



**NA ALA HELE**  
Hawai'i Trail & Access System

**Approved: June 24, 2015**  
**Revised: June 24, 2015**

**MEETING DATE: April 22<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**PLACE: Hilo DOFAW Office**

**Voting Members Present:**

**Deborah Chang, Dennis Vierra, Riley Smith,, Michael Varney, Kawehi Ryder, David Rietow, Roger "Maha" Kanealii Jr.**

**Voting Members Absent Excused:**

**Branning Sung, Terrence Noda**

**Voting Members Absent Unexcused:**

**Public:**

**None**

**Ex-Officio:**

**Clement Chang, Rick Gmirkin Ala Kahakai, Steve Bergfeld (DOFAW)**

- I. Call to Order 6:10pm
- II. Review of Minutes of January 14 2015
  - a. Change to item IV. d, iv, 5
    - i. Reish Property
  - b. Change to item IV. e, iv, 3
    - i. Clivus units
  - c. Dennis motion to approve
  - d. Mike Varney second
  - e. Unanimous vote of approval
- III. Public Testimony/New Business
  - a. No public Testimony
- IV. Unfinished Business
  - a. New members welcomed to their first meeting as board members.
  - b. Information/Clarification: (DOCARE), Issues related to access/crossing private land/hunting license/hiking
    - i. Is Mauna Kea Forest Reserve open for hunting during special events
    - ii. Mauna Kea 200 does not close hunting area
    - iii. Special permit does not close the area to any other activities
    - iv. Mauna Kea signage may have been damaged during the storm

- v. Kohala Forest Reserve mountain biker asked to leave area if not actively hunting
  - 1. Specific to this area Parker Ranch allows access to the area for hunting purposes only
  - 2. Clem to ask DOCARE how they enforce access other than hunting to Kohala Forest Reserve and same questions in regards to any area in the state.
    - a. Clement is working on getting someone of familiarity to speak at the next scheduled Hilo meeting.
  
- c. Information Update Tracking Tool by Deborah Chang
  - i. Definition
    - 1. RED = what was talked about in the last meetings
    - 2. GREEN = pending, unfinished business.
    - 3. Bring to Deborah's attention any errors.
  - ii. Dennis Vierra Updates
    - 1. Item 30 Waiakea ATV Park
      - a. Dennis will be meeting with Clement & Steve Bergfeld on future OHV activity inside the timber management area.
  - iii. Moana Rowland/Abstract – Research Updates
    - 1. Item 5 Holualoa reviewed with Moana and she will look into the location of the trail.
      - a. Mike asked Debbie of the status of Inaba Trail. Debbie says trail is closed by land owner signage, owner Thurston Twigg-Smith, company name Persis.
    - 2. Item 7 Kahuku Ahupua'a. Still doing research on property proposed for development.
    - 3. Item 8 Kahuku Village Development. Pending Status?
      - a. Lower priority till Moana receives more info,
      - b. County may be looking into purchasing land for open space.
    - 4. Item 6 Judd Trail. Moana updated by Lucas Mead w/ Planning Department.
      - a. 5 year extension on drafting deed currently scheduled to expire in 2016.
    - 5. Item 19 Maulua.
      - a. Moana working on abstract.
      - b. Clem went out with David Penn & Lucas Mead looking at how to access the forest reserve. Currently looking to change the location of parking lot for better/closer access.

