

## **Na Ala Hele (NAH) Maui Advisory Council**

### **Minutes of September 16, 2015**

Present: Russell Reinertson, Tom Cannon, Kevin Jenkins, Donna Clayton, David Brown, Nick Saussy, Bruce Faulkner

Absent: Sue Guille, Bob Hobdy

Ex-Officio: Torrie Nohara

Guests: Jordan Jokiel, Haleakala Ranch Rep.; Adam Lottig

#### Call to Order, Public Notice, Quorum

Russell called the meeting to order. Public notice was posted and quorum was met.

#### Review of Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2015

The August 19 minutes were approved with the following corrections:

Under Staff Reports, correct Jon Hoopii to Joseph Han.

Under NAH Specialist, item 1, correct Wahiwa to Wahiawa.

Under NAH Specialist, item 2, correct Mendez to Mendes.

Under Old Business, item 1, correct Herra to Hera.

Under Old Business, item 6, correct Mr. Ayala to Mr. Aila.

Under Old Business, item 7, add Russell to the meeting that Tom and Torrie attended with Shane and correct Dematos to DeMattos. Also, in this item revise to say the safety zone above the Hoapili Trail is planned to protect native resources.

#### NAH Staff Reports:

Trails and Access Technician:

Volunteer/Intern Update: Ka'eo Corpuz has joined the Na Ala Hele program as an AmeriCorps intern and has completed 176 hours since joining the crew on August 17, 2015. He has been a big help to the program and we look forward to working with him during his term with us. Our previous intern, John Ho'opi'i, through his hard work, was lucky to get hired as a Forestry Worker II emergency hire.

The Na Ala Hele trail crew has additional crewmembers Kaina Ryan (RCUH employee), Duke Kuhia (Forestry Worker II emergency hire), and Fernando Pagampao (Forestry

Worker II). They have shown that they enjoy the hard work, love to hike and be outdoors. The crew is very grateful to have extra hands on board. The Na Ala Hele trail crew now has a full staff which includes 6 crewmembers.

The last week of July to the first week of August the crew spent time cutting and removing trees off both east and west loop trails as well as installing signs and brushing areas where it was needed in the Kahakapao Recreational Area. From mid-August to the first few weeks of September the crew completed daily trail maintenance jobs, which included weed eating trails such as the Pali Trail, Waihee Ridge Trail, Mamane Trail, Upper Waiohuli Trail and Waikamoi Trail where a hazard tree also had to be removed.

Looking ahead towards the end of the month of September, Na Ala Hele crewmembers will attend a 3-5 day training course on Maui which will go over basic operation of a mini trail dozer. We are also preparing for the arrival of the Forest Service Trails Unlimited Crew the last week of September. They will remain here until the end of October to continue working on Waiakoa Trails. Na Ala Hele crewmembers will be assisting the Trails Unlimited Crew for most of the month of October when they are needed.

Contractor's Report for Kahakapao Forest Reserve:

Adam Lottig reported in August Flow Farm completed 35 hours of trail inspection, maintenance and tree work. The whole system was inspected along with each PBR feature. The features are still holding up well. There were 2 large trees down on West Loop and Ravine Trail. The tree on West Loop was removed and the tree on Ravine still needs to be removed. There is some thick grass impeding the trail in the upper section of the Flow Trail that will need weed wacked soon.

We removed 6 small trees on Renegade Trail that were riding hazards along with removing some exposed roots and reshaping 3 turns along the steep part of the lower section of Renegade. We also did some raking and clearing of brush in the adjacent section of the West Loop Trail.

On the lower section of the Flow Trail, we reshaped 2 berm turns that were on the Bike Club's list of features to be improved.

NAH Specialist:

Torrie reported the budget work is proceeding normally and she is waiting for final budget figures.

Torrie circulated early drafts of the CIP project proposals but reminded the council these are not final.

Two new Forestry and Wildlife workers have been approved and Torrie is waiting on their start dates.

### Old Business:

1. Proposed New Trail from Maalaea to Honolua Update: Donna expects to hear next week if the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program will take on this trail as a project. The latest word is that the project is looking good for acceptance.
2. Kula State Forest Reserve Update: The Trails Unlimited crew will arrive Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> to work on the Waiakoa Loop Trail and Upper Waiohuli Trail. Russell said the bike group would like them to finish the improvements or at least finish the impassable areas. Tom Armstrong of the bike group plans to flag the preferred work areas. Torrie suggested a meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the work with Trails Unlimited before work begins and will confirm with the bike group shortly. The bike group members plan to volunteer to work with the Trails Unlimited crew.
3. Nakula Potential Access Routes: Bruce has drafted a letter to the new director, Suzanne Case, and will email it out to the Maui Council for comment. Russell reported the Maui Forestry Recovery program just planted their 25,000<sup>th</sup> tree in the area.
4. Waia'ilio Trail Potential: As fencing is being discussed in the area, Tom requested that gates mauka and makai be included in the plan. Torrie said there will be an opportunity to comment on the EA in the future.
5. Maui Motocross Adjacent Parcel: Nick reported the County Parks Dept. is concerned with an agricultural access road, owned by HC&S, shown on the map and is currently in favor of allowing the additional parcel area only up to this road. He is hoping to set up a site visit and was encouraged to contact HC&S to discuss the road with them. On a separate note, racing starts September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Park.
6. State Land Parcels: Nothing new.

### New Business:

1. Suggestions for new Na Ala Hele trails: Nothing new.
2. Kevin expressed concern about the costly fire department rescues using helicopters. Many are not on state land but the rescues cost the public a lot. Tom mentioned insurance for recreational use is used in Colorado to help with this and might be worth looking into in Hawaii. Kevin also is concerned with the fire in Kanaha Pond likely caused by the nearby homeless and suggested policing by the responsible entity is needed. John Medeiros watches over Kanaha Pond now and Torrie will discuss this with John.

3. Agenda Items for next meeting:

- a. Add Adam Lottig's report under Staff Reports on Kahakapao Recreational Area.
  - b. Add Insurance for Recreational Use Rescue Costs
4. Date of next meeting: October 28, 2015 at 2pm, at The Millhouse at the Tropical Plantation – 1670 Honoapiilani Highway, Waikapu

Public Testimony on All Agenda Items:

Adjournment at 3:30 pm