



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

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**MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 6, 2022**

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Kilauea Neighborhood Center

**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:** 15+, including Councilwoman Felicia Cowden.

**Call to Order:** Chair L'Hote called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. There is a quorum.

**COMMITTEE / COMMUNITY REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:** Gary "Mr P" Pacheco reported we have \$5,799.74. We received a couple of donations and are awaiting the new bank statement. We need to renew our insurance, which Aina Hookupu o Kilauea intends to donate. Please send donations to PO Box 328 in Kilauea if anyone wants to contribute!

**Planning Committee:** No report.

**Communications Committee:** No report. Please send any interest in signing up for the Kilauea Neighborhood Association announcements, questions or potential meeting topics to [joekilauea@gmail.com](mailto:joekilauea@gmail.com).

**Fundraising Committee:** No report.

**NEW BUSINESS / GUEST PRESENTATIONS:**

**KNA Board Election:** Sergeant at Arms Chase explained that every year 7 board members come up for election, and each candidate will have 60 seconds to introduce themselves.

Candidates are: Gary Pacheco, Jeremy Burns, Sara Wright, Steven Squire, Jill Lowrey, Thomas Daubert, Jake Bernard, Nathan Myers.

Elected members are: Gary Pacheco, Jeremy Burns, Sara Wright, Jill Lowrey, Thomas Daubert, Jake Bernard, Nathan Myers.

**Jungle Spa & Farm – Robin and Ben:** Robin’s family grew up here and had Banana Joe’s for 35 years (uncle), parents fish out of Anini been here since the 70’s, been on the property for 40 years with cacao and bees and they are interested in offering reenvisioned farm tours on their 6 acres and spa treatments. They seek KNA support to ask for a special use permit from the County to do the spa portion and feature kama’aina rates and clientele, and would like to do farm tours for donation. There would be an outdoor spa space, outdoor shower and sauna, and still working on the business plan to incorporate the spa with local agriculture such as featuring local herbs and botanical medicine such as locally-grown cocoa butter in treatment options.

Question on whether there is representation to craft the special use, because there is a commercial exemption for the store, would additional things be necessary? Robin shared that they were counseled to apply for a new permit as the existing permit does not cover the new spa business and would not be easily extendable.

Question on some more details like how many cars will be parked, total daily traffic, open and closing times, what other requirements may be necessary like enclosed space or water? The spa would have 2 treatment spaces so maximum of 4 people at a time.

Question on how neighbors feel? Jake shared that he supports the adaptations as stated so far.

The community supports continuation of the plan and SMA development, and would like to see some more details on the specifics of the plan before providing an official letter endorsement, which may come to light as the business plan and SMA exemption are developed. The business plan as described appears ag-related, but question on whether the commission will support using ag-land for such purposes which could set a precedent to be reapplied elsewhere in other contexts that are not as supported.

**Anini Sand Dune Preservation – Mauna Kea Trask:** Mauna Kea shared that he is working on a plan to preserve sand that used to be prevalent at Anini Beach. He has shared this concept with Maka’ala, Caren Diamond, Megan Wong, and so far nobody supports the concept. Mauna Kea shared a short slide presentation on the “Dunlop Small Scale Beach Nourishment Program”.

Question on whether this is just shifting where the problem of lost sand will occur along Anini, as voiced by several surrounding neighbor concerns? Mauna Kea said the only place sand is accreting is at the place where they plan to pull the sand from and it is expected to return via currents and natural processes estimated within 1-3 years (but the question in this test case is really, how long). Follow up question on whether or how Reef Guardians are involved? Eric Kleinbach is involved.

Question on historical sand pictures? USGS Aerial Kauai has a pictures database since 1951. It appears to show that the sand is not moving as it historically did and might have to do with the seawalls near the ramp. So the waves seems to be pulling sand from around the boat ramp area and moving it down towards the channel and flats nearby and the roadway along that area. Charlie Martin noted that in history 30-40+ years ago there seemed to be much more westerly large swells that pushed the sand up into the eastern corner of the area.

Question on whether other landowners are looking at this process and may wish to piggyback on this proposal to do similar projects in their area? Mauna Kea has heard of some owners in other parts of the island who may be interested, but also a number who are opposed. Question, what steers prioritization if other landowners wish to do the same thing? There is a limit to how much of each littoral cell can be harvested and may not be able to go back to the same source unless it has replenished or changed or is re-evaluated.

