



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

MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 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: 20+

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

Treasurer's Report: Gary Pacheco reported October's bank balance of \$5,762.13. Please consider donating to KNA at PO Box 328, Kilauea, HI 96754.

Committee Reports:

Planning Committee: Planning Chair Sarah Wright reported the group did not meet this month, but will be meeting again in the near future on a number of topics.

Communications Committee: No report. The email sign up for regular communications is joekilauea@gmail.com.

Fundraising Committee: No report.

New Business / Invited Guests:

Artistry & Murals - Katie Lathrop: Katie was an art teacher for many years, and recently got into murals. She did the mural at the Kilauea bus stop. She is working with grants that support murals and education "Artists in the Schools" and she is reaching out to Namahana and Kapa'a. A new art education grant initiative for the community keiki to kupuna is being written and she would like feedback on those who are interested in supporting this activity. It takes 10-20 classes to complete a mural. The ballpark dugouts would make for a great "Makahiki" themed idea. There are other possible ideas and locations. The classes would be grant sponsored so free to the community. She is looking for a letter of support for her \$8K grant proposal from KNA.

MOTION by Director Wright to provide a letter of support Katie Lathrop's grant proposal for Museum Without Walls grant, seconded by Treasurer Pacheco. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

David Akana – new Kahu Kilauea Church: A new Vicar for the church Amy ?? has been selected and will begin shepherding the church. She used to be a teacher (certified Maine & Alaska) and is very supportive of youth. She welcomes all to the Stone Church and Christ Memorial. There are a couple of upcoming activities at the church (as detailed in the KNA email update).

AMR Ambulance Services: Yosh provided a summary of the contract status which through a very brief process was changed by decision makers on Oahu to change contractors on Kauai and Maui. all to the Stone Church and Christ Memorial.

Councilwoman Cowden provided an update on the new RFI which should require a certain level called Advanced Life Support (meaning paramedics on board). This will be the 3rd item on the agenda for County Council tomorrow which can be followed via online meeting. There may be 4 applicants this time. Currently there are 6 ambulances on Kauai. This meeting will help shape the RFP and contract requirements. Send suggestions to counciltestimony@kauai.gov.

Elections:

- Service is a 2-year term. Nominations are open.

Jim Edmonds as new nominee came to Kauai from Oahu 40 years ago. Most of his family is in Kilauea. He recently led Permanently Affordable Living but will be stepping back as ED. They are in process of developing 45 homes around the island and purchased 2 buildings with many apartments.

Yoshito L'Hote is from Switzerland, was hanai'd by the Sproat family over 30 years ago. He is dedicated to Hawaiian culture and has deep roots in the community. He is also the CEO of Aina Hookupu O Kilauea. KNA is the first neighborhood association on the island, and he has been President since 2013.

Mike Lyons works at Anaina Hou and his Hawaiian side is from Kapa'a. He was a firefighter for 15 years. He has many connections through the community and is an open space and beach access advocate.

Mike Latif runs the North Shore Pharmacy which opened today in 1988. He has been a community resident and supporter at numerous events.

Bill Chase arrived in 1993 after Hurricane Iniki as a general contractor and became a strong environmentalist to help maintain the community and prevent overdevelopment.

Kalena Pacheco was born and raised in Kilauea and her mom worked at Mahelona hospital as a nurse, father was a carpenter. Her family are fisherman and support ocean stewardship.

Caroline Neal as a new nominee introduced herself as a new Kilauea resident with a place in Seacliff that is apparently controversial. She would like to grow food there and give back into the community. She enjoys fundraising and youth activities.

Vaughn Lixfeld has lived in Kilauea for 30 years. He used to own the Lotus Gallery. He is a member of the Rotary. He is willing to serve as an alternate if an opening arises but will not seek nomination tonight.

Old Business:

- AHK wrote a flood relief grant toward Kalihiwai Reservoir to be able to fund initial steps toward a remediation solution and hire engineering and legal services, and also a HCF Fresh Water Initiative grant. AHK desires to take a holistic look at the water balance of the ahupua'a and how future major rain events impact or could be mitigated by all the elements from mauka to makai.

