

O'AHU COUNTY COMMITTEE  
Convention Affirmative Action Committee Report  
Kalakaua Middle School  
April 21, 2018

TO: Richard Halverson, Chair, O'ahu County Committee

SUBJECT: Affirmative Action Committee Report

The Affirmative Action Committee convened at 9:35 a.m. Members present included: Anthony Austin and Marsha Rose Joyner, Co-Chairs; TJ Jasper, Leimomi Khan, Justin Salisbury, and guest, Yoshie Tanabe, Oahu County District 17.

After considerable discussion by the members of the committee, the following recommendations are made:

1. The O'ahu County Chair of the Democratic Party of Hawaii appoint an ad hoc Affirmative Action Committee, or if one is already established, update its membership. Members of today's committee made a commitment to join the OCC Affirmative Action Committee. The committee noted that little, if any, action has been taken on the recommendations made in the 2016 OCC Convention AA Committee report. A survey questionnaire was completed at the 2016 OCC convention, but the committee did not have access to it or of any analysis or recommendations made as the result.
2. Task the newly appointed committee to 1) Review and update the 2016 Affirmative Action Plan to the extent possible and provide a report at the first quarterly meeting of the OCC; 2) develop training and/or an orientation plan for Districts and Precincts on the meaning of affirmative action and how to implement the AA Plan of action; 3) Educate the membership on the various terms of underrepresented groups, for example, the differences between the terms of nationality, ethnicity, race; and on the proper reference to races, such as Blacks, Filipinos, Hawaiians, etc.; 4) Explore alternate names in place of "Affirmative Action" and update the mission, goals, and objectives of Affirmative Action planning.
3. Develop a system of accountability to implement the affirmative action plan. (Lacking any report on the 2016 Affirmative Action Plan, it was difficult for committee members to ascertain the progress the OCC had made on implementing it).
4. Post the 2016 OCC Convention Affirmative Action Committee Report on the OCC website. We note that it is missing from that website.
5. Post this report on the OCC website.

The discussions in the committee meeting were stimulating. Committee members understand the importance of affirmative action and that Hawaii is unique in that it has a widely diverse racial population. The Democratic Party of Hawaii would be strengthened by a strong affirmative action program that reaches out and embraces all races, and especially underrepresented groups in the Party.

The meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Austin and Marsha Rose Joyner  
Co-Chairs, OCC Affirmative Action Convention Committee