The County does a number of beach nourishment and erosion-mitigation projects around the island including the Kapa'a bike path and near Wailua river mouth among others.

**MOTION** by Charlie Martin for KNA to draft a letter supporting this pilot project. Motion withdrawn.

**MOTION** by Bill Chase to continue this discussion and get more information including the presentation and a follow up presentation, seconded by Secretary Burns.

Robin who grew up at Anini Beach and has some historical perspective thinks it is an interesting project and the coast has eroded from her historical perspective.

Discussion on sand offshore being a limited community-owned resource and does any precedent create a "race" condition where other interested landowners start the permitting process to try to be first to tap and acquire the sand in front of their areas and put it up on their particular beach.

Discussion on inviting other potentially affected neighbors with concerns to a follow up meeting.

Question on sharing both the presentation and the related studies relevant to the project? Yes Mauna Kea can likely provide these he will confer with his client.

Motion passes unanimously by voice vote.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

### **UPDATES:**

**Seniors:** No update.

**Kilauea School PTSA:** Mr P reported the last day of school is Dec 16<sup>th</sup>. North Shore Lions and Hanalei Bay Resort make goody bags every year for the schools, an over 25 year tradition. Santa will be distributing on Dec 16<sup>th</sup>.

**'Āina Ho'okupu O Kilauea / Kilauea Community Agricultural Center:** Yosh reported there was major damage to our big greenhouses likely due to a microburst during the Thanksgiving wind storm.

The kitchen is well under construction. The opening will likely be in early 2023 and will be a slow ramp up as we showcase locally grown and increase production at the same time.

**Anaina Hou:** Jill Lowry introduced Ben Caren the Operations Director, he reported there is a community event Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> with Kumu Kehau and cookie decorations. Visit their website at [anainahou.org](http://anainahou.org) for other event details.

**Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge / Friends of Kaua'i Wildlife Refuges:** Jen Waipa reported the first Hawaiian petrel has fledged from Kilauea Point, as part of the Nihoku Ecosystem Restoration Project and it is banded.

Staffing – they have made a tentative offer to a biologist. They expect to interview for the laborer position next week. They have 2 maintenance positions. There is a budget analyst position that just closed and hopefully will be staffed shortly. The Kupu interns are now fully trained.

They are awaiting County permitting for the new Hanalei Viewpoint with a tentative opening in March 2023.

There is an annual nationwide bird count with 3-4 volunteer spots open, December 17 from 7 am – noon, contact Jen with any interest.

There is a Weed & Feed volunteer opportunity next week.

Kilauea Point will have their busy season from Dec 18 through March. There are already long lines at the entrance gate.

Closed Dec 24-25 for holidays. The refuge is generally open Wed-Sat.

Lighthouse lighting will be on Dec 31, time TBD.

There are still a few courting pairs of red-tailed tropicbirds, this is unusually late for them to be around.

There are 101 Moli albatross nests on the refuge!

No report on the Friends Group, please visit their website ([www.kauairefuges.org](http://www.kauairefuges.org)) and in the KNA newsletter. Please remember to purchase kama'āina passes and visit the Refuge.

**Kaulana Kilauea:** Lihau Paik reported the Christmas Celebration will be Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm at the park with free parking. Santa Claus may make an appearance. Jerry Santos will be there and Mark Kalamaka. There are postcards in the mail to 96754 residents with all the details. The Kilauea Noodle Factory will be serving saimin.

Mr P is still accepting donations for the Kilauea home lighting competition. Michael Ching and Kilauea Bakery have donated. Gary Smith ohana will be judging the week before Christmas.

**Kia'i Kāhili:** No report.

**Na Kia'i o Nihokū:** The second contested case intervention for the Green's property in Seacliff Plantation will be next week.

**Namahana Charter School:** No report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion to approve the November 2022 Kīlauea Neighborhood Association meeting minutes was completed by email.**

**Adjournment of Meeting:**

**Upon motion duly made by Bill Chase seconded by Gary Pacheco and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adjourn the December 6, 2022 Kīlauea Neighborhood Association meeting at 9:28 pm.**