



**ADMINISTRATIVE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY**

**Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.**  
**Hawai'i Convention Center, Executive Board Room B**  
**1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815**

**MINUTES OF ADMINISTRATIVE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rick Fried, Craig Nakamura, Lorrie Stone

**HTA STAFF PRESENT:** George Szigeti

**GUEST:** Cheryl Kakazu Park

**LEGAL COUNSEL:** Gregg Kinkley

**1. Call to Order**

Presiding Officer Rick Fried called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.  
(Mr. Szigeti was not present at this time.)

**2. Discussion Related to a Contractually Required Annual Evaluation of the HTA  
President & Chief Executive Officer's Performance**

Mr. Kinkley advised the Committee of the circumstances upon which the it may convene an executive session. In this case, an executive session may be convened to discuss the evaluation of an officer when consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved. Other matters should be discussed in public.

Mr. Fried initiated a discussion of an evaluation of Mr. Szigeti, in his capacity as the HTA President and Chief Executive Officer. He asked Mr. Nakamura for his evaluation of Mr. Szigeti's performance. Mr. Nakamura noted that he has "talked to members of the community," and the general consensus is that Mr. Szigeti has done a "good job." He is "open," "responsive," and works hard. The only criticism would be regarding the internal "ongoing operations" of HTA.

Ms. Stone added that she has also obtained "comments from the community," and has received the "same" comments as noted by Mr. Nakamura. However, Mr. Szigeti should "reach out more and get more information from the Board." He also needs to improve HTA's internal operations.

Mr. Fried concurred that Mr. Szigeti needs to work more with staff. Initially, a lot of time was spent dealing with HTA's internal operations. There were a lot of changes that needed to be done initially. But things have gotten better within the last nine months.

(Mr. Szigeti was present at this time.)

Mr. Fried stated that Mr. Szigeti is an "unbelievably hard worker." He should now be looking at tourism's burden on the community and "broadening marketing."

Ms. Stone acknowledged Ms. Park, in her capacity as Director of the Office of Information Practices. She asked whether the Committee can convene an executive session to evaluate Mr. Szigeti. Ms. Park responded that the Committee may convene an executive session to discuss an evaluation of an employee when matters of privacy will be affected. However, Mr. Szigeti may waive his right to discuss his evaluation in executive session. The convening of an executive session should be "judiciously used."

Mr. Fried noted that the Committee has received "laudatory" comments regarding Mr. Szigeti would want to make it public. Mr. Nakamura inquired as to the process for reporting to the Board regarding its evaluation. Mr. Fried responded that he will be reporting that he obtained input from the public. Ms. Park expressed concern with "serial communications" between Board members. She also asked whether there was a "written evaluation" of Mr. Szigeti. Mr. Fried responded that there were no written evaluations.

Upon an inquiry from Mr. Nakamura whether there is a need to go into executive session, Mr. Fried responded that an executive session would be convened only "if necessary."

### **3. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: \*\*\*



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Winfred Pong  
Recorder

**\*\*\* This DRAFT prepared on April 11, 2017 and is subject to approval by the Administrative Standing Committee.**