



P.O. BOX 328 KĪLAUEA, KAUAʻI, HAWAII 96754

**MEETING MINUTES
JULY 5, 2022
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING (DUE TO COVID-19)**

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Zoom Meeting

KNA Directors Present: Yoshito L'Hote, Jeremy Burns, Gary Pacheco, Bill Chase, Stephenie Brown, Thomas Daubert, Mike Latif, Mike Lyons, Charlie Martin, Kalena Pacheco, Ron Paul, Sonrisa Stepath, Stephen Squire, Sarah Wright

Community Attendance: 8+, including Councilwoman Felicia Cowden.

Call to Order: Chair L'Hote called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. There is a quorum.

COMMITTEE / COMMUNITY REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Gary "Mr P" Pacheco reported we have \$4,599.74. We paid our PO Box post office annual rent for \$166. Please send donations to PO Box 328 in Kilauea if anyone wants to contribute!

Planning Committee: Ron Paul reported planning committee did not meet last month. He has been working with Gary Smith to approach Uncle Jack's family to acquire a copy of all his historical maps. They are not averse to that approach, more to come. Sarah Wright has quite a few from Kilauea Sugar Plantation days as part of a project with Hui Opaka to scan and archive all of that.

Communications Committee: Thomas Daubert would like anyone with community announcements to contact him, as we publish these twice monthly. As always please send any interest in signing up for the Kilauea Neighborhood Association announcements, questions or potential meeting topics to joekilauea@gmail.com.

Fundraising Committee: Sonrisa Stepath soliciting input for fundraising options – maybe a makahiki games event? Or pumpkin patch Halloween community event? Perhaps Kaulana Kilauea concert in the park (December 10th)?

NEW BUSINESS / GUEST PRESENTATIONS:

Mayoral Debate: Councilwoman Cowden provided kudos to Colleen Smith for organizing an event for this which will feature all mayoral candidates and it will be at the Kilauea Theater (2484 Keneke St) on July 8 beginning at 6 pm with free chili and rice dinner,

debate to begin at 7 pm. Councilmember candidates will be in attendance with public tables to meet and greet but not part of the main debate which will be focused on the mayors. There will also be an informational session on constitutional rights.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lihue Airport Master Planning Process:

Councilwoman Cowden spoke with Gary Davis and there is supposed to be a new alternative without any gate expansion. Councilwoman Cowden sent another letter to Jay Busai at the State to also discuss whether a double-decker parking lot was necessary for additional rental cars. She is also concerned about the impacts to the landfill that such major construction projects and additional tourism could generate. Councilwoman Cowden has a draft Council Resolution drafted in support of non-expansion but it may not be necessary to submit depending on how things go.

Vice Chair Paul has an airport planning connection who cited the process as the authority (Hawaii DOT) is responsible to submit a plan to FAA who then approves or denies it. There are no requirements to the plan application and they prefer no controversy. It is not just adding 3 gates that is the problem, it is adding GROUP 5 level gates which can handle a lot more passengers than a standard gate which is in the current proposal. This expansion was also not taking into account related infrastructure like roadway capacity.

Councilwoman Cowden addressed the runway expansion which could expand passenger count due to allowing larger planes but may also be necessary due to taxiway issues. Jimmy Tokioka and Mark Perriello were advocating for just one more gate as a compromise.

Jeremy Burns has heard from multiple sources per Vice Chair Paul's point that Hawaii DOT is the main driving force behind the expansion.

Vice Chair Paul noted that Hawaiian Airlines may be a key airline driver behind adding capacity. The consultants are proposing that 1 or 2 more gates may lower delays and congestion, but keeping them as Group 2 or 3 gates (not Group 5) would have less of an overall impact than the original proposal.

Question on whether this would allow Hawaiian Airlines to deploy more or different types of planes? Vice Chair Paul said the A330 aircraft which is heavy lift with up to 300+ passengers per flight appears to be a driving factor.

Kalihiwai Reservoir – Yoshito L'Hote: Mr. L'Hote has the support of his Board to take the lead in changing the decommissioning to a restoration project. The Kalihiwai Ridge Community Association will meet July 19th and Chair L'Hote hopes they will ask the DLNR to pause as this change in direction is studied, and also to release the Dam Safety Study which has still not been provided and could be very informative to the issue.

The water is very important to Namahana school and Anaina Hou for fire suppression, as well as Aina Hookupu o Kilauea and Common Ground for surface water for irrigation. Next steps may involve a big fundraising campaign to secure remediation funds.

Councilwoman Cowden noted that there are many reservoir-related flood relief funds out there per a recent conference she attended – it may require State or County partners to access but there could be an opportunity there.

Jeremy Burns asked if there was a stakeholder list developed of who could benefit from remediation vs. decommissioning? Request for everyone from the meeting or extended Kilauea community to funnel inputs through joekilauea@gmail.com or to Jeremy at burnsy825@gmail.com, and Jeremy will consolidate inputs. Chair L'Hote will compile the big players and we can do outreach to other area people to solicit input from any unknown potential beneficiaries such as recreational users for example. Department of Water could also be a beneficiary?

