

50th Anniversary of Statehood Commission Meeting
Minutes July 8, 2008

In Attendance: Elias Beniga, James Burns, Bobbi Ray for Trustee Cataluna, Kippen de Alba Chu, Momi Akimseu (on behalf of Muriel Anderson), Stephanie Donoho, Denise Hayashi, Kahu Kekuna, Stafford Kiguchi, Lenny Klompus, Tammy Kubo, Ah Quon McElrath, Major General Vern Miyagi, Duk Murabayashi, Lani Nakazawa, Michael Pang, Edward Pei, Allicyn Tasaka, Deidre Tegarden, Lori Thomas, Gerry Nishimoto (on behalf of Danny Young)

Excused: Vivian Aiona, Walter Dods, Ted Tsukiyama, Keith Vieira

Call to Order: 10:41am

Approval of Minutes with the following correction:

Ms. Stephanie Donoho's name should be spelled without an "e" at the end. Motion to approve as amended by Mr. Pei. 2nd by Judge Burns Approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

John Aeto, GM of Visionary Related Entertainment (with 21 statewide stations total) came to share that his company wants to work with the Commission on the Statehood Celebration. He is interested in doing something with the "Voices" piece even though it is not an exclusive for his stations. Honolulu Magazine is also interested in putting something together such as the *Greatest 50 Moments Since Statehood*. However, Honolulu Magazine would designate the top 50 moments with input from the Commission for the August issue.

Mr. Klompus asked for specifics to which Mr. Aeto said he did not have the details yet but that Honolulu Magazine would be the driving editorial force. Most recently the magazine covered the City and County of Honolulu's Centennial recognizing 100 people. Again, the magazine would have editorial control, but would allow people form the commission to sit on the committee.

Michael Adly, a Honolulu resident, is opposed to the statehood celebration because of the overthrow. He continued by saying that the State of Hawaii has no jurisdiction here and by having a Statehood Anniversary Celebration, that there will most likely be protests. Mr. Adly had additional issues with OHA placing an OHA member on the Commission. He does not like that King Kamehameha's likeness is being used within the Statehood logo

The Chair clarified that the image of King Kamehameha is being used in the State quarter and that is where the Statehood Anniversary logo came from.

Mr. Klompus went on to share that the US mint had the final decision making authority on the quarter. Mr. Adly thinks the quarter design is a "blunder".

Mr. Aeto stepped up again and encouraged those in the room not to be afraid to have the celebrations. He thinks people may have forgotten the benefits received from being a State and suggested doing an educational component. Mr. Aeto said he is a native Hawaiian and wants us to highlight the greatness of the State of Hawaii.

Discussion and Action Steps:

- 50 Voices: Mr. Klompus did a background explanation of "50 voices" PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE of what statehood means...using 50 people to help articulate what statehood means/meant to them. The object is to have each of the "Voices" share from their hearts, what statehood means to them.

A motion was made by Mr. Pei to accept the following individuals for the next round of "Voices" to be filmed:

Buddy Nobriga (Maui), Elmer Cravalho (Maui), Dave Parker, Bill Paty, Don McDermott, Alquan McElrath, Pua Kanahale, Abigail Kawanakoa, Dr. Blaisdell and Bill Richardson.

Discussion ensued about the criteria for picking the 50 Voices. The Chair once again asked all members to send in their nominations so that at the next meeting the names can be decided upon.

Mr. Pei suggested that each of the nominees be told that just because they are selected and do the :60 piece, there is no guarantee that the film will be aired. Thus, the Commission should film more than just 50.

Ms. Akimseu again asked the criteria for picking the 50 Voices.

Mr. Klompus shared that the framework we have been using is that the Commission members identify the people to share the message of Statehood. Some people have a wonderful background but may not be able to articulate the message. That is part of the criteria...not only having a great name, but also being able to articulate the message.

Mr. Beniga continued the discussion stating that having the main criteria be that they are able to articulate the message should not be the only criteria.

Discussion and suggestions continued that different ethnic groups should be represented in the Voices, as well as different industries. The Chair once again asked all members to submit the names and a one-sentence description of WHY the person would be good to share their vision by the next meeting and the choices would be made at that time.

Mr. Pei moved to accept the names mentioned above with the understanding that they be told that just because they are filmed does not mean their story will be aired. Kahu Kekuna 2nd the motion. Unanimously approved.

Events/Education Committee:

Ms. Kubo had a good conversation with DOE identifying three different events throughout DOE to celebrate Statehood: Poster Contest/ Essay Contest/Time Capsule. Ms. Kubo will be the single point of contact with the DOE.

The committee will work with the military to get special boxes for the time capsule. Each school will decide whether or not they want to participate. There could be a number of time capsules. Ms. Kubo asked for RSVPs as to what schools want to do the time capsules.

The teachers will be able to view the "50 voices of Statehood" from website and use as an educational component in the classroom.

Mr. Pei asked if all contests are open to all schools.

Ms. Kubo replied that currently it is only the public schools because of the DOE

Mr. Pei suggested that the Hawaii Association of Private Schools would be happy to disseminate the info to the other schools.

Ms. Kubo thanked him for that information and went on to say that everyone has access to the website. She then called for volunteer judges and people to be part of the "living legends" program. Ms. Kubo will provide a timeline at the next meeting.

Mrs. McElrath commented that the educational component is very important and that we need to make use of every possible avenue as it relates to education.

Mr. Pang asked how the Commission will be recognizing these students.

Ms. Kubo is not sure yet, but perhaps the winning essays being published in Honolulu Magazine and the posters shown at the Capitol.

Finance Committee: Mr. Kiguchi shared that as soon as he gets the actual sponsorship packages that he and his committee will move forward with soliciting sponsorships. He again asked the Commission to send in suggested sponsors as soon as possible.

Tourism Committee: Ms. Hayashi shared the Tourism Report: The group met to talk about the use of logo. Ms. Akimseu is coming up with criteria. Organizations will be able to use the logo, but some benefit would be needed for the tourist (and resident). For example: If you use the logo at Dukes, then people coming into the restaurant would receive a discount or dessert. A more succinct plan will be presented at the next meeting.

The Education Committee already gave their report but the question arose as to what the committee is doing at the College level. The Chair said that Mrs. Aiona is working on the conference and items at the college level. Chair will ask Mrs. Aiona to speak to those topics.

Ms. Takasaka asked if her events could be listed on the website to which the Chair answered "yes".

Announcements:

The Chair introduced Ms. Lauren Wakabayashi as a new staff member.

Next Meeting Dates:

Tuesday August 12th

September 9th

October 14th

All dates subject to change

Meeting Adjourned at 11:55am.