King Kamehameha Celebration Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2020
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Place: Aloha Tower Marketplace, 1 Aloha Tower Drive, Honolulu, Hawai`i in the Kulolia Private Dining Room located next to HPU Student Life.

Commissioners who Attended: Kainoa Daines (Royal Order of Kamehameha), Beverly Lee (Kapahulu Music Club), Gerry Miyamoto (Daughters of Hawai`i), Kehau Peʻa (Assn. of Hawaiian Civic Clubs), Louise Alina (ʻAhahui Kaʻahumanu), Puakeʻala Mann (Daughters & Sons of Hawaiian Warriors, Māmakakaua), Lu Faborito (Island of Molokaʻi), Ian Custino (Hale O Nā Aliʻi), Desiree Moana Cruz (Island of Hawai`i) and Leonani Puailihau from CNHA. Not present: Lionel Wright (Papakōlea Community Association), Daryl Fujiwara (Island of Maui), Kauhi Ahana (Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association).

I. Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm by Kainoa Daines, Chair. Quorum was established. The tentative meeting schedule is planned to run from January to June on the second Tuesday of each month.

II. Review and approve minutes of previous meeting(s). Meeting minutes were approved for the previous meeting as well as the meeting minutes dated on 10/7/17, 12/2/17, 5/19/18, 6/20/18, 7/2/18, 9/25/18, 11/17/18, 5/14/19, 7/15/19, 9/26/19, 11/12/19. These minutes were carried over from previous meetings due to lack of quorum. The previous meeting minutes taken by volunteer board members when the position of Executive Director was vacant will be reformatted and all minutes posted.

III. Executive Director Report -- Performed required DAGS administrative tasks wrapping up year end and new year reporting requirements, completed online parade application and minor release forms, worked with CNHA to create payment portals for parade application and sponsorships. Met with CNHA to establish working relationship for Commission. Facilitated a grant of $50,000 from the Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and the Arts with funding documentation expected to arrive on 1/31/20. Working with Neighbor Islands to secure activity dates and times for website and promotional updates.
IV. KKCC Business

a. Executive Committee Report -- Kainoa attended the Legislative meetings to review DAGS plans for 2020.

Financial Update (CNHA) – Financial update provided by CNHA noting they are working on assisting in providing payment portals for sponsorship and application processing. Currently we have some HTA funds outstanding for 2019 and will have approximately $11,000 in carry over from last year for operations. For 2020 we are in the process of working with HTA determining the status of the grant submitted and are awaiting confirmation. It was noted that at one point we were discussing putting all KKCC island grant requests together but it was determined that this could be better implemented for 2021.

b. Kaua’i Report – Lyah Kama-Drake was nominated and Lyah has submitted all of her paperwork and we are just waiting for her to get Governor’s approval. Kimo Perry will be spearheading much of the activities. It was noted that the parade would not be possible as there is major construction on Rice Street, which is on the parade route and was concerned for the future route as currently center median strips are being place on the street, which would make using the street as the parade route very difficult.

c. Honolulu Report --

i. Lei Draping Ceremony – Last year we had a trial revision to protocols and we are currently still reviewing the proposed protocols for 2020. Time constraints as the event has grown are involved related to the Judiciary as well as HFD’s participation. The possibility of not using the fire truck due to potential time constraints of the city departments and vehicles was discussed. As well as the possibility of putting all the lei together and not everyone being announced individually. We have added to the previously proposed protocol that there should be an RSVP for anyone intending to present lei. In Hilo the event begins at 5 pm and for the most part it is for the Royal Societies and then hula program. If there are additional lei then it is up to the person managing the event to allow additional leis to be added. Hilo has concerns with tent rentals and VIP guests come in to speak and they would like people to be able to make their flights the same evening. Last year there was a glitch in Hilo with the plumeria lei which was presented on behalf of the Commission dedicated to Skylark got tangled and had to be removed and replaced. In Kohala one person manages it and although many people provided lei they are all checked in and organized on the grass upon receipt. In Kohala one side is greenery and one of floral. They take turns presenting lei; an emcee makes announcements of all the lei being provided. For both events there are presentations only by the Royal Society and a cultural component. Our 2020 Protocols will be based on reviewing the best practices for the other areas doing lei draping. It was recommended that we institute a more formal process of training for those placing the lei. At some point it would be ideal to have a meeting with all lei draping groups and perhaps establish some best practices and statewide protocols. Commissioners were asked to take the draft distributed, review and respond with revisions from your respective organizations.

ii. 104th Annual King Kamehameha Celebration Floral Parade – Mo’i applications are currently being revised to be an online application. We
are currently looking for Grand Marshall suggestions. We have selected all 8 princesses and queen. All units are invited to join at Mauna `Ala on March 14 from 9 am – 11 am for an event Kehau is hosting, invitation to be sent to commissioners. Currently we are awaiting additional information from the Festival of Pacific Arts & Culture on their participation. Beverly gave an update for the Pā`ū Units and recognized Kehau Pe’a as the 2020 Pā`ū Queen and reported that all of the Princesses will have fundraisers coming up. Fundraising information should be sent to Amy to disperse to Commissioners. It was suggested that the Pā`ū riders do joint Ho’oku’upu to save time at the lei draping again in 2020. Clint Kalaola gave a report as he is waiting to determine how many representatives we will have from the Festival of Pacific Arts & Culture. We will need to determine where the floats are going to be built, as there will be Festival of Pacific Arts & Culture activities in the Convention Center. Kainoa to check regarding location to build KKCC floats.

