

Na Ala Hele (NAH) Maui Advisory Council

Minutes of April 19, 2017

Present: Russell Reinertson, Tom Cannon, Donna Clayton, David Brown, Kevin Jenkins, Bob Hobdy

Absent: Sue Guille, Nick Saussy

Ex-Officio: Torrie Nohara

Guests: Jordan Jokiel/Haleakala Ranch, Bruce Faulkner, Jimmy Gomes/BLNR

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 March 22, 2017

The March 22, 2017 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

NAH Staff Reports:

Jon Han – Volunteer/Intern Update: Joshua Pinheiro (KUPU Intern) has completed 755 hours out of 1700 hours since he rejoined Na Ala Hele as an intern on Nov. 7, 2016. Mykah Bailey, who completed 900 hours of service last year through MEO, has currently completed 488 hours of his second term of MEO internship. MEO intern Christina Wine has completed 421 of 450 hours and is looking to complete her term at the end of this week. The Na Ala Hele trail crew is very grateful to get the extra help from these three interns.

From the last two weeks of March to the first week of April the crew, along with Cam Lockwood of Trails Unlimited, worked on trail improvements on Waihee Ridge Trail. The improvements included the continuation of laying geotextile and gravel in the beginning of the trail to prevent muddy conditions, widening portions of the trail where needed and installing numerous water control features. From April 11 to April 13 the Na Ala Hele crew, along with other Forestry staff members attended a chainsaw safety course through MCC Edventure Program.

Looking ahead the crews will be busy doing trail improvements on the West Loop Trail at the Kahakapao Recreational Area, fixing a portion on Plum Trail that was damaged from a large tree that was partially uprooted and start work on the newly rerouted portion of the Upper Waiohuli Trail. The crew is also planning to continue working on damaged areas on the Waiakoa Loop Trail, which is mainly near the ditch crossings. The crew is also looking to make improvements to the Waihee Ridge Trail parking lot by constructing either a spillway or culvert near the entrance to prevent runoff from heavy downpours.

NAH Specialist Report -Torrie Nohara –Torrie reminded the Council that with Bruce’s departure, a space is open for a new councilmember. She asked for recommendations and suggested a cultural person. Kevin suggested the University of Hawaii might be a good place to start the research.

Old Business:

1. West Maui Greenway “WVG” Update – Donna reported everything is all set for the Love the West Maui Greenway Day scheduled for Saturday, April 22. The team is hoping for good weather and a good turnout as the event will be evaluated by the County of Maui and Kaiser Permanente to see if they will continue as event sponsors. The County of Maui has not yet started work on the design work funded in the current budget. The greenway team has asked for monthly meetings at the County, which were agreed to but not yet set up. Looks like they will need to set those up. Donna has met with Lehua Simon, a grant writer for a sustainable ag program that received \$300,000 from ArtPlace. Lehua is excited about the greenway and willing to write an ArtPlace grant for the WVG that will include artists in the planning of the greenway.
2. Nakula Potential Access Routes – No report.
3. Waia’ilio Trail Complex – Site visit is scheduled for April 24. The plan is to walk down and take the helicopter up to the top.
4. Maui Motocross Park – A Memorandum of Understanding between NAH and Nick Saussy is signed. More approvals and board approval are still needed as part of NAH housekeeping.
5. Waihee Ridge Trail – Torrie is working to separate the parking lot road out of the Nobriga leased land. The Nobriga family is supportive. This is another housekeeping item. All mechanized work on the trail is done and handwork is ongoing. It is now open to the public with very heavy use. NAH is considering delineating stalls in the parking lot.
6. Makena to Ulupalakua Trail – Nothing new. Tom will compare the Alexander and Monserrat maps.
7. Haleakala Bridle Trail – Maui Council Position – After discussion, the Council does not feel a Council position on this trail is appropriate as they have never taken a position on any other trail. Torrie reminded the group that the lawsuit settlement stated DLNR was to work with PATH and Haleakala Ranch to find a way to open the trail. The estimate for the cultural survey is \$25,000 and archaeological survey estimate is \$11,900. Estimates are high due to the 3 ½ mile trail but both are needed for the required Archaeological Impact Study. These would-be State funded. Torrie will check with Land Management on moving forward on survey work. David Brown will get the trails survey info from PATH to Torrie. After discussion, this agenda item will be listed going forward as Haleakala Bridle Trail – Progress on Archaeological and Cultural Study.

8. Evaluation of Trails and Access Guidelines – The Council had the following suggestions for the guidelines:

- a. Carrying capacity for a trail is important and it might be best to set a “not to exceed” level for trails. Waihee Ridge is nearing capacity now. Some of the existing guidelines address this issue.
- b. Trail heads, parking and consideration of neighboring private landowners were discussed – what are considerations of private landowners and how would we address that?
- c. What is the intangible experience – wilderness experience. Perhaps a stronger statement on the value of that.

9. New Business:

1. Suggestions for new Na Ala Hele Trails: None

2. Agenda items for next meeting – Delete Evaluation of Trails and Access Guidelines. Change wording on item 7 to Haleakala Bridle Trail – Progress on Archaeological and Cultural Study. Change wording on item 6 to Makena to Ulupalakua Trail – Update from Tom Cannon research. Add wording on item 4 to clarify what the update will likely be about.

3. Date of next meeting: May 17, 2017 at the DLNR conference room.

10. Public Testimony on All Agenda Items, Public Comments – Open Forum: Jimmy Gomes reported BLNR is looking for potential candidates from Molokai, Lanai or Maui for the new State Game Commission.

11. Adjournment: 4:00 pm