

Nā Ala Hele (NAH) Maui Advisory Council

Minutes of April 30, 2025 - 1:00pm

DLNR Baseyard Kahului, Maui, Hawaii

Present: Sue Guille, Mark Short, John Meier, Dave Brown, Tom Cannon, Russell Reinertson,

Absent: Kevin Jenkins

Ex-Officio: Stephanie Franklin, NAH

Special Guests: Graham Smith, Terry Quisenberry, Justin Varaljay, Nick Saussy

Call to Order: Russell called the meeting to order at 1:05pm. Public notice was posted. Quorum was met. After review, the February 19, 2025 Draft minutes were approved without change.

Staff Report: Stephanie reported that many staffing changes are occurring throughout the Na Ala Hele Program, including Maui. A new Trail Specialist will start mid-May, focusing on administrative responsibilities. There are also Trail Tech and Worker II positions opening, some of which will be filled with interns. The field crew has continued working on repairing damage in the Kula Forest, which reopens 5/1/25. Upper Waiohuli and Mamane Trails are still being worked on. Over the next few months, the trail crew will be undergoing both Wildland Firefighting and trail building training. Justin of Flow Farm Pacific reported that MMBC and Sierra Club continue hosting monthly volunteer days at Kahakapao. Nick Saussy, representing Maui Motorcross, reported that they are busier than ever, with 303 riders over a 2.5 day period. Secure access to water for the track remains an issue, but he is hopeful an agreement can be reached with Goodfellow Bros.

Old Business:

1. Kamehamenui Forest Reserve - Still waiting for the Draft EA. The Draft Master Plan was expected to be released to the public in Mid-May but last minute changes have come in. It may not come out until the end of summer. Phase I fencing is almost completed , and aerial eradication has begun. Crews have begun removing invasive pines and Black Wattle in preparation for replanting native trees.

2. Onau Trail – No new update.

3. Waia'ilio Trail – No New Update

4. Ho'olawa Bay – The legal case is still pending. A survey of the trail has been completed for the AG.

5. Nā Ala Hele Program Plan – There will be a virtual open house on May 21.

6. Keʻanae Arboretum extension - Still searching for the historic trail. Hunters have created a network of trails in the area. Due to budget constraints, there is not a big push to make this a Program trail at this time.

7. Applicants for vacant council member positions – No votes were received. Stephanie asked that each council member email her a list of 9 people from the 11 people currently serving on or interested in serving on the Advisory council. Current members include Sue Guille, Mark Short, John Meier, Dave Brown, Tom Cannon, Russell Reinertson, and Kevin Jenkins. Prospective council members are Graham Smith, Terry Quisenberry, Nick Saussy, and Richard Donovan. Also indicate your interest in serving as Chair/Vice Chair/ and Secretary. Stephanie will tally the votes and make a list with her recommendations to Scott Fretz. The NAH chairperson will make the final selection.

New Business: The Koʻolau Interim Management Plan received little feedback. Hiking access is open on Koolau Forest Reserve access roads, including Wailua Ike Rd, Lupe Road, Piinau Rd. The state Legacy Land Conservation group has selected land along Nahiku Stream, makai of the highway, for acquisition.

Date of next meeting: July 23, 2025, 1pm

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm