



NĀ ALA HELE
Hawai'i Trail & Access System

Nā Ala Hele
Hawai'i Island Advisory Council Minutes

Approved: 11/15/18

Revised: 11/15/18

MEETING DATE: August 30th, 2018

PLACE: Waimea DOFAW Office

Voting Members Present:

Riley Smith, Terrence Noda, Deborah Chang,
Michael Varney, Jeff Yamauchi, Roger "Maha"
Kanealii Jr, Christopher Seymour, David B Rietow

Voting Members Absent Excused:

Kawehi Ryder

Voting Members Absent Unexcused:

Invited Guest:

Public:

Carter Collins and Tony Withington of the North
Kohala Community Access Group.

Ex-Officio:

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

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting called to order by Riley at 6:01 pm.
- II. REVIEW and APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE 20TH, 2018
 - A. Terrence (V, A, iii, 5) it should include "and sign a waiver".
 - B. Motion to approve by Terrence and Mike. Unanimously approved.
- III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY (Three minutes maximum). Tony Withington gave a NKAG update on Pololū Valley.
 - A. Met with Bill Shontell of SKC and other community leaders. Very Productive.
 - B. Upcoming community meeting September 24th 2018, 6:00PM at Kēōkea Beach Park
 - C. David Tarnas unseated Cindy Evans for Hawaii Island House District 7. He faces Tom Beleanich in the November general election. He is likely to be elected to

fill this House seat. He has been actively attending all the meetings and is up to date.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Nā Ala Hele Program update (Nā Ala Hele Staff)

i. Program Trails update

1. Pololū Valley (Jackson)

a. Continue the process of consolidating and dividing parcels with the State and SKC both in the valley and the plateau above. There are many hurdles to go. Moana is currently researching title for the affected parcels.

b. Clem inspected the trail today, August 30th 2018. There have been reports of cracks in the trail. The cracks are isolated along an approximate 15-foot section following the outer edge of the trail. There does not appear to be any immediate concern however the crack will continue to be monitored.

c. Q & A

i. Debbie, is the intention to create a parking lot across from the old stables? Jackson that is still the vision.

ii. Mike, what does SKC get out of all this? Jackson, the process of consolidation and division of land parcels is to end up with the same number of parcels you started with. The idea is that the State would end up with the valley and the rim and SKC would end up with marketable parcels above the rim.

iii. Riley, has an EA been conducted yet? Jackson, not yet. We are not at that stage.

iv. Toni added that SKC had originally started the process of consolidation and subdivision of their Mauka portion above the old stable. That initiative has been put on hold as of last December.

2. Mauna Kea Access Road (R-1) trailhead and parking (Jackson)

a. June 27th, 2018 met with Stuart Hunter with Institute of Astronomy about installing signs to ease the parking conflict with OHV users. They installed boulders to help delineate what is OHV parking vs the rest of the forest reserve.

b. June 18th, 2018 our crew installed new signs instructing users that it is for OHV parking.

- c. Q & A
 - i. Debbie, are there proposed access changes to the road leading up to the mountain from the visitor's center? Jackson, not that we've heard.
 - ii. Riley, are the new boulders effective? Jackson, yes.
- 3. Upper Waiākeā ATV & Dirt Bike Riding Area (Terrence).
 - a. Continue to deal with fallen trees.
 - b. Herbicided about 50% of the trails. The sprayer is currently out of commission needing repairs.
 - c. Ridership is increasing.
 - d. The park is 11 years old now.
- 4. Other program trail updates (Jackson)
 - a. Kaulana Manu (Kīpuka 21)
 - i. Continue to work on interpretive signs.
 - ii. Continue to work on monthly bird monitoring.
 - iii. Scheduled to start the hazardous tree removal on September 5th 2018. Assuming that the hazards are mitigated the locks will be removed for a soft opening without announcement.
 - iv. Construction at the parking area is tentatively scheduled to start in November 2018 through May of 2019. During that time the park will be closed again to public access.
 - b. Waimanu Valley
 - i. July 27th Boy Scout volunteers cleared the trail.
 - ii. October 1st – 5th 2018 the carpenters will be replacing a toilet.
 - iii. August 21st – August 30th the trail was closed due to Hurricane Lane. A flyover assessment of the trail and valley did not show any major damage from the storm. A couple hikers were stranded on their return back from the valley due to rising waters.
 - c. Pu'u Huluhulu.
 - i. New portable toilets.
 - ii. Relocated the trash can to the check-in station.
 - d. Onomea Bay Trail closed August 30th – September 2nd 2018 due to landslides from the storm.
 - e. Ala Kahakai had some trees down from the storm. Both Ala Kahakai Historic Trails and NAHA crews helped to clear the trees August 29th.