iv. King Kamehameha Celebration Ho‘olaule’a – The event will be at Aloha Tower again this year. There will be two stages this year with ethnic and traditional entertainment featured will take place from Mauka to Makai. The time will be from 2 pm – 8 pm this year with 3 hours of Hawaiian music and 3 hours of ethnic music. There will be a second stage at the front of Aloha Tower Marketplace for ethnic performances. Should any of the countries wish to demonstrate we are exploring a cultural practitioner tent. Applications will go out by March and will be due by May for vendors of which we hope to have at least 50. The headliner should be secured in the very near future. Aloha Tower has been very helpful in assisting and cooperating with KKCC to make the event more accessible to the local community as many in the local community did not attend in Waikiki. In 2009 the Ho‘olaule’a started in Waikiki so moving the event to Aloha Tower Marketplace didn’t impact a long standing tradition and allows for more parking as the park is blocked off for horse trailers and floats. The move to Aloha Tower Marketplace for this second year should help attendance as at the park there was little parking and the access roads were blocked off due to the parade.

d. Moloka‘i Report – The on island committee is looking at Saturday, June 20 for the Parade and Ho‘olaule‘a will take place on Sunday, June 21. Lu requested information to clone the Honolulu online applications for Moloka‘i.


f. Lāna‘i Report – The proposed Commissioner to replace Anela Evans currently lives on Maui but works on Lana‘i but is a good fit unless Sharon Ibara decides differently.

g. Hawai‘i Island Report (Desiree Moana Cruz)
   Hilo Statue – Desiree has advised that the State will be taking over ownership of the statue from the Kamehameha Alumni Association, KSAA Māmalahoa Chapter to DAGS. They want to release the statue but still want to plan and execute the lei draping ceremony.

h. Commission Reports
   i. Legislative – (Kehau Pe‘a) There is a schedule of events happening at the capitol for opening day tomorrow but nothing related that would impact KKCC.
ii. Statuary – (Desiree Moana Cruz) She is working closely with the group in Hilo to sort out the details for the transfer of the Hilo statue to the State of Hawai‘i.

iii. Retention – (Beverly Lee) Beverly Lee, Lu Faborito and Daryl Fujiwara will be coming off of the commission on June 30, 2020. Punahele Pires has been nominated to be the new Waimanalo Hawaiian Homestead Association Commissioner. It was noted that we would like to have a gathering of all the other organizations on Neighbor Islands that put the events together for a retreat/meeting of some sorts to establish best practices in the near future.

iv. Roles and Responsibilities of Commissioners – (Kainoa Daines) A document with suggested Roles and Responsibilities was distributed to the Commissioners in advance of the meeting for review and discussion and at the meeting. We would like to have each Commissioner assigned a role and have clear responsibilities. This document will be discussed in more detail and roles determined at the next meeting.

v. Future planning – The 150th Kamehameha Day Celebration (Declared in 1871 and celebrated in 1872) will be taking place in 2022 so we would like to begin advance planning. We are planning to work with galleries and museums for displays and public engagement. We are looking for a Committee to participate and guide the programming with suggested activities to include concerts, creation of new music and art, educational workshops, keiki activities, etc. In 2022 June 11 is on a Saturday.

V. Public Testimony – Antoinette Lee presented written and oral testimony. Her testimony was previously distributed to the Commissioners as well via email. She shared that she had concerns about the lei draping protocols of which she had shared at a previous meeting and wanted to be sure her concerns were heard. She was concerned that the 2019 Lei Draping Protocol changes were not presented to the Hawaiian Civic Clubs prior to the event in 2019. She was assured by the Hawaiian Civic Club liaison Kehau Pe’a that this information was in fact presented at meetings in 2019 and that Antoinette Lee was present in Kailua at that Hawaiian Civic Club Board of Directors’ meeting in January 2019. Kehau noted that during the meeting Hailama, Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs’ President, expressed concerns regarding lei draping protocol (to not allow lei to be put onto King Kamehameha’s neck and to not allow persons to honi or acknowledge nose to nose with King Kamehameha), which were already shared with the commission. In addition, Kehau reported that this information was emailed to all of the Hawaiian Civic Club Chapter Presidents for distribution at that same time and several Commissioners confirmed that this was true, as their respective clubs had received the notice.

It was reiterated by the Commission that these protocols were readdressed and revised in 2019 in response to constraints with Judiciary and HFD regarding use of facilities and equipment as well as community feedback about public safety concerns regarding length of the ceremony that needed to be taken into consideration. These changes were a result of feedback provided by Commissions from their respective organizations. Following the Lei Draping Ceremony based on feedback the 2019 Protocols have been modified and given the input several changes have already been made to the suggested 2020 protocols which will be voted on at our next meeting with quorum. Desiree provided some additional background on why these protocols were being instituted and examples of how the protocols are implemented on Hawai‘i Island. She noted that in Hilo the event is very short
as the timeframe equates to the cost of the event. In Kohala everyone brings the lei in the morning and many are jointly presenting lei and announced as a group. Other entities beyond the Royal Societies are not given the same level of recognition as lei are appreciated but not given the same protocols as the Royal Societies.

Also providing oral testimony was Puni Aumauinuuese wanted to offer his support on behalf of the Samoan community for the event. If there is anything that we can do to support your efforts please reach out to me as I hope to get involved in this years parade to represent the Samoan community.

VI.  *Upcoming meeting* – Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at Aloha Tower Marketplace in the Kulolia Private Dining Room

VII.  *Adjourn* – Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm