

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

### **Minutes of November 16, 2016**

Present: Russell Reinertson, Tom Cannon, Donna Clayton, Sue Guille, David Brown, Nick Saussy, Kevin Jenkins

Absent: Bruce Faulkner, Bob Hobby

Ex-Officio: Torrie Nohara

Guests: Jordan Jokiel/Haleakala Ranch, Ken Schmidt/Hike Maui, Rob Weltman/Sierra Club, Tom Morris, Mike Perez

#### 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 September 21, 2016

The September 21, 2016 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

#### NAH Staff Reports:

Trails and Access Technician: Jon Han

Volunteer/Intern Update: Joshua Pinheiro completed his 900-hour internship with MEO AmeriCorps on October 31, 2016. Immediately following his completion, he was able to start a one-year internship thru KUPU, which is another internship program. Mykah Bailey has a total of 882 service hours and is expected to finish on November 14, 2016. The Na Ala Hele (NAH) trail crew is very thankful for these two young gentlemen for all the hard work they have done.

The week of September 19<sup>th</sup>, the crew spent the week working on a portion of the Waiakoa Loop Trail which received damage from heavy rains. Work completed included fixing washed out drainages and also working on areas where the trail tread received damage. The presence of cattle was also noticed during that week in the area and the forestry staff was notified. For the next few weeks the crew worked on the new Waihee Ridge Trail parking area. Work completed included installing a gate to prevent unauthorized vehicles up the cement path, making a walk through pass where hikers can get through but the cattle cannot due to the parking area bordering the ranch. A water trough for the cattle had to be relocated and clearing of trees and grass on the downside of the parking lot was also completed with the hope that it will deter criminal activity once the new parking area is open. The week of October 17<sup>th</sup>, the crew spent time removing trees that fell on the trail at Kahakapao Recreational Area as well as cutting back the palm grass on Pineapple Express flow track and brushing back

vegetation on the East/West Loop Trail. During the same week, weed whacking maintenance on the Lahaina Pali Trail was also completed. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, two members from the Na Ala Hele staff joined with Russell Reinertson from the NAH Maui Advisory Council and flew out to Kanaio by helicopter to try and locate the Waia'ilio Trail. An aerial recon was done as well as a ground survey. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate the trail and are hoping to schedule another trip in the near future. The NAH staff would like to thank Russell for coming out on his free time to help staff members with locating the trail on short notice.

Looking ahead, the crews are planning on installing a couple more tables at the Kahakapao Recreational Area as well as a table at Waihou Springs. The crew will also be preparing for the Waihee Ridge Trail project.

FLOW FARM PACIFIC – Kahakapao Report - Adam Lottig: Adam and Justin have just returned from their Brazil forestry and trail building trip. They did have a chance to check out the Kahakapao trails and saw the work done by the Maui Mountain Biking group. The lower section needs work and they will work on that for the next two weeks. Inspection of all features was completed as normally scheduled.

NAH Specialist:

- Torrie distributed copies of the RTP budget and coding string.
- The draft environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Hoku Nui Maui was withdrawn and a new sustainable agricultural community is planned instead which will not require an EA.
- The World Trails Conference in Tottori, Japan was amazing. Torrie met interesting dignitaries and athletes and heard discussions on the connection between trails and health.

Old Business:

1. West Maui Greenway Update: Donna reported that the revised proposed phase I location may not work as the train owners are starting up a holiday rail ride in that location. She submitted a proposal to the Hawaii Tourism Authority for funding for the first annual, "Love the West Maui Greenway Day" and expects to hear by the end of November if the project will receive funding help.
2. Nakula Potential Access Routes: Nothing new.
3. Waia'ilio Trail Complex: In addition to the information in Jon Han's report above, Torrie thanked Russell for filling in when Tom could not go on the field trip. She circulated a GPS map of their site work and Russell circulated photos showing the likely trail route located in some areas. On his 11-mile hike, Russell located a 4-way trail intersection that split off into multi-use trails. Due to a big bull in the

area, Russell had to detour and ended up at Bully's Burger Stand where he met interesting folks who would like the area left alone. Russell feels the area deserves more exploration and a future trip will be scheduled with hopefully Tom, Torrie and Russell.

