



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Makaala Kaaumoana
Ian Robin Kaye
Theresita Kinnaman
Ron Terry
Michael Tulang
N. Mahina Tuteur

MINUTES
State of Hawai'i Environmental Council
Tuesday September 1, 2020, 1:00 PM– 3:30 PM
Zoom Meeting

Members Present

Puananionaona Thoene (Chairperson), Roy Abe, Mary Begier, Stephanie Dunbar-Co, Makaala Kaaumoana, Keith Kawaoka (Acting Director), Robin Kaye, Theresita Kinnaman, Robert Parsons, Ron Terry, Michael Tulang, Mahina Tuteur

Members Absent

None

Staff

Leslie Segundo (Environmental Health Specialist), William Cooper (Deputy Attorney General for the Environmental Council)

Public

Sandy Pfund and Claude (Department of Land Management), Walter Billingsly (Department of Design and Construction)

Note: **Bolded** items below indicate text from the agenda

1. **Call to order, roll call and quorum, introductions**

With a quorum of 12 members present, Chairperson Thoene called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

2. **Review and approval of prior meeting minutes**

None available.

3. **OEQC Director's Report**

Acting Director Kawaoka commented that a legislative session has just finished last month. B&F has asked all the departments to look at their budgets and to make 10%, 15%, and 20% reductions. Bruce Anderson will be retiring next week as Department of Health Director; Libby Char has been appointed as Interim.

4. **Exemption Committee Update**

Committee Chair Terry stated that the Committee held a meeting at noon today.

a. **Status of Exemption Committee review of agency exemption lists**

Committee Chair Terry commented that more agencies are coming forward to work on reorganizing their lists. He is actively working with four departments currently. The Committee will be sending out a reminder letter to agencies to send in their organized lists.

b. Review of and action to concur with the City & County of Honolulu Department of Design and Construction Exemption List

In June, this list was submitted for public review and has had no comments in four months.

MOTION: Committee Chair Terry moved from the committee (no second needed) concur with the exemption list from the City & County of Honolulu Department of Design and Construction. No discussion or questions were presented. The Environmental Council unanimously approved the motion (12-0-0).

Les Segundo said the list will be noted in The Environmental Notice.

c. Review of and action to approve publication of the City & County of Honolulu Department of Land Management exemption list for public comment period

Committee Chair Terry commented that the City & County of Honolulu Department of Land Management exemption list is early in the review process and some changes were made as requested by the Committee.

MOTION: Committee Chair Terry moved for the committee to release the exemption list from the City and County of Honolulu Department of Land Management for public review (no second needed). No discussion or questions were presented. The Environmental Council unanimously approved the motion (12-0-0).

It will be published on the 23rd and open to 15-day public comment period. The next time the EC will address this will be at the November meeting.

5. Annual Report Committee Update

a. Discussion of 2019 Annual Report with status update

Committee Chair Rob commented that the 2019 Annual Report has been sent to the printers and 42 copies are being made and final pdf will be emailed to OEQC.

b. Discussion of projected timeline and logistics for 2020 Annual Report

Committee Chair Rob commented that the statutory deadline is January 31 so 5 month window starts now. During the committee meeting earlier today, some brainstorm ideas are listed as follows: Member Dunbar-Co commented that maybe the report could focus on how COVID has affected the agencies. Another idea was adding city and federal agencies to the report; however, we do not have a lot of funding for this report so maybe need keep report targeted with 5 or 6 agencies and simple. The next Annual Report Committee Meeting will be in two weeks.

Committee Member Kaaumoana commented that it could be an option to have those who use the Annual Report chip in money for it since funding will not be any easier this next year. Chairperson Thoene commented that there are limits to accepting funding from the public. Committee Chair Kaye commented that he thinks we really need to be realistic about this Annual Report since there is no funding, less resources, and no director. One idea he had was creating an easily fillable Survey Monkey and having departments fill it out and then creating a narrative to go along with that.

Committee will reconvene in two weeks on September 15.

Member Kaaumoana asked about having a private-public partnership to complete the annual report. AG Cooper commented that it could be done but may be an issue of impartiality of the report as accepting funding from one organization as opposed to another. Member Begier mentioned that grant funding from different organizations is available.

6. Information & Outreach Committee Update

None.

7. Legislative Committee Update

None.

8. Next meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Will be on Zoom.

9. Public Forum

Member Kaye commented his interest in joining the exemption committee. He commented that the Council should do in-house planning in defining its role and purpose. Chair Thoene mentioned that one of the goals for 2020 is helping OEQC with further guidance on the new rules including cultural impact assessments.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:13 PM.