OAHU WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR JASON C. CHANG CHAIR TIM WONG VICE CHAIR ALISON P.M. LUM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATA MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 – 10:00am to 11:00am (approximate)

Virtual Conference Call

View-Only Link: https://zoom.us/j/92565772726?pwd=Z3FKM0J6TkRVR2dJaExTbVVzeXo3QT09

MINUTES

Members Present: Committee Chair Rodney Lee, Russel Cheng, Erick Pascua, Mimi Sroat, Melissa Wilson

Guests Present: Matt Lorin, Ramsay Taum, Kevin Vaccarello

Staff Present: Alison Lum, Lyn Uratani

I. Call to Order Chair Rodney Lee

Committee Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes from September 27, 2019 Meeting

Committee Chair Lee entertained approval of the September 27, 2019 meeting minutes. Russel Cheng motioned to approve. Seconded by Melissa Wilson. Unanimously approved.

III. Presentation and Discussion

PERSEUS Protocol & App

Presenters: Kevin Vaccarello, Founder & Executive Director Matt Lorin, Strategic Advisor Sustain Hawaii

Committee Chair Lee introduced Kevin Vaccarello, Matt Lorin, and Ramsay Taum and remarked that technology can be introduced into the functions of local workforce boards to improve decision-making. The use of data via PERSEUS can optimize our system through risk management to empower people and employers to make better decisions.

Kevin Vaccarello, Matt Lorin, and Ramsay Taum explained the PERSEUS protocol and application and provided an abbreviated version of the Sustain Hawaii presentation that was given to OWDB during the October 7, 2020 virtual full board meeting. Committee Chair Lee remarked that the risk management component of PERSEUS offers an early warning sensor. Self-reporting is a choice, but how far does trust carry? We have been okay with being in a room with others, but this is where the spread occurs; we trust the people around us. Compared to other apps, what is PERSEUS doing that is different?

Matt Lorin commented that a lot of what is currently being provided to the public is security theater; many rules and requirements in place provide people a sense of security. Thus the things that government can control might not fully effective at the core. We need to distribute responsibility to people who are at the event. This is a tool that statistically reduces risk. I don't have to hope or trust in the person next to me. Medical professionals issue the credential and can prove I did everything I need to do. We are looking for behavior change. For instance, why would we give personal info to retailers? We are already hesitant to do this. Also, why would we shift this responsibility to other parts of the private sector? The power sits with clinicians and testing; it is important that we put in place the power and tools we need. Displaying a QR code is simple. Of course, this is not going to be a one-stop solution; you don't put all your eggs in one technology basket.

Alison Lum stated that she was impressed that so few people need to use the app for it to be effective. People might not understand that we all need to use it for it to work.

Kevin Vaccarello remarked that research shows Bluetooth contact tracing solutions need 60% saturation for effectiveness. We chose GPS so that more specific locations can be provided. Individuals without the application can still access this information. We are able to see that our efficacy occurs at 10-15% saturation. Certainly, there are ways to streamline this further – if we want something to be considered a clean space, if everyone in that particular space is following protocol, then we can better define to people invited into that space what is needed to join it. Focusing on one space as a microcosm makes the process manageable. Then, it becomes easier to define parameters of safe protocol for a household, a business, larger organization, etc. Eventually these bubbles will connect and overlap. This allows us to ensure faster movement of data, which is critical because if you don't get the info on contagious people within 24 hours or less, it spreads. We need greater transparency and information that is as close to real time as possible. We have partnerships with test providers such as Premier Medical, Project Vision Hawaii, Minute Med, AMR, etc. We gather data points from them directly.

Ramsay Taum commented that when we recognize that the frequency of interaction outside of our "ponds" increases our risk, that's when we need tools like PERSEUS. There's enough data that most people have a range in which they roam on a regular basis. Each of us has places we frequent; this allows us to make better choices. This system tells us who is certified, not who isn't certified. This system should motivate businesses to seek certification similarly to the green placards for restaurants from the Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH). We need to encourage, not demean. Since awareness does not create immunity, how can we protect ourselves in our spaces and ensure we can keep others safe too? We can welcome others with aloha and ask them to the same for us.

Matt Lorin added that public health is not county-level responsibility but state one. Proximity is an important issue in addressing these things. How can the City assume more responsibility since this is now an economic issue?

Committee Chair Lee responded that this is a tough question since the DOH has authority over the pandemic. A question that needs to be addressed is how we might be able to return to a sense of normalcy. The tough thing is the system only considers this from the City and State's point of view as a symptom. What roadblocks need to be removed to empower people?

Ramsay Taum commented that the State has already taken steps to impose action but they have placed the responsibility of enforcement to the counties. They pass on enforcement of anything to individual; if that's the case, it is important to think about who can provide tools for enforcement or responsiveness. Is this reactionary or responsive? How do we proactively deal with intrusions? Systems like these will give us the upper-hand.

Russel Cheng commented that PERSEUS has four stakeholders. Employers want to be able to say that we have an authenticated platform that verifies we are a COVID-free workplace; we established our "bubble" of safety. Employees can then feel confident that the company they work for is concerned about their personal safety. Partners can also feel confident that they can stop by and make deliveries, etc., to my business because of the precautions we are taking. Lastly, all of this allows us to show the public that we are open and have an authenticated, COVID-free business. It will be important for PERSEUS to continue its work in gaining advocates.

Melissa Wilson commented that starting with smaller organizations, shopping centers, schools, etc. will be useful in gaining traction for the adoption of PERSEUS because they have the time and bandwidth to incorporate it.

- IV. Goals/Next Steps
 - Program Year 20 planning

This agenda item was not completed due to agenda item III exceeding the allotted meeting time.

V. Next Meeting

Committee Chair Lee stated that an email will be sent out to determine the date and time of the next committee meeting to aim for the first or second week of December.

VI. Adjournment

Committee Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.