



**NĀ ALA HELE**  
Hawai'i Trail & Access System

## **Nā Ala Hele Hawai'i Island Advisory Council Minutes**

**Approved: August 30, 2018**

**Revised: August 30, 2018**

**MEETING DATE: June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**PLACE:** Hilo DOFAW Office

**Voting Members Present:**

Terrence Noda, Deborah Chang, Michael Varney,  
David B Rietow, Roger "Maha" Kaneali'i Jr,  
Christopher Seymour

**Voting Members Absent Excused:**

Riley Smith, Kawehi Ryder, Jeff Yamauchi

**Voting Members Absent Unexcused:**

None

**Invited Guest:**

None

**Public:**

Dwayne Yoshina

**Ex-Officio:**

Rick Gmirkin of Ala Kahakai NHT;  
Clement Chang, and Jackson Bauer of Nā Ala Hele

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting called to order by Terrence at 6:00 pm. Clem will be late on arrival.
- II. Membership Change. Dennis Vierra has resigned. Christopher Seymour who was sponsored by Dennis has been approved as a new member of the Council.
- III. REVIEW and APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> 2018.
  - A. Terrence (IV, x) change "Fire Arms" to "Firearms"
  - B. Motion to approve by David, second by Debbie. Unanimously approved.
- IV. PUBLIC TESTIMONY - NONE
- V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS
  - A. Waiākea ATV Park by Terrence
    - i. Two of the trails have been GPS mapped.
    - ii. Continued cleanup and general maintenance.
    - iii. Q & A
      1. David, what is the Waiākea ATV Park? Terrence: It was established to be part of the recreational trails program (RTP). It is a multiuse

park for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses. Average trail length is 15 miles and the elevation ranges from 1200 ft at the bottom to 2300 ft at the top.

2. Roger, is there a CC limit? Terrence: No CC limit but there is a width limit. There is also a permit requirement.
3. David, how long is the ATV training? Terrence: 4 – 6 hours.
4. Mike, where else can you ride ATV? Terrence: Mauna Kea R1 & R10.
5. Roger, what is the liability if someone gets hurt? Jackson: That is why you have to obtain a permit and sign waiver.

B. Nā Ala Hele Update by Jackson

i. DOFAW crew continues to do great work.

ii. Kaulana Manu

1. Tree vendor has been selected. Hoping to get this started in July.
2. Schedule of construction pending permitting has now been provided. Estimated start date of November 2018 with completion in May of 2019.
3. Soft opening still being planned. Estimated soft opening in August of 2018 after tree trimming is completed. Soft opening means gates will be unlocked but the area will not be publicized as being open. Once construction starts up then the soft opening will end and the site will be locked up until the completion of work.
4. Monthly bird surveys are being done and will continue 6 months after opening to the public.
5. Q & A
  - a. Debbie asked for clarification on one of the rules where it says “limited to 48 users per day”. Jackson clarified that the limit is intended for permitted uses (commercial and non-commercial groups).
  - b. Group discussion on how other sites limit access.
  - c. Dwayne Yoshina asked if the area will conflict with the existing hunter access. Jackson confirmed that they will not restrict access. Hunting is not permitted within the fenced kīpuka.

iii. Pololū Valley

1. The CIP request did not make it through the Legislature. Everyone is still very interested and it will be resubmitted for next session.
2. May 15, we met with Surety Kohala Corporation. They received our letter of intent and are ready to proceed. Their plan is to consolidate and subdivide parcels. What the state would get out of this is the majority of the valley floor, around the lookout, and additional area for parking.
3. Q & A

- a. Mike, would this land exchange open up the trail to Honokāne Nui and Iki? Jackson: No.
- iv. Waimanu Valley
  1. Day trips on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and a May 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> work week with a crew from Ala Kahakai, NARS, and volunteers.
  2. Boy Scout volunteers June 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. They hiked the trail and picked up rubbish. There is another group of Boy Scout volunteers going out the end of July.
  3. Next scheduled trip will not be until the end of September with the carpentry crew for replacement of the composting toilets.
- v. Mauna Kea R1 – Terrence submitted public testimony on the parking issue to the management area.
- vi. Puakea Bay – No update. Waiting to hear back from the Attorney General's office.
  1. Q & A Debbie, what is the AG office involvement? Jackson: We need legal advice from the AG office in order to navigate the issue surrounding the trail obstacle by the cliff.
  2. Debbie – The new owners next to the Honoipu parking lot have applied for a special management area minor permit. In the permit they are acknowledging there is this public access.
  3. Rick – Trail access North of the parking lot is also in discussion.
- vii. Historic Trail
  1. Keauhou Trail – Leslie Clark of KS says they are working on some quotes to get the trail cleared and move some fencing. Planning to meet up again in July.
    - a. Q&A Debbie wanted to know if Moana is looking into whether the state had given up ownership of the trail through the golf course? Jackson: Yes she is, but no answer yet. Because the golf course is not owned by KS, it is a separate discussion.
    - b. Q&A Mike, what is the trigger to open up the trails within KS land? Jackson & Debbie: KS entered into a memorandum of agreement with the state as part of the development plan. In the agreement they were able to relocate the Keauhou trail around the subdivided house lots. Development was the original trigger for the MOA, but development plans have been put on hold.
  2. Judd Trail – Visited the trail at Ali'i Drive on private property. There is a problem with the existing TMK records. The points do not correspond with the actual trail location. Additionally, much of the trail over the years has been damaged by land owners to the point where it is unrecognizable in areas. The good news is that the owner of the South parcel recently purchased the North

parcel reducing the number of parties we need to communicate with.

