



# KILAUEA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 328 KILAUEA, HAWAII 96754

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**President:** Meeting Minutes for: June 4, 2013  
Yoshito L'Hote

**Time:** Meeting started 7:03 pm ended 9:30 pm

**Vice President:**  
Mike Latif

**Location:** Kilauea Neighborhood Center classroom

**Secretary:**  
Thomas Pickett

**KNA Directors present:** Yoshito L'Hote, Mike Latif, Thomas Pickett, Gary Pacheco, Scott Mijares, Bill Troutman, Tim Kalai, Alvin Castelo, Cherie Grousset, Charlie Martin, Carrie Souza.

**Treasurer:**  
Gary Pacheco

**Community Attendance:** Approx. 90

**Sergeant-at-arms**  
Scott Mijares

**I. Call to order** Yoshi L'Hote called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 pm

**Directors:**  
Nicki Pignoli  
Bill Troutman  
Tim Kalai

**II. Treasurer's Report** Gary Pacheco reported the KNA checking balance is 7141.43 and congratulated Mike Latif on his recent success at fund raising.

**III. Committee/Community Reports**

Rae Yadao-Butac  
Alvin Castelo  
Cherie Grousset  
Charlie Martin  
Carrie Souza  
Jim Spencer

- a) KCOP No report
- b) Senior Report No report
- c) PTSA Report No report
- d) Communication Committee Report Tom Pickett reported adding Facebook posts as an additional level of communication.
- e) Drug Report No report
- f) Agriculture Committee No report

#### IV. New Business

a) Lyndsay Young with Pacific Conservation a contractor for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service presented plans to instal a game fence around the Nihoku ecosystem restoration area out on the Kilauea crater reserve. The fence will protect the native species by keeping out invasive species such as mice, rats, cats, dogs and pigs. Lyndsay described the fence as stainless steel with a 15 to 25 year life span, gap width in the fence is 6 1/2 mm, small enough to prevent baby mice from coming through. There will be no changes in access or view for the public. Without any objections from the audience or board members Lyndsay finished her presentation.

b) Willy Ortal representing the state department of transportation came to the Kilauea community to present plans for tree clearing on the approach to the Kalihwai bridge. With over 2000 unstable Albisia trees on the slope above the highway on either end of the Kalihwai bridge the department is putting the job of removing them out to bid on a 360 day long tree removal contract. Before the contract was opened to bidding the department and Willy Ortal came before the community to discuss plans for mediating the inconvenience of road closures and delays caused by the work. The solution they prefer is building a temporary bridge to reconnect the old Kalihwai road on each side of the Kalihwai river. With the bridge open they would detour the west bound traffic onto Kalihwai road and have it return to the highway on the Anini side of the river. East bound traffic would continue as usual on the highway with occasional delays for tree cutting. After the work is finished the bridge could remain open, be gated and used for pedestrians and bikes or be closed and opened only for emergencies.

Questions from the community are as follows;

1. What is the benefit to using Kalihwai road, ie if they use that detour how much faster will the jobs be completed?
2. What about nighttime work? Reply, not possible Sept. through Dec due to Shearwater birds. not possible June to Sept. due to indigenous bats.
3. Can some of the work be done at night and some done in the day? (Break it up in sections to relieve traffic)
4. Will the department repair the road as well as the bridge before using it for a detour? (The one lane bridge crossing a stream on Kalihwai road will not handle large trucks. The road is substandard for heavy traffic)
5. How about removing the trees from above with the use of private land. (They are looking into that option.
6. How soon do they want the support of the KNA and the community? (They're contract will go out to bid soon so time is of the essence.)
7. One resident suggested the board think of the of the Kalihwai bridge solution in terms of how it could benefit the greater population rather than just the impact on the Kalihwai road neighbors. Sacrifice some temporary inconvenience for the greater good.

c. Carrie Souza brought up the subject of saving several heritage trees from being cut down during the development of the Lighthouse Village Shopping Center. During executive session after the regular meeting a motion was made to endorse a petition to save the tree most in need, a large Mango.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the board voted with ten members voting aye and on member voting no for the KNA board to file an arborist advisory committee application to save the Mango tree.

## **V. Old Business**

- a. Bill Troutman reported on progress of the Bylaws committee. He reports the committee met and updated the directors 8-10 two left.
- b. The sign committee is waiting for a property line survey from state DOT before placing the finished town sign on the highway shoulder.
- c. Mike Latif reported on activities with the 150 anniversary. The KNA t-shirts are for sale at the North Shore Pharmacy and it was suggested that we post information about t-shirt sales on the KNA Blog.
- d. Chris Jaeb reported about the permit change requests for Common Ground. He reported success in building support for his requests and his efforts to work with his neighbors to address thier concerns. There were comments and questions for and against the permit changes. The main concerns involved the condition of the Kuawa road and the traffic on Kuawa road. Chris again said he would work to maintain the road. He stated that the Public hearing to decide on the permit requests was on June 12th. Beryl Blaich questioned the opinion of the KNA and if one board member at the previous public meeting was representing the KNA or the board member personally. Neighbor Diane Torkelson stated the she too had the impression that the board member appeared to represent the KNA at the public meeting. Beryl then cautioned the board members to be very clear when at public meetings to state whether they are standing to represent themselves or to represent the opinions of the board and therefore the general opinion of the neighborhood. She said that the board had run into controversy over this issue in the past.
- e. Somers development; Bill Chase met with Sommers attorneys. They discussed a negotiated settlement. Somers representatives requested a letter from the KNA stating their willingness or lack of willingness to negotiate a settlement. A neighbor offered his educated opinion on how the board should proceed. He said our position should be that, "we have representatives performing mediation, if Somers has ideas worthy of negotiation and makes them available to our representatives the representatives will take it to the board. We're willing to talk we are willing to mediate, we are open to hearing suggestions and we will consider those at the appropriate time.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the board voted unanimously to draft a letter addressed to Mr. Somers to state our willingness to negotiate and at the same time word it so that he has to prove his willingness to negotiate first.

## **VI. Announcements**

- a) Lion's nature center clean up. Bill Troutman announced a Kilauea Nature Center clean up in the valley at Kilauea elementary school on June 22nd. With enough volunteers working the Lions can improve the condition of the nature center and secure a 10,000.00 grant to the organization of their choice funded by the Weinberg Foundation. He asked for volunteers to bring thier own brush clearing and gardening tools.
- b. North Shore fishing tournament. Gary Pacheco announced the 3rd annual North Shore fishing tournament on Saturday June 22nd. He invited everyone to come down and watch the excitement.
- c. Laurie Patch announced that there is still no date for a hearing for the proposed Cell Tower. She also declared her continued vigilance in fighting against the proposed location of the tower.

## **VII. Approval of minutes**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried unanimously, it was resolved to approve the May 7 , 2013 minutes.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adjourn the June 4, 2013 KNA meeting at 9:18 pm .