- f. 'Āinapo Trail was closed August 21st due to the storm. A flyover on August 28th showed no issues.
 - ii. Historic Trails updates (Jackson)
 - 1. Hōkūli'a trails.
 - a. Working with the AG office on erred easements of the old government road.
 - b. June 26th walked with Rick Gmirkin and Hōkūli'a's archeologist Mike Vitousek on both the old government road and the old cart road. We sent them an advisement letter to increase their volunteer buffer from 2 feet. This is from the trail edge to their grubbing.
 - c. Q & A
 - i. Debbie, is there no required buffer for the old government road? Jackson, there is a no build buffer and there is an agricultural buffer but grubbing is not covered under this. Rick, the surveyors drew a line from point to point but that did not account for the trail meandering.
 - ii. David, is this section open to the public? Jackson, no. Only the shoreline access is currently open.
 - iii. Jackson, answering an earlier question of how many lots have been built out, only about 20.
 - 2. Judd Trail. No update since last meeting.
 - 3. Keauhou Trail.
 - a. KSBE is working on quotes to clean up the trail and some of the issues identified. A timeline has not been set.
 - b. Leslie Yim Clark has left KSBE. Jennifer Tom is our new contact but have not heard anything from her yet.
 - c. Riley suggested that Jackson contact Kā'eo Duarte (Vice President of Community Engagement and Resources) if he does not hear back from Jennifer.
 - 4. Miloli'i. Went to look at some of the ancient trails a few weeks ago with some of the other staff. It was a familiarization trip.
 - iii. Access update (Jackson)
 - 1. Honomū. No update due to Hurricane Lane. Rescheduling a site visit with the county (Bethany Morrison & Kamuela Plunkett) and land owner representative.
 - 2. Kona Sea Ranch. No Shoreline Public Access sign yet. Sent follow-up email with photo to Kamuela Plunkett with the county. No update shown on the county's web site either (<http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/pl-shoreline-access-big-island>) .

- iv. Administrative tasks (Jackson)
 - 1. Lava Flow. We've been busy helping out with the lava flow.
 - 2. Tech 4 position has been filled.
- v. Outreach (Jackson)
 - 1. July 5th trip with Kamehameha Schools Hālau Kupukupu class to the Pu'u Ō'ō Trail.
 - 2. `Ōhi`a Love Fest was cancelled due to Hurricane Lane. New date October 21st 2018.
 - 3. Hālau 'Ōhi`a Hawaiian Lifeways Training. We meet once a month.
 - 4. Fire Arms Training complete. It's required even though we don't carry arms.
- vi. Other NAH program updates (Jackson). July, we put together our budget requests for the coming year. Budgets get submitted to and filtered by the Division Head, then to the Chair, then to the Governor, and then to the Legislators in January.
 - 1. FY19 RTP budget. All of our operating funds comes from RTP grants. Each island gets approximately \$149,000 after salaries have been taken out. That is for tools, supplies, and service contracts. That is less than we expected so allocations to program trails will be cut. Examples.
 - a. Kaūmana Trail this year we allocated \$3,000 and next year we have \$1,000.
 - b. Onomea Trail this year we allocated \$3,000 and next year we have \$2,000.
 - c. Muliwai Trail this year we allocated \$52,000 and next year we have \$40,000. This means we have to cut helicopter use which is about \$12,000 each trip.
 - d. Waiākea ATV Park this year we allocated \$46,000 and next year we have \$22,000.
 - e. Q & A. Terrence. Where is the RTP notice that shows allocation of exclusive motorized use? Jackson will report at the next meeting.
 - 2. FY20-21 State budget and CIP requests
 - a. Pololū \$4,000,000 over two years for planning, construction, and trail improvements.
 - b. Ho'okena \$600,000 for an Archeological survey.
 - c. General Trail Improvement \$150,000. This would be for trail head improvements such as ADA parking and informational signage. Trails include Pu'u Ō'o Trail, Puna Trail, 'Āinapō Trail and hunter check station, Upper

Waiākea ATV Park, Kaūmana Trail, Kaluakauka (Dr.'s Pit) Trail.

