



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

MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 7, 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: 24 +,

Call to Order: Yoshito L'Hote called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. There was not a quorum yet.

Treasurer's Report: Deferred until Treasurer Pacheco's arrival.

Committee Reports:

Planning Committee: Planning Chair Sarah Wright reported the group recently met and covered a range of issues. The report is forthcoming.

Communications Committee: Thomas Daubert provided the email sign up for regular communications, reach out to joekilauea@gmail.com to sign up, or for any inquiries.

Fundraising Committee: No report.

Treasurer Pacheco arrived at 7:10, there is a quorum.

New Business / Invited Guests:

Namahana Public Charter School updates: Kapua Chandler said they must open by 2025, and they are opening with 7th and 8th grade in year 1, with 120 kids. A design plan with temporary clusters of yurts to get started was provided. Year 2 will add 9th grade and year 3 will add 10th grade. As the campus matures permanent buildings will be constructed. Traffic flow and dropoff zones were reviewed. A comprehensive phased plan document was provided. The public hearing for special use permit has been scheduled for December 12, 2023. The Kolo Road roundabout planned will be critical for managing Princeville traffic flow heading into the area until the bypass road is created with its roundabout across from Anaina Hou. Start and end times for the school and surrounding schools such as Kilauea Elementary are all staggered to spread out traffic.

Question on campus infrastructure and roadway construction timeline? Adam Roversi shared that the road construction will need to be completed before all the electrical and telecommunication locations are determined and so will need to be emplaced after the fact. The water stubs will be able to be put in though.

Question on traffic management and mitigation in Kilauea town and near the post office intersection? The main plan once the campus is matured is to bring Princeville traffic in the bypass road and many of the Kilauea area students could walk and bike. The interim plan as it is first starting is new roundabouts at Kolo and Ala Namahana Parkway.

Question on funding so far? It has all been private donations for pre-planning, but they just received a State Grant-In-Aid of \$128K toward the environmental assessment and there are other grants identified that may be applicable.

Question on housing? Kapua said if there was to be any on-site it would be another special use permit application. One of the best ways is to support affordable housing initiatives and groups in process and to try to sync up timelines. Question on farm worker housing? Adam Roversi shared it needs to be an income-producing farm with certain guidelines.

MOTION by Vice President Bernard, seconded by Treasurer Pacheco to write a letter of support for the Namahana School Special Use Permit application. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Wainini “Anini” Boat Ramp commercial permits: Stephen Kohene presented on the Anini boat ramp. State DLNR is planning to issue 3 more boating permits (increasing it to 5) for Anini and cap it at that to match Hanalei. The land to reach Anini boat ramp is County owned and managed and would require a special use permit through the Planning Department to allow for this change. The County Parks Department could apply to planning for a SMA special management permit to allow more such commercial activities at Anini; if there is community-led desire and support for this that has great weight with the County to consider such activities. Stephen is on a public wait list at Nawiliwili for permits which anyone can sign up for. Stephen’s plan is that customers would park elsewhere and be shuttled down to the site, not taking up parking in the area for long amounts of time. The ramp is also mainly summer-seasonal based on the weather and north shore swells. This commercial activity can provide an opportunity for local residents to have good paying jobs in order to afford housing on island.

Questions on other related impacts like where the supporting customer parking will be and is it permitted for that use, counts and nature of swimmers in the area and any potential issues or concerns with increased boating traffic. Question on whether this would be such a priority if it wasn’t directly to benefit.

Question on EIS or EA and will one be done? That would be done by the County as part of the SMA process.

Follow up on prior question on existing letters and how many are from Kilauea/Kalihiwai area? Stephen has pages of signatures in support from the north shore area.

Question on those who had concerns, what were the nature of those? Mostly they had to do with parking impacts in the area.

Comment on additional commercial north shore boating traffic coming from the Anini area will increase safety and response times for anyone out on the water having issues.

Concerns raised about increased water use and access issues with swimmers, snorkelers, paddleboarders, kiting, foiling, etc. and lack of signage, understanding and awareness of rules and risks by many users. Foilers there are often beginners which adds to the safety challenges.

Concerns about the boat ramp state of maintenance currently and would increased usage further deteriorate and speed up the degradation of the ramp. There was discussion about the potential to set up some sort of funding mechanism provided by the commercial activity, but this would be a State / County process to develop and implement in the future.

Question on number of permits? 3 additional contemplated by the State, bringing the total to 5 to match Hanalei.

Question on number of customers and tours? Stephen said 30 per permit per day, and 2 tours max per day. So total max would be 90 customers and 6 tours.

Concerns were raised about Anini being a safe quiet place to swim in protected waters nearly year-round on the north shore, especially so in the winter.

Concerns about the small winding road and shuttling people up and down it.

Concerns about whether the positive benefits such as jobs and economic development, outweigh potential negative impacts on other community users of the place.