UPDATES:

Seniors: No report. If any seniors need fresh produce from the ag center contact Joyce or Ellie or Chair L'Hote.

PTSA: Sonrisa Stepath said Kilauea School is going through another huge transformation with the principal leaving to administer Hanalei School. So Kilauea School has a new principal Fig Mitchell, the son of Big Mitchell who was very active in the baseball community. Fig is a Kilauea school alumni.

Lorraine Newman is working on staffing enrichment teachers, in particular a music teacher for a school-year commitment. Anyone with any information please contact her or Kilauea school.

‘Āina Ho‘okupu O Kilauea / Kilauea Community Agricultural Center: Chair L'Hote reported we are taking a break in August as we haven't had one since COVID-19 started 2.5 years ago. The farm will slow down and boxes will temporarily stop but will restart in September. The Market/Deli building is expected to be finished in October/November timeframe – the windows are going in now as are the plywood walls. We continue to feed our community with a new K-Club which is a membership club which allows purchasing locally-grown meats (various types of pork, sheep and lamb, value-added like bacon and sausage, and more to come – you can also buy chicken and produce) in family-size store quantities. It is an annual membership currently \$25 which includes \$20 worth of pork to get started. You can sign up at www.ainahookupuokilauea.org under the top menu Shop -> Meat Club. We have hired a couple new local Hawaiian youth to work on the farm – Tyra and Kelston. It is pineapple and mango and avocado season so come get some and take it cold to the beach!

Suggestion by Councilwoman Cowden to invite the Finance Committee (Rico Matsuyama, Terry) for the next meeting for a significant change to the Ag Dedication tax classification changes (only 5% of valuation of property) Bill 2875 on page 5 of the County Council agenda tomorrow. The meeting starts at 8:30 in the building with the pillars and Christmas lights (use the side door) and it is expected this bill will not come up until probably 10 am but no guarantees. There will be a clear explanation of first-read.

Anaina Hou: No report.

Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge / Friends of Kaua'i Wildlife Refuges: Jen Waipa shared they are affected by the lack of labor and staffing like many other businesses

in the State – recently a biologist retired and a park ranger transferred as well as a budget analyst changing positions. The refuge will be temporarily closed to the public on Wednesdays to adjust to this as the wildlife is a major priority. There are announcements posted to hire. They will have temporary support from a law enforcement / project leader for 2 weeks and a biologist from Guam for 2 weeks. There will be announcements posted to hire for a tractor operator as well as a laborer, park ranger, and environmental educator.

The red-footed boobies and tropicbirds are nesting as are nene, and shearwaters are fledging.

The Nihoku area has 3 nesting pairs of Hawaiian petrels and a returning pair of Newall's shearwaters (first year for them).

Predator-proof fence construction for the predator-proof fence is ongoing and has been a success so far for these birds.

Thomas Daubert with the Friends of Kauai Wildlife Refuges Group reminds everyone there is a new website at www.kauairefuges.org. Please sign up for their newsletter for additional information!

Lihue airport last year from Nov-Mar had educational signage depicting the 50th anniversary of Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge – this will be shifted to Kukui Grove to continue the outreach for the refuges.

Question on the status of the sidewalk from Seacliff to the Lighthouse, any update? Jen reported there are 30% drawings which are under review. It's happening but slow. Question about the existing sidewalk – who is involved from County to maintain it? Mr P. reported the Hanalei County Baseyard is responsible but they are working on other projects right now. The mowing is going well but the sidewalk is being encroached by grass so it keeps getting thinner and thinner as time goes on.

Kaulana Kīlauea: Mr P reported the Christmas Celebration will be on December 10th at the park. More details to come.

Kia'i Kāhili: Jen Waipa reported there were 2 fires at Kahili, but thanks to the predator-proof fence there was a break in the fire which prevented it from spreading up the hill but unfortunately a couple of nesting red-tailed tropicbirds were lost.

There seem to be fewer dogs running loose on the beach lately which is great to see. Please remind people to keep their dogs controlled as they fairly routinely kill birds in the area when loose.

There will be upcoming community involvement opportunities at Kahili – stay tuned and keep an eye on venues like Facebook for more information.

There is continued investigation on the culvert situation and the group will continue to follow up on the status of that.

HILT would like to remind everyone to please serve as stewards of the place. Open fires are illegal (outside of a grill). Please remove your dog's waste. Commercial activities are not permitted in this area.

There was a surf school operating that had a valid DOBOR permit. Kia'i Kahili will be following up with DOBOR on their permitting processes.

Na Kia'i O Nihokū: No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

Approval of Minutes:

The June 2022 Kīlauea Neighborhood Association meeting minutes were approved by email.

Adjournment of Meeting:

Upon motion duly made by Gary Pacheco seconded by Charlie Martin and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adjourn the July 5, 2022 Kīlauea Neighborhood Association meeting at 8:40 pm.