- d. Puakea Bay Trail \$600,000 for improvements.
- e. Judd Trail \$500,000 for survey.
- f. Q & A. Riley what was the total last year and what was approved. Jackson, about \$3,000,000 was asked for and nothing was approved.
- g. Requested to convert the Tech-4 position from Temporary to Fulltime status. Add 3 additional Trail & Access Specialist.
- h. Operational Funds \$140,000

B. Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail Update (Rick Gmirkin). No Update.

C. Information / Update: Tracking Tool (Deborah Chang)

- i. Highlighted in Blue items that seem outdated and asking if it can be deleted? No objection from the council.
- ii. #6 Judd Trail. Passed around a report summarizing the history of Judd Trail as it stands with the council. Pictures, maps, and storyline. A scanned copy was sent by David to Jackson for council distribution. Mike asked where on a home owner deed it would show public access? Riley commented that if it is legally binding it would show in the title report.
- iii. #8 Kahuku Village Development (Pōhue Beach). Propose we move this to inactive. Project is no longer being pursued. Rick suggested we keep it active as there is some movement on a possible single structure.
- iv. #24 Puakō to Waimea Trail (Rick). The trail Makai of the highway to the boat ramp has been surveyed and is going to be nominated for the National Register by Ala Kahakai and the National Parks.
- v. #30 Waiākea ATV Park. Terrence is going to send Debbie clarification on ROHV and UTV.

D. Statewide Advisory Council Meeting Update (Riley Smith, Terrence Noda).

- i. Terrence.
 - 1. RTP. They reviewed the budget and the percentage breakdown requirement of 30 percent of their funds for motorized trail uses, 30 percent for nonmotorized trail uses, and 40 percent for diverse trail uses. It is unclear whether the funds are being used in accordance with all requirements as a state. Some islands don't have these programs but it seems money is still split evenly among counties. Also, some counties are using their money for the benefit of exclusive private clubs. Hawaii Island only uses their money for the general public. The risk is that if the state is found to use the money incorrectly, there may be financial

consequences from the Federal Government. Have not seen clear written guidelines.

2. Councils are urged to provide CIP testimony to this year's legislation. Written is good but oral is always best. Some past examples were shared.

ii. Riley

1. Overall a good meeting put on by Mike Millay. The meeting was held this year at the HNL airport conference as opposed to past meetings held Downtown. This made it much easier for members to fly in, attend a 4-hour meeting, and fly home.
2. Jackson & Clem did a great job with their power point presentation. Mike was given the presentation in advance and Hawaii Island shined with having the only Power Point.

- E. Discuss Council Members Concerns. Chris would like to discuss the future possibility on incorporating the mountain biking trails within the Waiākea Timberland Management Area into the Nā Ala Hele program. Big Island Mountain Bike Association has been using this area for over 30 years. Riley asked Jackson and Chris to collaborate and put this onto the next meeting agenda.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Next Meeting will be held Thursday November 15th 2018 at the Hilo DOFAW office 6:00PM
- B. Agenda. In addition to the regular format we will add Judd Trail Report, mountain biking in the WTM, and email Jackson & Riley if you have any suggestions.

- VI. ADJOURNMENT motioned by Debbie and Terrence. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:02PM

ADA	Americans with Disability Act.
AG	Attorney General
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	Na Ala Hele
NAHA	Na Ala Hele Advisory (committee)
NARS	Natural Area Reserve System
NKCAG	North Kohala Community Access Group
OGR	Old Government Road
PONC	Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Commission
RTP	Recreational Trails Program
ROHVA	Recreational Off Highway Vehicle Association.
SKC	Surety Kohala Corp
SHPD	State of Hawai'i Historic Preservation Division
WTM	Waiākea Timber Management Area

**Na 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. r5/22/13**