



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

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**MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 4, 2023**

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Kilauea Neighborhood Center

**KNA Directors Present:** Yoshito L'Hote, Jake Bernard, ~~Jeremy Burns~~, Gary Pacheco, Bill Chase, ~~Stephenie Brown~~, Thomas Daubert, Mike Latif, Jill Lowry, ~~Mike Lyons~~, Nathan Myers, Kalena Pacheco, Sarah Wright

**Community Attendance:** 10+ including Councilwoman Cowden & KPD Chief Raybuck & Lt Stacy Perreira

**Call to Order:** Chair L'Hote called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. There is a quorum.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee:** \$5538.13 balance in account, \$300 check to: Troy Schmidt, \$1151.00 check for Insurance

Please send donations to PO Box 328 in Kilauea if anyone wants to contribute!

Business Registration - Director Kalena Pacheco is updating KNA Hawaii Business Registration and is collecting addresses of new members to update Directors list.

**Planning Committee:** No report.

**Communications Committee:** 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). There is a bi-monthly email announcement letter provided to the community.

**Fundraising Committee:** No report.

**NEW BUSINESS / GUEST PRESENTATIONS:**

**KPD Chief Raybuck**

4yrs since he's last been here @ KNA. Law enforcement is struggling to recruit. 161 sworn positions @ KPD - and 26 vacancies as of today in their total numbers; compared to 8 vacancies 1 yr ago. They are spreading those vacancies across island at this time. They are

hiring and are asking community to help find recruits by spreading the word & educate the community that a career in law enforcement has stability, good benefits, a retirement and overtime!

Open up for questions from audience.

Q: M. Paterson - How do we go about reporting to police breaking of the speed limit?

A: Call in reckless drivers 241-1711 to Police Dispatch and they will respond.

#1 contributing factor to traffic fatalities is speed and #2 Drugs/alcohol. Chief Roebuck advises we each be responsible and control our own speed as well as communicate to others/loved ones about speed and safety.

**Lt. Perrera - Lydgate to Ke'e is her jurisdiction. Also attending and presenting along with Chief Roebuck.**

#### Fatalities on Kaua'i KPD Statistics

1.2020-(7) -1 in our juristicion (Kapa'a - Ke'e)

2.2021-(2)- 0 in our jurisdiction

3.2022 - (9) 1 in our juristicion

4. 2023 - (2) - 0 in our jurisdiction

Q: M. Paterson - What about traffic cameras to catch traffic law breakers?

A: KPD does not install these - State owns Hiways so it would be their decision. KPD does enforcement on both state and county roads.

Comment: Director Lowry about seeing more police on the road after 2019. Lt. Stacy - yes, there is more officer presence. MDT's (Mobile Data Terminals) installed and implemented in patrol cars have given officers the ability to do the documenting paperwork for every call in their car instead of returning to the station to complete paperwork. They have also added an additional officer on the road since 2019.

Chief Raybuck - also made it policy to have blue lights illuminated on patrol. They are in the process of fixing vehicles that have been out of commission because of blue lights that are not working.

Q: President L'Hote - How is the situation for illegal parking in Ha'ena? Is there ticket writing enforcement for parking?

A: A bill recently passed w/ help of Nadine Makamura to hire a parking enforcement personnel to write tickets Mon-Fri. On any unmanned times by this person the KPD will also cover that area with patrol and enforcement and pay any pre/post shift overtime to officers to write tickets and police Ha'ena area. KPD finds that many tourist will just pay ticket and say it was worth it.

Q: Sonrisa Stepath - Can something be communicated at rental car agencies to educate tourist about Ha'ena rules?

A: Kauai Visitors Bureau has reached out to car companies already to do this.

Q: Unknown - Can the KPD take volunteers to be deputy to write tickets?

A: There is a possibility for this to be done in Ha'ena as well as in Koke'e. Also a possibility for a non-profit agency maybe to be involved in this. Chief Roebuck has recently met with

Joel Guy about this type of thing - a mitigation of the issue by involving community members that can be educators.

Q: What is the drug situation on Kaua'i?

A: Yes, we do have a drug situation. Fentanyl is a problem. In the last year KPD has made significant arrests this past year. Cases are being prosecuting federally (one individual has received sentence of 20yrs) and there is ongoing prosecution with others involved in this particular bust.

Q: Director Chase - Has there been a rash of Moloaa break-ins or cars stolen? Are burglaries up?

A: Lt. Perreira - no, haven't seen uptick in our area, in Kapaa there has been.

Q: Director Myers - Concern about a certain area of Ha'ena which recently has a No Parking sign.(near Limahuli stream) People are being told to park 100 ft away and walk. It seems like it's more dangerous to walk around a hairpin corner to get to that area after parking in an approved zone.

