Hawai‘i Island Burial Council
Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday March 16, 2017
TIME: 09:39 am to 11:08 am
PLACE: DLNR-Forestry & Wildlife
Conference Room
19 East Kawili Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

HIBC MEMBERS: Nalei Kahakalau, Hamakua Representative
Kalena Blakemore, Puna Representative
Maxine Kahaulelio, Kona Representative
Fred Cachola, Kohala Representative
Kea Calpito, Hilo Representative
Norman Kaimuloa, Landowner

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Gail Makuakane-Lundin, Hilo Representative, Excused
Terry Lei Napeahi, Landowner, Unexcused
Keiki‘aloha Kekipi, Puna Representative, Excused

SHPD STAFF: Kauanoe Hoomanawanui, Burial Sites Specialists
Sean Naleimaile, Hawaii Island Archeologist
Amy Rubingh, Hawaii Island Lead Archeologist

GUESTS: Kaleo Kuali‘i, PCSA-Hokulia Project
Mike Vitousek, Hokulia Project
Jimmy Medeiros, Descendant for Hokulia Project
Glenn Escott, SCS Archeologist
Alan Haun, Haun & Associates
   Michael D. Reihm, Architect
   Greg Chun, Kamehameha Investment Coorperation

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Nalei Kahakalau called the meeting to order at 09:29am.

II. ROLL CALL/PULE:

Hamakua District Representative Nalei Kahakalau gave pule.
III. MINUTES

A. August 20, 2015
B. September 17, 2015
C. January 21, 2016
D. April 21, 2016
E. May 18, 2016
F. July 21, 2016
G. August 18, 2016
H. November 17, 2016

This item was deferred following further recovery efforts as it was observed that no machine was recording the meetings, batteries were not available for the recorder. Sometimes, no equipment for recording was observed stated the Chairperson.

IV. BUSINESS

A. Proposed Erosion Control Measures at Burial Site SIHP 50-10-37-21818 at Onouli Ahupua’a, South Kona District, Island of Hawaii, TMK (3) 8-1-004:087.

Information/Discussion/Recommendations: Discussion and recommendation on the proposed burial treatment plan. Presented by Parks & Cultural Sites Association of Hokulia, Inc.

Mike Vitousek of Hokulia, Inc. introduced himself along with Oceanside PCSA Cultural Liaison in their consultation efforts with recognized descendants. Consensus among descendants is to bring rock in and put soil atop the burial site. However, there is ongoing dispute on the type of rock to install within the layers of the surface above the burial site. Gordon Leslie believes the stone should be locally used from near or around the area. Jimmy Medeiros would like to traditionally use ili’ili stone as the top layer above the soil layer. Cultural burial practices of the area resemble the use of ili’ili as the top layer and the layers beneath sometimes include coral and local cobble size stones for the foundation. Stone sources were known to come from neighboring Ahupua’a as the family extended into other areas with different natural resources. Chair Kahakalau clarifies the only pilikia is the sources of rocks and Mr. Medeiros answers the contractor to implement the treatment is of question as well. Geographic Representative Norman Kaimuloa recommends the layer be at least one feet, with one area deeper than the other. Descendant Medeiros replies however the terrain sets we would like to incorporate the right rock source to secure the burial site. Kohala Representative Fred Cachola congratulates both Hokulia Development and the descendants for coming forward. Working together to take care of the iwi kupuna, it is common to have ili’ili on the graves. Look at the Royal Mausoleum in Nu’uanu it is beautifully lined with different types of stone for the whole burial. Hoomanawanui adds the parents and grandparents of our last kings and queens lived and died in the area project area of Hokulia. Kona Geographic Representative Maxine Kahaulelio shares the power of pule and ask Ke Akua and the Ancestors what they would like at the grave site. Puna Representative Kalena Blakemore emphasizes agreement with the other council member’s recommendations. I’m sure everyone is doing their Pule and we agree with uncle and get the ili’ili from the local source. And if not you can go out and gather from a nearby source to build a solid burial site. Kaleo Kuali’i includes the participation and acknowledgement of the recognized descendant’s consultation. We send out letters in search or responses regarding the treatment to the burial site. Hoomanawanui recommends that the information gathered from the HIBC should be taken to the recognized descendants for further discussion. Unknow cultural practices may have been missed as there are burial practices for the Mo’i that include the top layer of ili’ili and layers below to allow for the upmost protection and preservation. Hilo Geographic Representative Kea Calpito clarifies the length and width of this burial site is rather large. To have enough ili’ili to encompass the entire top layer may be unpractical. Local sourcing of stones in various sizes maybe mixed to support the top ili’ili layer. Chairperson gives Mahalo to those whom came out on behalf of the Hokulia Project and Iwi Kupuna, travel safe. Please come back following your consultation with the descendants.

Information/Discussion/Determination: Discussion and determination whether to preserve in place or relocate human skeletal remains. Discussion and recommendation to the SHPD on the proposed burial treatment plan. Presented by Scientific Consultant Services Inc.