4. Maui Motocross Adjacent Parcel: Nick has not heard back from A&B on the potential to relocate Maui Motocross to a larger and better location on HC&S lands. He continues to work on a long-term lease with the County and with funds available to the park he will spruce up the track and focus on the kids. There is a race every other week end until the end of the year and the state race will be in February.
5. Waihee Ridge Trail: Torrie reported that in addition to the comments in Jon Han's report above, the EA responses have all been responded to and the final EA should be published November 28. She plans to begin the work January 3 and will try to keep the trail open during repairs as much as possible as it is one of Maui's most popular trails.
6. Access to Recreational Area and Forest Reserve: Nothing New. This item can be removed from the agenda.
7. Makena to Ulupalakua Trail: No report yet from Moana Rowland.
8. Hoapili Trail: Kevin asked Torrie to check with Scott Fretz on what his plans are for this trail. Management by Wildlife is moving forward and more people will be using the trail.
9. A&B Lands: Torrie shared a map plan for the proposed uses for the HC&S lands formerly planted in sugar cane. She will email the map to all. Sue will check with Mayor Arakawa for an update on the use of these lands following recent meetings. David reported that [publicaccesstrailshawaii.org](http://publicaccesstrailshawaii.org) has maps showing excellent multiuse roads through A&B lands.
10. Haleakala Trail:
  - a. Torrie reported DOFAW is taking the stance that they do not recommend the trail be used until it is improved, marked and resolved of user conflict issues. One of the big expenses would be a survey of the trail. There are no funds available for that now or in the near future. Approximately \$100,000 is available for the 558 trails and money for this work would take money away from other trails. DOFAW is interested in cooperative discussions with user groups such as the Sierra Club who may be interested in leading guided hikes. The trail is preserved now.
  - b. David stated that Public Access Trails Hawaii (PATH) completed a survey of the trail which could be used to mark the trail and help keep trail users on the trail. At times, trail users are found lost off the trail and need to be escorted off the land by Haleakala Ranch employees. The ranch would

like only guided hikes and would work with any group that provides guided hikes, perhaps with a memo of understanding or memo of agreement. David is working to make the Haleakala Trail a national historic trail as a long-term goal. The PATH website has listed the criteria for a state historic trail and for a national historic trail. Until then he feels we should mark the trail and if DLNR cannot pay for the work, PATH could raise the funds. The parking issue could be solved by a nice turn out on ranch land.

- c. Jordan Jokiell asked if NAH Maui Council has an official position on the Haleakala Trail. David provided the council opinion given in July of 2006 in which by majority vote the council asked the Dept. of the Attorney General to reclaim the Haleakala Trail. Jordan could submit a request in writing for a NAH Maui Council official position. Jordan suggested the council read the Trail and Access Evaluation draft form on the NAH website and determine what their official position is.
- d. Rob Weltman, Ken Schmidt, Mike Perry and Tom Morris attended to support the marking and opening of Haleakala Trail.

#### 11. New Business:

- 1. Suggestions for new Na Ala Hele trails: None
- 2. Agenda Items for next meeting: Remove Access to Recreational Area and Forest Reserve. Add CIP Priorities to agenda.
- 3. Date of next meeting: January 18, 2017 at the DLNR Kahului Baseyard conference room.
- 4. Public Testimony on All Agenda Items, Public Comments – Open Forum:
  - a. Kai Nishiki submitted written testimony that the Honokowai to S-Turns public shoreline lateral access is blocked. Torrie responded that shoreline access is not a NAH responsibility.

Adjournment: 4:45 pm