DHS; Keith Ridley, DOH; and Melina Sanchez, DCCA.

EOA Staff and AAAs: Aaron Arakaki, Derrick Ariyoshi, Vicki Belluomini, Caroline Cadirao, Horace Farr, Josephine Lum, Lisa Nakao, Sharon Nobriga, Debra Shimizu and Cristina Valenzuela.

Guests: Charlene Iboshi, Kealii Lopez, Marilyn Seely, Scott Seto, and Jessica Wooley.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS: The meeting attendees introduced themselves.

MINUTES: The minutes of the August 2, 2019, PABEA meeting were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

The September 6, 2019 PABEA Onboarding/Planning meeting notes were reviewed. Attendees are requested to view the Sunshine Law training videos and complete the quiz.

## EGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:

Gary reported that a quorum was not present for the legislative committee meeting. Scott Seto provided a presentation on proposed elder justice enhancements and elder justice awareness education. Discussion and approval of legislative priorities is deferred until the November committee meeting and will be presented to PABEA at its November meeting.

## PLANS AND PROJECTS REVIEW COMMITTEE:

The PABEA bylaws are being reviewed for possible amending. Proposed amendments will be presented to PABEA at its November meeting.

## RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE:

The committee did not meet today.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING:

- Administration
  - Awaiting word of OAA reauthorization. On September 16, 2019, House Education & Labor Committee introduced H.R. 4334, Dignity in Aging Act of 2019, to authorize OAA for five more years. The bill proposes significant increases in authorized funding levels and several important technical revisions and program changes. Specifically, change to Section 202 would raise minimum funding level for state administrative expenses from current \$500,000 to \$750,000.
  - ABLE Account – EOA is working with Developmental Disabilities Council and Budget and Finance (B&F) to establish Hawaii’s ABLE Accounts, bank **accounts** that allow people with special needs to save money without jeopardizing their disability benefits. Act 206, signed into law by Governor Ige in 2015, provides Director of Finance shall establish, implement and administer the Hawaii Able Saving program.
- Personnel
  - EOA filled two vacancies within Grants Management. Aaron Arakaki was promoted from Program Specialist V to Program Specialist VI overseeing Grants Management on September 20, 2019. Chris Tu’s exempt position as ADRC Specialist ended on September 27, 2019, and he was hired into Grants Management on September 30, 2019.
  - EOA still has two vacancies in Grants Management – Program Specialist V and Program Specialist IV for the Participant Directed/Veterans Directed Care program.
  - EOA is working with HR to establish the Oahu LTC Ombudsman program position.

- EOA is working to fill vacancies within SHIP and SMP with permanent staff. Currently, a position in SHIP is filled with an 89 day hire and a position in SMP is filled with a staffing agency.
- Program Highlights
  - SHIP- State Health Insurance Assistance Program open enrollment to change your Medicare health or prescription drug coverage for 2020 is October 15, 2019, thru December 7, 2019. Staff and counselors are busy preparing for open enrollment. If you need more information, contact [www.hawaiiiship.org](http://www.hawaiiiship.org) or Oahu 586-7299 or neighbor islands 1-888-875-9229.
  - Public Awareness Campaign. EOA met with Nathan Hokama to discuss final evaluation of the LTC awareness campaign and final report to the state legislature. Market Trends Pacific will conduct feedback surveys and data analysis over the next two months in preparation for the final report. The draft report will be presented to PABEA at its December meeting.
  - Policy, Planning, Evaluation and Communication is working with EOA staff to prepare for the annual report to the state legislature. In addition, EOA will develop a plan for the Kupuna Caregiver Program (KCGP).
- EOA's Aging Conference- State Capitol Conference on Aging
  - Purpose is to showcase the EOA, direct service programs, and Aging Network. Room at the Capitol is reserved from 9 to Noon on January 9, 2020.

#### CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU ELDERLY AFFAIRS DIVISION:

EAD staffing is lean.

The EAD Chief Planner is leaving to join HMSA.

Case management positions and the RSVP position are vacant. Hiring links will be sent to EOA and PABEA.

The Honolulu Committee on Aging met on September 27 at Kapalama Hale. HCOA will request expanded membership, including membership for a PABEA member.

Senior Handbooks were distributed at the Young at Heart Expo.

Two AmeriCorps Vista Volunteers will be on board in December.

The Four Year Area Plan has been signed by the Mayor.

#### HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING:

Horace thanked EOA for its support during its transition in the absence of a permanent director. Horace meets with Will Okabe daily. Vacant positions include the ADRC manager. Two planners are out and one planner is in and out. Three service contracts are unexecuted, but services continue.

#### KAUAI AGENCY OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS:

The Kauai services report was distributed to PABEA by email. A new Dementia Friends group has been established in Kilauea.

MAUI COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING:

Vicki and Sharon distributed the Maui Services report.  
MCOA celebrated the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EnhancedFitness.  
The area plan has been signed by the Mayor.  
The caregiver fair will be held on November 22.  
Position vacancies continue, but a reorganization will be proposed.  
Vicki and Sharon thanked Charlene for her help with completing the grant to support the prevention of elder abuse.

OTHER:

Debbie Shimizu distributed the new dementia booklet.  
Barbara Yamashita is the Oahu PABEA lead with Olelo. John Tomoso is the Maui PABEA lead with Olelo. John McDermott is the EOA lead with Olelo.

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee list will be distributed to PABEA members and committee members for review by November 1, 2019.  
Beverly Gotelli requests to serve on the Legislative Committee.  
John Tomoso requests to serve on the RAC committee.  
Caroline is working with Nathan Hokama to finalize the LTC Awareness Project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next PABEA Meeting: November 1, 11:30 a.m., EOA

ADJOURNMENT: Linda adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.