

Kāneʻohe Bay Regional Council Meeting
Agenda
January 18, 2023
6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Online or call-in via ZOOM
(Zoom info listed below)

or

In-person at:
The Key Project, RM 105
47-200 Waihee Rd, Kaneohe, HI 96744

1. Opening (Non-Action Item)

Brian Neilson – DLNR DAR, Chair (non-voting member)
Fred Reppun – HIMB Representative, Heʻeia NERR (voting member)
Clifford Loo – Kahaluʻu Neighborhood Board Representative (voting member)
Liko Kaluhiwa – Kāneʻohe Bay Recreational Boating Association (voting member)
Sylvia Hussey - OHA (voting member)
Elena Bryant – Kāneʻohe Neighborhood Board Representative (voting member)
Cedric Bertelmann- Kāneʻohe Bay Fishing Panel (voting member)
Kirk Deitschman – DLNR DOCARE
Rocky Kaluhiwa
Mo Radke
Rallen Caya
Shaggy
Casey Ching – Heʻeia NERR
Josh Hekekie – Office of Planning
Mike Scott
Juanito Dasigo

2. Meeting ground rules (Non-Action Item)

Chair Neilson reviewed ground rules for the meeting including that voting members will be given the chance to comment first then the public, the “raise hand” tool in zoom should be used, use of the chat feature should be kept to a minimum, participants should not speak without being called on, and the discussion of agenda items should remain respectful.

3. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Member Hussey moved to approve the agenda. Member Bryant seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

4. Approval of Council minutes of the November 15, 2022 meetings (Action Item)

Member Hussey moved to approve the minutes. Member Loo seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

5. Update from the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to evaluate and make recommendations to the Council regarding commercial activity in Kāneʻohe Bay (Non-Action Item)

Member Bryant shared that the council was unable to find a time to meet regarding the information received from DOBOR about current permit holders in Kāneʻohe Bay. However, they did receive additional information from DOBOR since the previous request. More than 3 council members are

interested, so the meeting will need to be publicly noticed once a date and time is set for the meeting. She requested the council set the meeting at this time.

Information that was not provided to Member Bryant but is of interest to the PIG includes limitations to the areas that commercial operators can operate. Information that was provided includes vessel information, operators, activities allowed, and capacity. Hours of operation allowed for these activities is also of interest.

Member Reppun suggested incorporating the original list of permits in place from 1992 to the information request to track the change in permits from then to now. Information would include the date the original permit was issued and the permit number or identifier associated with each permit. Member Reppun also suggested requesting the capacity of each permit, including number of vessels, people, etc.

Member Loo suggested we count how many permits are currently in existence, considering there are more permits now, but the number of licenses was supposed to decrease over time.

The council set the date for the PIG meeting to be Thursday, February 9th at 6pm with public notice due to interest from over 3 members. Chair Neilson volunteered as DAR to handle the public notice. .

Shaggy responded to inquiries about the permits sharing the permit determines what area each activity operates in. In addition, they cannot operate on Saturdays and Sundays, but he has witnessed a commercial operator on a Sunday. In a previous meeting, DOBOR shared that 10-12 permits existed, which is more than before due to the loophole of buying businesses to transfer permits. He also shared the list of original permit holders can be found in the 1992 Kāneʻohe Bay Master Plan.

6. Update from the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to update the Kāneʻohe Bay Master Plan (Non-Action Item)

Mo Radke shared in the chat the draft copies produced by some committees established for the Master Plan update. There is information that needs to be updated for the groups to move forward. Member Reppun elaborated that the information they need is likely with different city and state agencies, but not accessible to KBRC. In addition, KBRC lacks the time to reach out to these agencies with these requests. Mo Radke suggested prioritizing the critical issues and requesting them one by one. Chair Neilson suggested writing a formal letter to ensure it gets done. Member Reppun volunteered to prioritize the information request list from the environmental committee and share it with Chair Neilson to distribute to the council.

Mo Radke shared that he submitted a recommendation based on the cultural committee discussions for the Master Plan update and would be happy to incorporate any feedback from the group.

Shaggy inquired if master plan meetings are still happening. Mo Radke responded that it depends on the leads of each of the committee, but most of the leads have been busy. Member Bryant added that she is also in the committee that Shaggy is part of, was present at the last meeting he attended, and has not attended or heard of any meeting thereafter.

Aunty Rocky Kaluhiwa voiced support for Mo Radke's recommendation to incorporate the cultural significance of Kāneʻohe Bay into the master plan. She added that HIMB hosted 90 professors from around the world for a 3 month study and found 300 undocumented species found nowhere else. These are the conversations we need to have and learn how to protect the resources. Member Reppun and Chair

Neilson elaborated that it was a BioBlitz at HIMB under the Smithsonian where Mary Hagedorn hosted them to identify as many species as they could within a short period of time.

7. Public Comment (Non-Action Item)

Member Reppun shared that HIMB is undergoing a strategic planning process, led by Eleanor Sterling, and a few council members have provided input as community members. Once the process is complete, he will give the council an update about current research and overall engagement with HIMB.

Chair Neilson shared that DLNR has a new chair appointed by Governor Green, Dawn Chang. She still needs to be confirmed by the Senate, but is also a resident of Kāneʻohe. Chair Neilson will reach out to her about attending the next meeting.

Member Loo asked how many positions are expiring with the new year. Chair Neilson shared that the HIMB seat expires in June, but everyone else is good to 2024, 2025, or 2026. Sylvia Hussey and Joe Pickard will be confirmed this legislative session.

8. Suggestions of future agenda items (Non-Action Item)

Chair Neilson suggested the new Chair of DLNR join for questions.

Aunty Rocky Kaluhiwa shared that visitors have been inconsiderate parking at the pier, taking up the whole lane and leaving the tongue of their trailers out. This creates crowding and poses a potential danger for emergency vehicles. Chair Neilson noted that an agenda item for outreach about boaters leaving their tongues extended in the parking lot will be added to the next meeting.

Shaggy suggested a discussion about fixing the pier, where some cleats and tires look like they will fall off or the wood is coming loose. Member Reppun suggested asking Tanya Borabora, Heʻeia Harbor Master, to attend the next meeting. Chair Neilson volunteered to reach out to DOBOR to answer questions about parking, pier maintenance, and repair issues at the next meeting.

Kristi Kaluhiwa added that commercial operators are supposed to turn in daily logs of information about their operations including how many passengers, how much fuel they've used, sewage spills, pumping, incidents on the water, etc. as stated in the master plan. The reports are supposed to be submitted on a weekly basis. She requested we receive the report over the last two months.

Mike Scott suggested upgrading the pier with a fuel dock since there is no place to fill up except for the base and it could be an environmental hazard to dump through funnels. Rallen Caya replied that the deli will bring in a truck to fill up, gas and diesel.

Shaggy asked if the wash bays can be addressed since spigots have been taken off and people are bringing their own splitters which slow down the process. Chair Neilson volunteered to reach out to DOBOR to attend the next full meeting, following the February 9th meeting.

9. Scheduling of next Council meeting (Non-Action Item)

Council decided that Wednesday, March 1, 2023 would be the next full KBRC Meeting.

10. Adjournment (Action Item)

Member Reppun moved to adjourn. Member Hussey seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.