6. Item 23 Puako-Waimea Trail. No new permits or land use changes.
7. Item 33 Waipunalei Trail
  - a. Moana working with David Penn.
  - b. Tied into Laupahoehoe Forest Reserve.
  - c. Clement consulting with Kamehameha Schools for internal purposes.
- iv. Deborah - Dairy lease vs public access to forest reserve (NEW)
  1. Location along the Hamakua Coast.
  2. Dairy to be clarified (Mauna Kea Moo/Hawaii Island Goat Dairy).
  3. Is there any effort to identify public access into the Forest Reserve?
    - a. Current fence vandalism for lack of public access.
    - b. Lease stipulates that the lessee work with DOFAW for public access to forest reserve.
    - c. Debbie to enter it into the tracking tool.
- v. Rick Gmirkin Update
  1. Item 27 Rullo in Opihihale, S. Kona.
    - a. Mr. Don Rullo has put in another extension for their subdivision application through 2016.
    - b. That land has recently been put up for short sale or auction. Current status of this is unknown at this time.
    - c. This items came to the attention through a report that stones were moved along an ancient trail without permit. This report could not be substantiated.
    - d. The land is designated "Condition 4" of the Planned Unit Development.
      - i. Condition 4 stipulates that the owner must work with Na Ala Hele.
      - ii. Unless there is a Judgment the condition 4 does not pass on to the next owner.
  2. Item 9 Kalahiki – Kauhako trail.
    - a. Na Ala Hele was hoping to get funding from CIP for trail surveys.
      - i. Funding was hoping to come from Ala Kahakai Trail Association (Dr. Foti).
  3. Item C Foti Alae Subdivision (status inactive)
    - a. ATA recently working with Hawaii Island Land Trust with the intent to sell Makai parcel to the trust for conservation.
- vi. Clement Chang Update
  1. Item 12 Kaulana Manu Sanctuary (a.k.a. Kipuka 21).

- a. Met last week with engineering (DLNR) on site.
  - b. DLNR initiating search for a builder.
  - c. Financing for first phase does not expire until June 2016.
  - d. Question by Deborah regarding any plan to preserve or control public in the area.
2. Item 32 Waipi'o Valley
- a. Talked to Tracy Tam Sing (State Historic Preservation Division of DLNR, State Parks).
  - b. Tracy has recorded all the trails and will be monitoring this project.
  - c. Owner is approved for a single family (multiple structure) however State Historic Preservation Division has told Tracy that nothing will move forward for the next year.
  - d. Project is located below the Muliwai trail switchback.
- d. Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail Update by Rick Gmirkin
- i. Ongoing cleanup of January/February high surf coastal damage. ALKA working with other NP
    - 1. Pu`uhonua O Hōnaunau corner section of great wall collapsed.
    - 2. Kaloko-Honokōhau coastal trail.
  - ii. ALKA crew will be going to Kalaupapa on and off for about 3 months in August of 2015.
  - iii. Working on compliance/signage for South Kohala sections such as 49 Blacksand.
- e. Na Ala Hele Update by Clement Chang
- i. Pu'u Wa'awa'a Recreational Trails Planning
    - 1. Spoke to Elliott Parsons, Pu'u Wa'awa'a advisory.
      - a. They were hoping to open up some trails and created a sub-committee for this purpose.
      - b. DLNR, Na Ala Hele has reminded them of the proper procedures and DLNR needs to be consulted with.
      - c. Clem to pursue their draft plan for NAH review.
      - d. Mountain Biking community is interested in gaining access to the Mauka – Makai trail below the highway.
  - ii. TMK: 2-8-003:001, David Penn working on public access
    - 1. Pepeekeo, Kaupakuea Homestead Rd
    - 2. Access falls short of the forest reserve.
    - 3. David is working with Finance Factors and DOFAW.
    - 4. Property is on the market. Hakalau NWRS looking at purchasing.
  - iii. Waimanu maintenance in February

1. Fixed up last camp grounds.
2. Changed signage at the beach
3. Next trip is scheduled in May
  - a. Trail maintenance,
  - b. Campground maintenance
- iv. Ainapo is still closed due to bad weather.
  1. Two attempts in April were canceled
  2. Next attempt to access is scheduled for May 26 & 27.
- v. Mauna Kea access Closures
  1. May 20-21, 2015
  2. June 24-25, 2015
  3. July 28-29, 2015
- vi. Mau'umae improvements on the trail. Working with land owner on the point regarding private property signage.
- vii. Pololu valley trail improvements
  1. Adding or improving natural steps at steep sections of trail.
  2. Signage
- viii. Puna trail
  1. Trail is Closed
  2. Initial cleanup to remove fallen trees from hurricane is complete.
  3. Smaller vegetation that has since grown up is currently being removed since last week.
  4. Future projects that were put on hold involving volunteers will follow.
  5. Deborah to reach out to E Mau Na Ala Hele non-profit whom she is involved with, to organize and conduct volunteer minor trail maintenance.
- f. Discuss Council Member Concerns
  - i. Kawehi Ryder
    1. Seeking information on obtaining a permit to do repair work on the Helohi fish pond between Koloa beach and Kāwā Beach. He is working with kids through the Salvation Army
    2. Looking for information on any trails between Koloa and Kāwā beach area.
      - a. Wants to identify trails that run makai to the base of Mauna Loa.
      - b. Incorporate this into his work with the kids.
    3. Suggestions: John Cross with Olson Trust, John Raplogle with Historic Preservation, Ala Kaha Kai, Clement Chang with Na Ala Hele.
  - ii. Deborah Chang commented on recent news reports of people dying or injuring themselves while accessing restricted areas that are popularized in both social media and travel publications.
    1. News media does not seem to emphasize the problem with social media and publications leading people astray.