A: State has put up that sign - not KPD.

Q: How does Kilauea rank for crime?

A: Yes, Kilauea is pretty mellow. KPD has a community map online on their website that is a report of all reports made to KPD. You can search by your area and by time frame and see all crimes reported & type as well for your area. No account/signup required. This is for awareness not accuracy and reports list the first report made not all charges that were filed.

Q: Director Lowry - Is KPD concerned about school violence on Kaua'i?

A: Yes, always but the risk factor and odds are low. KPD is in regular contact with schools and do drill active shooter drills, meet with principals, ect. Greatest threats to date are hoax reports. This is serious and causes trauma for the children at every report.

Q: Director Lowry - For Anaina Hou or anyone with private space, how can you recommend to protect?

A: Private security, training for employees. Recommended a training video to use to ID situations and responses called: Run, Hide, Fight

Also, "See Something, Say Something" - Make reports of suspicious activity. When you make a call to dispatch be patient with dispatch. They will ask many questions to make risk assessment so please be patient. Mental health issues - it's easy to jump to conclusions. Observe and take notice to report well. Does this person look like they pose a threat? Be a good witness - an assuming witness can accelerate a situation - be clear and patient when we report a situation.

Q: Director Chase - Are there social media screening in place in Hawai'i to prevent people to get a firearm?

A: Yes, Intelligence Dept. does screening for firearms permits.

**UPDATE:** Larry Dill (ROADS)- Could not attend but updates given by President L'Hote.

Update: Kolo Rd to Hiway (gas station) for roundabout has been delayed. Apparently that area of road is owned by Kilauea Sugar which was taken over by Brewer Holdings. It was not ever transferred to County so County at this time does not have ownership to start work. Efforts have been made to contact Brewer Holdings but no representative has been found. The County is moving forward with condemnation process to obtain ownership legally. This process will take about 1-1/2 yr to condemn and get ownership and then County can start work on roundabout.

Update: Coco Palms - the 4th lane should be opening this month. Work has halted on the Wailua Bridge and the crane is no longer sufficient. They are bringing in a new drill rig from the East Coast. Boulders are bigger than anticipated.

Update: Kalihiwai - trimming trees? They are not scheduled to do at this time.

Update: Flap Grant for finishing paving of Kilauea Rd. ? Larry Dill referred President L'Hote to County for update on that.

Q: Possibility of Zoom meetings?

A: Director Bernard is looking into technology. The Kilauea Gym and this building renovation is behind schedule and as soon as they start that will force us to return to Zoom anyway.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Future Attendees:**

Councilwoman Cowden recommends inviting Parks Division - they need community input on monies acquired for our area.

## **UPDATES:**

**Councilwoman Cowden:** County is working on the Budget. It is at \$90mil, part of it is salary increases. They have a 30% reserve of \$60mil they are holding back - they might decrease percentages if needed.

There will soon be a permanent lifeguard stand at the Wanini Beach area by the channel. She is concerned about retaining wall by the boat ramp and worried about danger as the holes are large.

The County has added 12 more full-time lifeguards island-wide on 8-6 shifts. They will adjust hours in wintertime to account for sunlight. Anahola Bridge by beach is getting fixed this summer. KNA should invite Parks Dept. with list of important issues for our area. They have monies to be distributed. \$85,000 to give to non-profits for each region of the island for parks. If there's anything we as a community want or need (ex. Pickleball courts, etc.)

let them know. We need to provide info to them of what we would like in our area or they will decide for us. Co-stewardship is also something to communicate with them about - they are interested in working with non-profits and the community.

Kahiliholo Pd Paving - They will be back to finish, rain and other issues have delayed work. There is a \$15mil Road Resurfacing Budget for this year for the Kaua'i.

Q: Director Pacheco - Are they going to fix the new 45 degree (steep) bridge in Wailua?

A: Yes, this was a temporary bridge and they will replace it.

Property tax - Kaua'i County will be eliminating the Residential Investor tax class. There will be a 10% decrease in homestead (owner-occupant) and residential tax classes. This has been approved by Mayor Kawakami. Taxes will be cut this coming year for people of Kaua'i. Unfortunately, over 400 houses to be foreclosed on on Kaua'i. Felicia has been taking it upon herself to call those people and communicate with them directly. She was informed that many of these people had never been spoken to about this only letters sent. After 4yrs of not paying your taxes your home will go into non-judicial foreclosure. She doesn't want to see residents lose their homes and is calling individuals. The East Kauai Community Development plan is being worked on. An outside contractor has been secured to do traffic assessment in Kapa'a.

Q: Director Pacheco - Can Powerline Rd be used to alleviate traffic? Maybe charge a toll?

A: In discussions in previous years that idea had met with resistance.

Q: President L'Hote - Anything being planned for West Side? Traffic is terrible.

A: Nothing in the plans yet.

8:44 Councilwoman Cowden finishes

### **COMMUNITY REPORTS:**

**Seniors:** No report.

**Kilauea School PTSA:** Sonrisa Stepath - This year is the 100 year anniversary for Kilauea School in current location. Kids will be interviewing past students or alumni for celebration. May Day on campus as well as graduation. Possible luau April 29th Ho'olaulea @ Anaina Hou. Auction items and entertainment and food. Any community members with old photos can contact Sonrisa if they'd like their photos to be included. Traffic situation at Kilauea School hasn't improved. President L'Hote recommends Principal Mitchell contact St Sylvesters or Kingdom Hall churches to have use of additional parking area? Parents come to school 15 min early and park and wait - this causes traffic as well. They have been asked multiple times but are not always cooperative. Possibility of having a volunteer to help keep traffic moving.

Also, Principal Gonzales is officially quit so position for Kilauea School Principal will be open. Current Principal Mitchell will be applying.

**Ā'ina Ho'okupu O Kilauea / Kilauea Community Agricultural Center:** Yosh reported that we are still working to finish the Market/Deli space in the next month or two,

including final cement, electrical, plumbing and HVAC, and addressing the Board of Health's concern.

For the Kalihiwai Reservoir we have an AOI for resevoir. Ownership may be put into an LLC . Deadline for decommissioning is in May but study has not been done yet. They brokered an extension for a 6mo window to raise funds. President L'Hote had an informal conversation with large land-owners around island to discuss reservoir needs and raise support from state to change regulations and facilitate funding to remediate reservoirs that are important to our island. Working this year on the water situation.

**Anaina Hou:** Jill Lowry is going to Texas to watch a geo-thermal dome being built and attending a conference. She will be gone 3 weeks.

PTSA fundraiser for Kilauea School Ho'olaulea is coming up - tickets are available. Link will be provided by Sonrisa Stepath to buy tickets. Anaina Hou has multiple concerts coming up. See their website for details and tickets. School field trips are coming thru to mini-golf, contact them to schedule a field trip.

Wai Koa Trail - The Porter heirs, Wai Koa and Common Ground will be meeting next week to see if the Wai Koa trail will be re-opening. Update to come.

**Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge / Friends of Kaua'i Wildlife Refuges:**

Jen Waipa - May 6th event celebrating navigation and Kilauea Lighthouse. Booths and info, Kilauea Serenaders will be singing, Lighthouse will be lit at 7PM . Entry free - please make reservation on their website.

Thomas Daubert from the Friends group reported that the application is open for the Daniel Moriarty Scholarship for high school / college students and is due April 30.

Tuesday April 11 the Princeville Makai Golf Club will be hosting their nightly golf cart tour with proceeds to go to the Friends group and special commentary on their activities including a Moli nest visit. The cost is \$150 per cart, 2 people per cart.

Mo'olelo @ Princeville Clubhouse on April 16th Guest: Susan Scott of the Hawaii Audubon Society

**Kaulana Kilauea:** No report.

**Kia'i Kāhili:** No report.

**Na Kia'i o Nihokū:** No report.

**Namahana Charter School:**

Kapua Chandler - Namahana School Update

Meli Parker also attending (non-profit branch)

Bill Hayes has approved sale of a lot to the school and they are in escrow to acquire property for the school. Previous location will be contingency site. School will be near post office. 11.3 acres behind Titcomb.

Concern: Traffic for school. They are looking at staggering start time to not cause additional backup. Also proposed access by Anaina Hou will help. Design for Namahana Rd will be in the works so when federal finding comes thru they will be shovel ready. Start school will be 2025 and they will start with lower grades and add higher grades slowly. 2030 will be the first graduating class.

**Rotary Club:** No Report.

Q: President L'Hote - What are you doing with improvement of elderly parking in Princeville?

A: Tsajon will check and report back.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr P announced that the Kilauea School may be available to be used for Pancake Breakfast. More to come. This year the Lions have \$53K in scholarships to be available to all ages. Visit [kauainorthshorelions.com](http://kauainorthshorelions.com) for the application.

Ron Paul - Memorial on April 12th 4-6 Potluck. President L'Hote said KNA will donate something for event.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion to approve the March 2023 Kilauea Neighborhood Association meeting minutes made by Director Daubert and seconded by Director Wright.**

### **Adjournment of Meeting:**

**Upon motion duly made by Director Thomas seconded by Director Pacheco and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adjourn the April 4th, 2023 Kilauea Neighborhood Association meeting at 9:14 pm.**