- a. Q&A Dwayne Yoshina, what action has NAH & NAHA taken over the years to preserve the trail? Jackson: In this case, the trail runs through private lands adding a layer of legal difficulty to an already limited budget. Much of the funding goes to already existing program trails. Additional funding is requested every year for future program trails. In the past letters have been written without response or approval.
  - b. Q&A Terrence, can you walk the trail? Jackson: If you had permission from the land owner you can follow the trail for a short while from Ali'i Drive but the trail gets eventually lost. Additionally, it is thick with over growth.
  - c. Terrence requested that Jackson bring a map of the area to the next meeting.
3. Hōkūli'a has received our Memorandum of Agreement from the Chair's office which gives them the green light to complete the shoreline park. Phases I & II have already been completed. This would include the Cart Road Trail which is owned by the state. Also working with the AG office to correct some easements for the OGR that were surveyed wrong.
  - a. Q&A Debbie, why did they enter into a MOA with the state? Jackson: That had to do with SHPD and Hōkūkano Village.
  - b. Q&A Debbie, are those considered program trails? Jackson: Not at this time. The only trail that could be in the future is the OGR.
  - c. Q&A David, can you bring a map of these trails to our next meeting?
4. Honomū access to the Hilo Forest Reserve. We did a site visit and the access road reportedly completed at our last meeting is in fact not completed. County Planning has been asked to persuade the subdivider to clear the Access Road Lot.
- viii. Administrative Tasks update: The biggest thing is that we have been assisting with the lava flow incident.
- ix. Outreach Programs.
  1. Pu'u 'Ō'ō Trails July 5<sup>th</sup> I will be taking a group of kids from Kamehameha Schools summer camp program.
  2. Hālau 'Ōhi'a Training. May 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> we went to Koholālele restoration site. Also, went to Keauhou and Kahalu'u.
- x. Firearms Training is coming up that we are required to go through.

- xi. Tech position is still open. Still waiting on HR to deliver a list of applicants.

C. Ala Kahakai National Historic Trails Update by Rick

- i. Trail Crew has been going out surveying trails due to the number of earthquakes we have been having. Most of the trails are looking good even from regular use. The exception is the trail at Honoka'ope bay (49 Black Sand). The shoreline is eroding and trail slumping.
- ii. Kīholo to Puakō trail project. Public volunteer program will be in the month of September. Also continue to work with SHPD to sign off on a programmatic agreement to maintain the trail with the partners (Ala Kahakai, resorts and land owners).
- iii. New interns starting with the new school year. They will be working on historic trails as it relates to the evolution of the transportation system on the island.
- iv. Māmalahoa documentation program coming up. We will be documenting the section between Kaloko-Honokōhau and Mahai'ula. UH Hilo will be involved using their drone.
- v. Huliauapa'a group and Kamehameha Schools have a Wahi Kupuna internship program. We have been invited to join them in documenting of trails and historic sites between Hōnaunau to Nāpo'opo'o.

D. Information/Update: Tracking Tool by Debbie.

- i. All related items discussed tonight will be updated in the log.
- ii. #5. Debbie requested that NAH staff read through and help update the Hōkūli'a section.
- iii. #28 Terrence pointed out that R10 should be noted as a Program Trail.

E. Council Member Concerns. Non-given.

VI. New Business

A. Agenda. No change.

B. Next Meeting Thursday August 30<sup>th</sup> 2018 at Waimea DOFAW office.

VII. Adjournment motioned by Debbie and David. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

ADA	Americans with Disability Act.
BIISC	Big Island Invasive Species Committee
CIP	Capital Improvement Program
DHHL	Department of Hawai'ian Home Lands
DLNR	Department of Land and Natural Resources
DOFAW	Department of Forestry and Wildlife
DOT	Department of Transportation
GPS	Global Positioning Satellite
HDOT	Hawaii Department of Transportation
KCRA	Kohala Coast Resort Association
KRDC	Keauhou Resort Development Corp
KSBE	Kamehameha School Bishop Estate
NAH	Nā Ala Hele
NAHA	Nā Ala Hele Advisory (committee)
NARS	Natural Area Reserve System
OGR	Old Government Road
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PONC	Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Commission
ROHVA	Recreational Off Highway Vehicle Association.
SHPD	State of Hawai'i Historic Preservation Division

**Nā Ala Hele  
Hawai'i Island Advisory Council**

**I. Public Testimony:**

- a. Those providing testimony at our meetings are guests of our Council. They are not Council members. They are invited to provide testimony. However, they do not have the right to question us, participate in our meeting, nor dialogue as we discuss our agenda.
- b. Shall be limited to 3 minutes, for each person.
- c. Written copies of testimony should be provided and included in the Minutes of meeting.
- d. Oral testimony must be provided in person.
- e. Testimony for a person that is not present can be turned into the Secretary for inclusion within the Minutes. It cannot be read at the meetings, as we will not have the opportunity to question the author. Electronic submittal of testimony will be allowed if provided to DOFAW 12 calendar days prior to meeting date. Otherwise, hard copies may be distributed at meeting.
- f. If testimony is being provided on behalf of an organization, it is required that the Board of Directors of the organization or a majority of the members of the organization must have voted in favor of the testimony. If this has not occurred, then it must be considered as solely the opinion of the person providing the testimony.

**II. Agendized presentations to the Council:**

- a. Time allowed for presentations is 10 minutes.
- b. It is likely that the Council will ask questions after the presentation is made. This Q&A period may continue for 10 – 15 minutes, at the discretion of the Chair of the Council.