

## Guam Indigenous Heritage Alliance (GIHA)

**Date:** Friday October 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

**Chairperson:** Laura M. T. Souder

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81883317834?pwd=em1aY01mUWRUNWFicmNVL1IzRTEvQT09>

**Absent:** Michael Lujan Bevacqua (MLB)

**Members Present:** Laura M. T. Souder (LMTS), Hope A. Cristobal (HAC), Anna Marie B. Arceo (AMA), Elyssa J. Santos (EJS), Patrick Lujan (PL), Melvin Won-Pat Borja (MWPB), and Michael Blas Makio (MBM)

**Visitors:** Lincoln Budasi on behalf of The Honorable Speaker Therese M. Terlaje

Order	Notes	Action
I. <b>Roll Call and Introductions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All present were asked to briefly introduce themselves.</li></ul>	LMTS begins meeting at 2:10 p.m.
II. <b>Review of Minutes for September 3, 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No concerns were raised.</li></ul>	Minutes from previous meeting adopted.

**III. Updates on Ongoing Issues of Concern**

**A. Reorganization of Historic Preservation**

- A. Reorganization of Historic Preservation
- PL reported that nothing has happened since the last GIHA meeting regarding the movement of the SHPO. The immediate priority of the front office has been tackling the pandemic. In conjunction with BBMR and Tyrone Taitano of Statistics and Planning, HPD has received approval to hire an environmental lawyer who can assist with environmental and cultural issues. PL met with Carlotta yesterday (9/30/21) who said that legal counsel at the front office is trying to make this happen. SHPO will move forward with the right sizing of where this office should be. He clarified that this will be an office off of the Governor's Office like BBMR.
  - LMTS reiterated that there is consistency in perspective among stakeholders and that this remains a noncontroversial issue. All parties agree that the SHPO would be best if taken out of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) because it has a separate function.
  - In response to HC's questions regarding the SHPO position, PL stated that the SHPO is a classified position but the State Preservation Office is recognized by the federal government which the governor needs to appoint. The Guam State Preservation Office should be the SHPO. In the eyes of the federal government, they recognize who the governor appoints. The Deputy of DPR is not technically the SHPO's boss. The SHPO is answerable to the Governor.
  - LMTS put in a plug about the Kumisión, asking the representative of Speaker Terlaje to relay the message that the Kumisión would benefit from being a public non-profit corporation like the Department of Chamoru Affairs.

B. Letter of Support to Legislature on changes recommended by GIHA submitted to Senator Nelson's Committee

C. Status of Public Hearing – PL to update Historic Preservation Enabling Act,

- PL reported that there was a roundtable discussion that was planned, however, Senator Nelson decided to cancel it and go a different route. He found this perplexing because we have worked hard at drafting a bill and it is with her committee. It appears that Senator Nelson wants the bill to go to the Governor's Office and then come back down to her. He stated that he is trying to figure out the tactical reasoning behind why she would want the Governor to introduce the bill. A public hearing would've opened the doors for all of the stakeholders to give their perspectives.

**B. Letter of Support to Legislature on changes recommended by GIHA - LMTS**

**C. Status of Public Hearing**

**IV. Recent Grants  
Received by GIHA  
members**

**A. Kumision - AMA**  
**B. DCA/Museum - MB**  
**C. Decolonization - MWB**  
**D. Historic Preservation -  
PL**

Each agency reported their grant funding.

**A. Kumision - AMA**

- Received \$9,000 from Humanities Guahan to produce a cultural dictionary in both CHamoru and English
- Received \$1,590,000 for Education ESF Governor's Cares Act (\$700,000 goes to Minecraft Project; \$890,000 goes to various cultural and language revitalization projects)
- Received \$250,000 - ARP from ANA Grant. This is a native language grant to restore language loss. It will be used for capacity building for teacher certification, pedagogy, Eskuelan Mañaina, and standards-based curriculum guides aligned with proficiency scales. The Kumisión is partnering with Hurao, UOG, and GCC.
- The Kumisión is waiting one more funding source- ANA Preservation and Maintenance Grant. The Program Specialist is concerned about it but she does not know what the holdup is. It is intended for a dual Language school in partnership with St. Francis Catholic School.

**B. DCA/Museum - MB**

- MWPB reported that DCA did not received any funding. They were pursuing a grant from DOI to update and renovate CHamoru village
- DCA did get word of a grant for a children's museum?

**C. Decolonization - MWPB**

- MWPB stated they did not receive grant funding, but the budget ceiling is status quo. They are working to finalize projects from a previous grant they got from DOI.

**D. Historic Preservation - PL**

- Historic Preservation received no funding, just their annual from national parks service which is over \$400,000 for operations in the office. They are operating at slightly under \$900,000 budget for our operations.
- A bill should be coming out for Naftan at \$3M with an extra \$400,000 for inventory. Their office hope they can get this going.
- Senator Nelson is working on bill to fund the remaining 6 positions that SHPO is in dire need of and that is close to \$500,000.
- Another national parks service grant is intended to help serve underprivileged communities through national park service. PL is not sure what the grant entails so he'll be looking into that.

<p>V. <b>Upcoming Member Events or Activities Needing Support</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● MWPB stated that DCA is to launch the first documentary film for decolonization on Oct. 11 - Indigenous Peoples' Day at the Guam Museum. There will be 3 public screenings: 4pm, 6pm, and 8pm. Ads will be aired today and shared on social media platforms.</li> <li>● A link will be available for an Eventbrite platform to make reservations. They have limited capacity due to social distancing procedures and can fit about 75 people max. All screenings will be aired on PBS as well. They will have a special 2pm debut screening limited to Governor, the Lt. Governor, and the board.</li> </ul>	
<p>VI. <b>Community Outreach Strategy:</b>  A. Report on Status of List  B. Next Steps for Engaging</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● LMTS stated that these items will be suspended until we meet next.</li> </ul>	
<p>VII. <b>New Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● LMTS asked the attendees to email new business to her or EJS who will add the items to the next agenda.</li> </ul>	
<p>VIII. <b>Adjournment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The next meeting will be held Friday November 5, 2021, at 2 p.m.</li> </ul>	<p>LMTS adjourned the meeting at 3:17pm.</p>

Prepared by Elyssa J. Santos (Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru) and approved by:



Laura M. T. Souder, GIHA Chairperson

Date: 10/20/21



Michael Lujan Bevacqua, GIHA Vice Chairperson

Date: 10/27/21