Question from a Kalihiwai valley resident on what the delay is in performing the decommissioning and when is it going to happen? There are permit requirements and processes that must be followed, which are currently ongoing. The implementation start date is unknown at this point.

Community Updates:

County Council Updates:

- Councilwoman Cowden reminded everyone that got a property tax assessment they only have a short time this month to contest it.
- Coco Palms is a challenging place to put a refurbished hotel with traffic congestion issues and evacuation routes and other logistical challenges in the area.
- Can we put Kauai Fire Department and KEMA on the agenda? There is a small group of experts driving around to map out deficiencies in various communities, so Kilauea could meet with them.
- There was a 19-year extension approved by the BLNR for the landfill. There must be a MRF and more recycling, which is somewhat good but its incredibly expensive and only addresses a very small piece of the problem. AHK wants to help with organic waste and federal funding solutions.
- The Moloa'a water facility got extended.

Seniors

- No report

PTSA

- No report.

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

- Yosh said we just had our grand opening for Johnny's Market. The store is doing well so far. Everything is local with no or minimal wrapping, shipping, or waste.
- Lorraine mentioned that we can sell local fruits and vegetables so any local supply is very useful. Yosh said we can also pay others for good produce.

Anaina Hou Community Park

- No report.

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

- Jen Waipa said they have a biologist and a bio-tech position available on usajobs.gov.

- They have hired a new park ranger already living on island who should start after the new year. Also a new law enforcement officer who will be living on the refuge..
- There are holiday closures on December 23 and 30.
- The predator proof fence is finished. It does need a lot of regular maintenance.
- FRIENDS GROUP: Jen reported the next Princeville Mo'olelo Series continues this Sunday with Reef Guardians at a new time 2:00 pm.

Kaulana Kīlauea

- Mr. P reported they had a sold out Christmas Concert in the Park. North Shore Lions gave away free cocoa. It was held earlier than normal this year because close to Christmas there are so many activities going on. Holding it earlier increased participation.
- Anyone who wishes to purchase shirts can reach out to Mr. P. for a website, or go to the printing shop across from the Shell gas station back at the end of the road.
- The Kilauea Dispensary park has 3 Christmas trees decorated. Mike Latif donated a bench (which the kids are using for skateboarding). Felicia is willing to donate for a picnic table. Donations are greatly appreciated!

Kia'i Kāhili

- Yosh reported the group is working to finalize the RFP for access and environmental management.
- The culvert which closed the road was waiting on FEMA assessments, but the County design was over \$1M. The FEMA-driven process and involvement may be cancelled which changes the go-forward processes and timeline.

Nā Kia'i O Nihokū

- Ka'ui Fu gave an update on the contested case. The transcripts are reviewed for November which took 60 hours, 1700 pages, some corrections were proposed, there were objections, so this process is ongoing before final transcripts are done and then closing arguments can be held.
- Kilo event set for winter solstice, overnight at the Lighthouse.
- Permit is up for renewal at the end of this year – they will continue to provide access, caretaking and youth activities in partnership with USFWS. They are working on a 2-3 year permit. If anyone is interested in becoming a certified steward to expand group activities there please contact them.
- Email contact them at nakiaionihoku@gmail.com

Namahana Public Charter School

- Sarah Wright conveyed a big mahalo to everyone, this permit is a big step forward.

Rotary Club of Hanalei Bay

- David Dinner said Robin from Reef Guardians spoke to them last week and did a great job and generated \$5K from the group. They want to generate more funding for youth and welcome Caroline to help with those activities.

Announcements:

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

Election Results:

- All nominees were elected.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion duly made by Mike Latif seconded by Sarah Wright, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the November 2023 Kilauea Neighborhood Association meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Adjournment of Meeting:

Upon motion duly made by Treasurer Pacheco, seconded by Sarah Wright and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adjourn the December 12, 2023 Kilauea Neighborhood Association meeting at 8:58 pm.