2. Shared news article that touched on this subject.
  3. Shared S.B. 1007 extend coverage and make permanent liability protections for warning signs for outdoor recreation on public lands by amending Act 82. Key points include
    - a. A sign or signs warning of dangerous natural conditions on improved public lands or of dangerous non-natural conditions on unimproved public lands shall be conclusively presumed to be legally adequate.
    - b. The State or a county shall have no duty to warn of dangerous natural conditions on unimproved public lands.
    - c. If a warning sign, device, or system is posted or established in accordance with this section on unimproved public lands [;] warning of dangerous natural conditions, the posting or establishment of the warning sign, device, or system shall not create a duty on the part of the State or county to warn of other dangerous natural conditions on unimproved public lands.
  4. Clement to share this issue with Dan Dennison of DLNR the concern that the news media is not properly clarifying/disclosing that these areas are closed to public access.
- iii. Riley Smith
1. Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Commission
    - a. It be beneficial to NAH to know the priority list of lands they are considering to recommend to the administration for acquisition.
    - b. NAH would like to understand the process and possible share with the commission its concerns or wishes.
    - c. Commission information is found at <http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/finance-property-management/>
  2. With Nelson Ayers pending retirement are the questions or priorities we need him to address?
    - a. Retiring in December 2015.
    - b. Budgetary knowledge.
    - c. What is the status of Clement Chang assistant? The candidates have been narrowed down to 4 people.

V. New Business

- a. State wide meeting July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015 in Hilo. All members are invited.

b. Next Meeting agenda

- i. Clement to try get someone from the Waimea DOCARE office to attend and speak.
  - 1. Would like to know from the DOCARE or Waimea Hunters education office how many people acquire hunters safety cards but are not hunters.
- ii. Information/Update: Tracking Tool (Deborah)
- iii. Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail Update (Rick)
- iv. Na Ala Hele Update (Clement)
- v. Discuss Council Members Concerns
- vi. Prepare draft for state wide meeting in July

VI. Next meeting date June 24<sup>th</sup> 2015 6:00 PM in Waimea

VII. Adjournment

- a. Deborah motion to adjourn
- b. Mike second
- c. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM

**Na Ala Hele  
Hawaii Island Advisory Council**

**Rules: Public Testimony and Presentations  
(approved at 5/22/13 meeting)**

**I. Public Testimony:**

- a. Those providing testimony at our meetings are guests of our Council. They are not Council members. They are invited to provide testimony. However, they do not have the right to question us, participate in our meeting, nor dialogue as we discuss our agenda.
- b. Shall be limited to 3 minutes, for each person.
- c. Written copies of testimony should be provided and included in the Minutes of meeting.
- d. Oral testimony must be provided in person.
- e. Testimony for a person that is not present can be turned into the Secretary for inclusion within the Minutes. It cannot be read at the meetings, as we will not have the opportunity to question the author. Electronic submittal of testimony will be allowed if provided to DOFAW 12 calendar days prior to meeting date. Otherwise, hard copies may be distributed at meeting.
- f. If testimony is being provided on behalf of an organization, it is required that the Board of Directors of the organization or a majority of the members of the organization must have voted in favor of the testimony. If this has not occurred, then it must be considered as solely the opinion of the person providing the testimony.

**II. Agendized presentations to the Council:**

- a. Time allowed for presentations is 10 minutes.
- b. It is likely that the Council will ask questions after the presentation is made. This Q&A period may continue for 10 – 15 minutes, at the discretion of the Chair of the Council.

**r5/22/13**