Mike Vitousek introduced himself and were here in August. I have Glenn Escott from the SCS Archeological firm contracted for the work on this burial site with notes to explain. Escott continues, cultural descendants and Hokulia representatives discussed a few recommendations which are now included in the most updated draft today.

Kohala Geographic Representative Fred Cachola moved and Puna Geographic Representative Kalena Blakemore seconded motion to preserve in place the burial sites stated above.

Chairman Kahakalau opens the floor for discussions.

Motion approved unanimously.

Hilo Geographic Representative Kea Calpito moved and Kona Geographic Representative Norman Kaimuloa seconded motion recommending SHPD approval of the proposed burial treatment plan.

Chairman Kahakalau opens the floor for discussions.

Motion approved unanimously.


Information/Discussion/Determination: Discussion and determination whether to preserve in place or relocate human skeletal remains. Discussion and recommendation to the SHPD on the proposed burial treatment plan. Presented by Haun & Associates.

Alan Haun from Haun & Associates introduced himself along with Mike Reihm, the architect for this project. We came to you folks last November and we addressed every issue that was raised previously. Offering copies of amendments to the plan with additional information on the revised maps. There was a large issue of access with the existing twenty-foot buffer with the ten-foot setback. In addition, LOT 61 was another large issue as the burial site needed additional support up to five feet. We request to put an interpretive sign somewhere informing the residence of the historical and burial sites in the area. Clarence Medeiros requests consultation however with no reply. Chair Kahakalau gave Mahalo to Mr. Haun for providing the informational packet. Kona Geographic Representative Kahaulelio shared the burial site area needs to be acknowledged. Kona Geographic Representative Kaimuloa recommends LOT 61 should not be developed. It should be a landscaped park with trees. Is there any reason why LOT 61 needs to be built, explains Chair? Mike says it’s the developers interest. Hoomanawanui states its common to have preserve lots within subdivision for such circumstances. Mike states we do have an area mauka of these areas of burials that is designated to open spaces. Kahaulelio exalts we can utilize LOT 61 as a preserve lot and leave the burials in place with the optimal protection and preservation. Mike and Haun agree that the preservation may be feasible allowing for larger lots nearby making LOT 61 only a burial site in perpetuity of preservation. I believe it’s reasonable and will approach the developer and come with an update at the next upcoming meeting.

Puna Geographic Representative Kalena Blakemore moved and Kona Geographic Representative Maxine Kahakalau seconded motion to preserve in place the burial sites stated above.

Chairman Kahakalau opens the floor for discussions.
Motion approved unanimously.

V. INADVERTENT DISCOVERIES/OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

A. Inadvertent Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains at the Shoreline of Old Kona Airport, North Kona District, Island of Hawaii, TMK: (3) 7-5-05:083. Discussion on the above find.

State Parks Archeologist Tracy Tam-Sing notified Hoomanawanui at SHPD and recognized descendant was simultaneously consulted. DOCARE was onsite and met with recognized descendant and Tam-Sing where the remains were recovered and scheduled for reburial onsite.

B. Inadvertent Discovery of Human Skeletal Remains at Kohanaiki Ahupua’a, North Kona District, Island of Hawaii, TMK (3) 7-3-007:046. Discussion on the above find.

Hawaii Archeologist Sean Naleimaile responded to a call from DOCARE regarding a violation as historic sites and burials were impacted during illegal grading and grubbing at the above parcel. Consultation extended to the Recognized Descendants to Kohanaiki Ahupua’a where discussions occurred for interim protection. Hawaii Lead Archeologists Amy Rubingh met with the descendants and will keep in contact with them for when they are ready to implement treatment. An ongoing violation investigation is being conducted on behalf of the disturbed burial and archeological sites against the landowner. Any update will be forthcoming. The remains are preserved in place determined by our geographic representatives and SHPD.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENT

A. Next Meeting Scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2017

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to §92-3 HRS, all interested persons shall be afforded an opportunity to present oral testimony or submit data, views, or arguments, in writing on any agenda item. Additionally, pursuant to a policy adopted by the Oahu Island Burial Council at its September 14, 2005 meeting, oral testimony for items listed on the agenda is limited to three minutes per person, per agenda item.

Pursuant to sections §92-4, §92-5(a)(8), and §6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and upon compliance with the procedures set forth in section 92-4, HRS, the council may go into a closed meeting to consider information that involves the location or description of a burial site.

A request to be placed on a burial council meeting agenda must be made with the Burial Sites Program staff at least two weeks preceding the scheduled meeting date. In addition, the request must be accompanied by all related documents. Failure to comply with this procedure will delay the item to the following month’s agenda.

Materials related to items on the agenda are available for review at the State Historic Preservation Division in room 555 of the Kakahiwa Building located at 601 Kamokila Boulevard, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707. Persons with disabilities requiring special assistance should contact the division in advance at (808) 692-8015.