Evan introduced himself as an Anini permit waitlist participant. He is Kilauea born and raised and thinks this would be a great opportunity for locals. Consider other businesses like construction or roadwork that have potentially long-lasting negative impacts, where this type of activity generally leaves. The State would like to take over the ramp area and manage it in an improved way.

Question on the process and jurisdictions which is very confusing, can we invite State DOBOR and County Planning Commission together to our meeting to explain their position and the sequence of steps.

Question on potential usage changes with additional development in the area.

Question on the ask – is it for community / KNA support for a particular personal permit support or for 3 permits? Stephen said it was for 3 permits in general.

Question, who are in the first 3 positions on the waitlist? Evan, Stephen, and then Steven Baptiste.

Question on whether there is any concerns about the permits ending up in the hands of others who may not share the same values? Not from the permit waitlist applicants.

Question on other potentially affected communities up and down the north shore such as Hui Maka'ainana O Makana and the CBSFA area. The departure point is Anini is one impact but increasing commercialization like fishing charters or tours into these sensitive areas

are also an impact. There was just a recent large boating meeting of the west side boat operators regarding some of these impacts. Suggestion to reach out to the Hui for discussions on these matters.

MOTION to write a letter for 3 permits to be supported by Vice Chair Bernand. There was no second.

Question on whether there is any cap to the number of potential permits? The amount proposed was by DOBOR. DOBOR has the authority and discretion to issue more permits if they feel it is allowable and practical. Hanalei has a strict SMA credential limiting the number of permits, but Anini does not.

Comments on the limited nature of the resource, and how used it is now compared to many years ago. Anini is not Hanalei. It is the biggest reef on the island. It has a unique character and usage pattern. It needs to be evaluated on its own.

Question on the staggering of boats arriving and leaving out of the single ramp. Currently its about every half hour. If there were 5 boats would there be 2.5 hours of departures and 2.5 hours of landings?

Comment on how car parking at Anini currently is always very busy and taken up. Anini is the place to do children birthday parties and community gatherings.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Pacheco reported October's bank balance of \$5,716.13.

- Please consider donating to KNA at PO Box 328, Kilauea, HI 96754.
- Proposal to KNA to provide some funding support for the home lighting contest? Question on amounts needed, fundraising done so far, historical amounts? Mr P will follow up electronically.

Old Business:

- None

Community Updates:

County Council Updates:

- No report.

Seniors

- No report

PTSA

- No report.

'Āina Ho'okupu o Kilauea (Kilauea Ag Center)

- Yosh said we will have our grand opening for Johnny's Market and the place on November 25th, 2023 from 11a – 5p. Everything will be free including food and drinks, a nonprofit showcase, petting zoo.

Anaina Hou Community Park

- No report.

Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge & Friends of Kaua'i Wildlife Refuges

- Thomas Daubert reported they have secured a law enforcement officer who will start in December. They are still hiring a park ranger and laborer. They have onboarded 6 Kupu interns. There is a detailee here for 3 months. They are hosting a talk Thursday about the predator proof fence. As of this morning 3 Moli were spotted, beginning the season!
- FRIENDS GROUP: Next Princeville Mo'olelo on November 26th at 3p with Dr. Andre Rain discussing seabird protection.

Kaulana Kilauea

- Mr. P reported they have Kilauea Sugar Company shirts. Contact him or Gary Smith or Lehau Paik.
- December 2nd will be Christmas Concert in the Park. Entertainers are coming from O'ahu. Lions Club will have coffee, cocoa, tea, and Haraguchi lunch wagon with food. They will do Christmas house lighting competition again as well and will be looking for prize donations.
- Kilauea Dispensary park now has a sidewalk poured for a walking path. Native plants will be planted around it. Next will be a retaining wall next to the sidewalk. Donations are greatly appreciated!

Kia'i Kāhili

- Thomas reported they plan to wrap up the RFP development for access consultant assistance by the end of December.

Nā Kia'i O Nihokū

- Ka'ui Fu gave an update on the contested case. The transcripts are completed. Applicants have 30 days to make closing comments and another two weeks for responses.
- Kilo event set for winter solstice.
- Permit is up for renewal at the end of this year.
- Email contact them at nakiaionihoku@gmail.com

Namahana Public Charter School

- Covered under New Business. There are flyers to post for businesses.

Rotary Club of Hanalei Bay

- No report

Announcements:

- January 13th, North Shore Lions is having their golf tournament fundraiser for the scholarships. \$200 per foursome. Last year they awarded \$50K in scholarships.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion duly made by Thomas Daubert seconded by Sarah Wright, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the September and October 2023 Kilauea Neighborhood Association meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Adjournment of Meeting:

Upon motion duly made by Sarah Wright, seconded by Jake Bernard and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adjourn the November 7, 2023 Kilauea Neighborhood Association meeting at 9:06 pm.