

TASK FORCE ON REINVENTING GOVERNMENT

HCR 76 HD1 SD1

DECEMBER 01, 2009

MEETING NOTES (REVISED)

I. INTRODUCTIONS

A. Members Present:

Don Horner (FHB), Rep. Marcus Oshiro, John Monahan (Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau), Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, HGEA Representative Nora Nomura, Walter Ozawa (Judiciary), Laura Thielen (DLNR), Mark Fukunaga (Servco) – on phone, Lynn McCrory (PAHIO Development).

B. Members Excused:

Reginald Castanares (Plumbers and Fitters, Local 675)

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Mission Statement

Minutes approved, including a presentation of the mission statement by Don Horner: "To identify strategic opportunities to improve the operational and organizational efficiency of state government." All members agreed with this statement.

B. Strategy Focus: Six Branches of Government

It was first agreed upon that today's meeting would include more of an informational report where as the next meeting would entail more action taking. At this point, each subcommittee chair presented information related to discussions they've had in their individual meetings.

1. Transportation – Mark Fukunaga (on phone)

a. Chair Fukunaga informed the group that he has yet to hold meetings with Department of Transportation Division Directors. He also reported that perhaps the most fertile area to assess would be in area of state and county relations. Specifically with regard to how projects are managed and whether or not better collaboration between the two entities could result in a more effective use of resources.

b. A few other areas Chair Fukunaga looked at were:

1. The procurement process
2. Position Descriptions
3. Improving accountability

2. Human Resources – John Monahan

a. Chair Monahan reported that a fairly lengthy list of items came out of his meetings with department directors including:

1. Information Technology and the lack thereof.

b. He further informed the task force that he will inform the committee of future meetings by the end of the week and is still trying to schedule a meeting with Marie Laderta.

3. Land and Natural Resources– Director Laura Thielen

a. Director Thielen reported that two meetings were held, the first of which was held with the DLNR division administrators. The second meeting was held with NGOs or those "traditional advocates and partners" of DLNR including the Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, etc. A potential third meeting was also offered.

b. She further reported that some of what came up dealt with general government – making good use of people's time.

c. In addition, discussants felt that procurement laws have gotten more complex to the extent that they are now out of the realm of the average employee and what they can do in an average time period, resulting in some of the work not getting done. The question remains: How do we maintain a system with transparency and fairness, but one that is more efficient?

d. Another question that was raised was, how do we use the money? There seems to be restrictions that exist on co-mingling money. Many organizations are at the point where if they can't tap into other moneys outside government funding, then they can't carry through with their plan.

e. A concern raised was that while government is sometimes good at factoring the impacts and costs to hard infrastructure, improvement is needed in factoring the

costs to natural and cultural resources, especially given our natural and cultural climate. How do we protect those?

4. Economic Development – HGEA Representative, Ms. Nora Nomura

a. Ms. Nomura reported that Mr. Perreira is waiting to talk with Director Liu. Outside of that there is nothing to report at this point.

5. Education – Don Horner

a. Chair Horner reported that quite a lengthy discussion took place, where the two instruments that were mostly used were a KPMG study and a power point presentation providing details of the National Race to the Top (RTTT) Campaign. Issues highlighted and recommendations made were similar throughout both. The DOE is interested in applying for RTTT money (~\$150M), however collaboration and buy in from all stakeholders is needed.

1. Some of the issues highlighted were:

--IT and the lack of a centralized system or longitudinal data that can follow a child from Kindergarten to High School. The KPMG study strongly recommends this and the RTTT requires it.

--Teacher certification: does Hawaii need additional or alternative channels to certify teachers?

--Accurate identification of teacher needs. There are data related issues tied to this where perhaps Hawaii should look at this issue in light of attrition. A big debate will further center on how teacher performance can be measured and how teachers can be held more accountable.

--The debate on whether or not to build a set of common core standards. It was reported that Hawaii has agreed with building core standards statewide and nationwide. This is strongly recommended in the KPMG study. There is also the suggestion that perhaps schools, etc. use their own standards, but only if performance isn't meeting the agreed up set of core standards. Only once a set of core standards is established, can we then adjust testing and curriculum accordingly.

--Perhaps the big financing piece will be related to the Charter school cap. Rttt suggests that charter schools should be held accountable, but perhaps there shouldn't be a cap. Perhaps funds should be commensurate with the students and what the Charter school offers. This issue could open to more costs. Question remains, How do you rationalize the public school system to pay for Charter Schools.

b. Perhaps consensus to come up with a brief list of what can actually get done.

6. Health/Human Services – Lynn McCrory

a. This sub-committee is currently working with Calvin Taketa of the Hawaii Community Foundation, Alex Santiago and PHOCUSED, as well as Lisa Maruyama of HANO. These groups were asked to put together a list of issues, recommendations, etc. to provide some guidance for the task force. The sub-committee also talked with Senator Chun Oakland and Judith Parks.

b. IT issues were raised here also. For example, can we implement an electronic payment system?

c. Other issues dealt with core services and assessing which tasks are government responsibility and which should be more privatized.

d. Funding issues – Is government utilizing its best efforts to obtain federal funds? Are the departments applying or competing for these? Should greater partnerships be encouraged to ensure Hawaii gets its fair share?

e. Can public-private partnerships be more flexible as far as what they're doing?

f. GIAs – are policies and processes for obtaining these clear?

III. CLOSING DISCUSSIONS/QUESTIONS

A. Chair Horner asked if there were any other questions or universal issues?

1. Non-profit organizations

How can we address their needs while ensuring adequate, yet sufficient attention for each? Should non-profit CIP costs be the burden of government or would it be more appropriate to ask non-profits to raise their own funds for such projects?

2. IT seems to be an underlying thread throughout all of this. Walter Ozawa also presented various examples of IT issues he's come across, especially where they are non-existent.

3. Another underlying thread seems to be the classification of employees where some job descriptions may be limiting what people can do rather than encouraging flexibility.

4. Chair Horner mentioned here that the mission of the task force isn't necessarily about money, but more about creating more efficiency amongst existing employees. The mission shouldn't necessarily be about cutting costs, but more about how to increase efficiency so that productivity follows. Perhaps an increased focus should be on customer service.

IV. NEXT MEETING

Friday, December 11, 2009, 2:00 PM, Conference Room 211

V. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.