Na Ala Hele (NAH) Maui Advisory Council

Minutes of June 19, 2019

Present: Russell Reinertson, Donna Clayton, Nick Saussy, Terry Quisenberry, Sue Guille, Tom Cannon, Kevin Jenkins

Absent: David Brown, Bob Hobdy

Ex-Officio: Torrie Nohara, Corey Rosa, Jeff Bagshaw

Guests: Tim Whalen

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 May 22, 2019

The minutes were approved as submitted.

NAH Staff Reports:

Trails and Access Technician - Volunteer/Intern Update:

Monthly volunteer hours totaled 104; the total annual volunteer hours = 1700.

KUPU: Joshua Pinheiro completed 1111 of 1700 hours.

Counter on Waiakoa Loop Trail:

- Monthly user count (6/19/19) = 556
- Total annual user count (6/7/19) = 1969
- Highest count for one day 6/1/19) = 44

Counter on Boundary Trail:

- Monthly user count (6/19/19) = 422
- Total annual user count (6/7/19) = 1432
- Highest count for one day (5/25/19) = 56

Counter on Polipoli Park Trail

- Monthly user count (6/19/19) = 291
- Total annual user count (6/7/19) = 2014
Highest count for one day (5/27/19) = 39

The Na Ala Hele crew has been brushing and weed whacking throughout Kula Forest Reserve. The crew has also been blocking and rehabilitating illegal and social trails in Kahakapao Recreational Area.

Looking forward the Na Ala Hele crew will be doing tread improvements on Waihe’e Ridge Trail, adding geotextile fabric and crushed stone.

Flow Farm Pacific Report: - No Report

Torrie Nohara – NAH Specialist - Bob and Doreen are on the mainland and David is undergoing additional medical care.

Torrie was on Oahu June 6-7 for a CORE Group meeting. The budget for FY20 will be reduced from this year’s budget. NAH is switching to a fiscal year from Oct. 1 to September 31 to sync with the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding. The result is that Na Ala Hele will need to stretch their budget an extra 3 months. However, a change in mode of finance (MOF) moves 7 positions formerly funded through RTP dollars to now be funded through the general funds as of July 1.

Only 3 state capital improvement projects (CIP) were improved for FY20:

- a. NAH program plan - $450,000 to have a Program Plan written
- b. Pololu – at the end of the road on the island of Hawaii – landowner is donating land and the CIP money will provide a bathroom, parking area and if money is left over, work on the trail.
- c. Change in mode of funding for 7 NAH positions.

A running race will be held in Kula Forest Reserve October 17. This is a 75 mile Sean Run Bum event with a limit of 75 entrants and 14 hours to complete the run.

Old Business:

1. West Maui Greenway Update – Donna reported that following the Walkability Action Institute conference in Georgia April 22-25, County Chair Kelly King asked if the Walkability Action Conference team could provide a panel discussion at the Hawaii State and County (HSAC) conference in June. The conference theme was centered on sustainability. Donna was on vacation but the team pulled together a panel discussion with Meredith Speicher, Lee Chamberlain, Lauren Armstrong and Pam Eaton. They reported a lot of support at the conference and the team feels a good next step would be to encourage Department of Public Works (DPW) to adopt a clear and specific trail standard. They also want to work with DPW on a public-private partnership that could allow private landowners to fund/build trail sections or provide funding support.
2. Maui Motocross Park – Nick reported the spring race series went well with more kids showing up for every race. A pro will teach at the end of summer at a 3-day camp.

3. Honuaula Area Trail Potential – Torrie said when the drone pilot license is secured, a site visit will be planned once cooler weather returns. A lawsuit involving the area by Onau Trail is close to settled. Kevin said as part of the settlement the State will be taking responsibility as the owner and it seems this settlement puts NAH in a strong position to have a trail from Makena to Ulupalakua.

4. Makawao State Forest Reserve Update
   a. The gate at the Makawao Forest Reserve boundary is done and working well.
   b. Some volunteers from the Amanda Eller search returned to pick up rubbish left from the search.
   c. Moana asked if anyone had heard Kai’ili’ili Rd. referred to as the Makawao-Kokomo Rd. She is doing the abstract. No one had heard. Torrie circulated a map dated 1886 showing the road.
   d. Signage report from Jeff Bagshaw – Hawaii Tourism Authority is funding his design work. He is designing informational, directional and interpretive signs. For the HTA grant, Jeff requested letters in support of NAH revising signage on these hiking trails to submit with the application which is due July 1. He would also like volunteers for the trail head surveys. Contact Jeff at jeff.w.bagshaw@hawaii.gov. Kevin suggested a sign saying “STOP = stop – think- observe – plan”.

New Business:
1. Suggestions for new Na Ala Hele Trails: None
2. Agenda items for next meeting: Remove Makawao FR Update and add Trail Carrying Capacity.
3. Date of next meeting: 7/17/19.

Public Testimony on All Agenda Items, Public Comments – Open Forum:
1. Tim suggested boot brushes at trail heads. Torrie said work progresses as time permits.
2. Tim said Lahaina Pali Trail needs attention. Torrie said work is planned.

Adjournment: 3:30 pm