



NĀ ALA HELE
Hawai'i Trail & Access System

Nā Ala Hele Hawai'i Island Advisory Council Minutes

Approved: August 21, 2019

Revised: August 21, 2019

MEETING DATE: June 20th 2019

PLACE: Waimea DOFAW Office

Voting Members Present:

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

Voting Members Absent Excused:

Kawehi Ryder, Terrence Noda

Voting Members Absent Unexcused:

(none)

Invited Guest:

Toni Withington of the North Kohala Community Access Group and Kohala Lihikai

Public:

Mary Metcalf with Pu'u Wa'awa'a Advisory Council, Lele Kimble from Kona

Ex-Officio:

Jackson Bauer, Aric Arakaki of Ala Kahakai National Historic Trails filling in for Rick Gmirkin.

- I. Call to order at 6:02PM by Riley Smith
- II. REVIEW and APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 24, 2019. Motion to approve by Chris and seconded by Mike. All were in favor.
- III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY (Three minutes maximum).
 - A. Presentation by Toni Withington from the North Hawaii Community Access Group and Kohala Lihikai: "North Kohala Rail-Trail & Trail Connectivity Plan". Toni passed around a draft report. Jackson will obtain a digital copy and email it to the council. They want to turn the old North Kohala Rail easement into a walking trail. A full description written by Toni and published in The Kohala Mountain News March 22, 2019 on page 4 can be found at <http://www.kohalamountainnews.com/assets/2019-03.pdf>.

- a. Question by Aric: Is the railroad plan part of the CDP plan? Toni said yes.
- b. Question by Mike, in section 3, Puakea to Honoipu, is the yellow dotted line a possible alternative path for the trail? Toni said yes and that there will be sections of the original easement that may not be desirable so alternative routes will be looked at.
- c. Question by Mike, do the land owners show an easement in their deed? Toni said some of them do.
- d. Question by Deborah, is there a deadline for public comment? Toni said no. They hope to have the final draft by end of 2019.
- e. Question by Jackson, is this draft available online? Toni said no but a hard copy is available at the Kohala Library.
- f. Question by Riley, can you send Jackson a PDF copy for him to distribute to the council members. Toni said yes.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Nā Ala Hele Program Update (Nā Ala Hele staff) by Jackson

a. Program Trails Update

- i. Kaulana Manu. The project is a little behind schedule due to county inspections taking longer than anticipated. Ground work is complete. Construction of structures is next. Debbie reminded Jackson that she would like to have a final review of the project rules by the council at the next meeting.
- ii. Ala Kahakai Puakea. No Update.
- iii. Upper Waiākea ATV & Dirt Bike Riding Area. The ATV Park is looking really good. Chris asked how progress is going on getting the trail maps on the web site. Jackson said he's still waiting for Terrence to get him the GPS data.
- iv. Kahauale'a Trail and NAR opening. In the last meeting it was reported that the trail would reopen in May. This has changed. Instead of reopening the trail NAR is going to let the closure mandate lapse in mid-July effectively opening the trail. Riley asked if the trail was on the tracking tool. Debbie said no.
- v. Other program trails update. Waimanu Valley. We did day trips on May 13th, 16th, and 19th. General maintenance was performed. All other trails are looking good.

b. Historic Trails update

- i. Hōkūlī'a trails. No Update.

- ii. Kaupalaoa. Riley asked if the county has been alerted of possible violation of permit. Jackson said that both he and Rick separately filed official notices but the county has not gotten back to us. Debbie commented that this is #15 on the tracking tool.
 - iii. Waikoloa trails. Met with developer of Lava Lava Beach Club, Rick and Aric with AKNHT, Consultant Sidney Fuke, and Bethany Morrison with County Planning. The developer wants to make some changes and this was a pre-consultation meeting. They are listening to our concerns. They said they will transfer the title of the trails claimed by the state to the state.
 - a. Question by Debbie, what is the width of the buffers? Jackson will get her that information.
 - b. Question by Riley, how do you document a meeting with the developer? Jackson said everyone took notes and email recaps were sent by both Jackson and Bethany. No formal meeting minutes.
 - iv. Keauhou trail. No update. Riley asked who is the current contact with KSBE? Jackson said Perry Kealoha.
 - v. Pāhoehoe and 'Ala'ē OGR. Recent satellite imagery suggested there had been some excavation and damage to the trail. A site visit with Rick, Kamuela Plunkett with county, Maija Jackson with county, and Sean Naleimaile with SHPD confirmed this. One section of the trail was covered with soil and another section was blocked by a fence line. The SHPD violations are being followed up. Debbie commented the SMA Permit Application for the subdivision was going to go to the Leeward Planning Commission. Jackson had no update on that.
- a. Access update
- vi. Maulua access to Laupāhoehoe NAR. Last meeting reported overgrowth and downed power lines. County Planning contacted the owner. Recent site visit found much improvement.
 - vii. Wailele Road access to Hilo Forest Reserve (Honomū Section). No update.
- a. Administrative Tasks. No update.
- b. Other NAH programs
- i. Trail Assessment project. We have completed all the reasonable access trails. The other trails are much too long for the trail recorder to process.

- ii. Historic trail map digitization project. This continues to move along nicely.
- B. Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail Update (Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail staff) by Aric Arakaki filling in for Rick Gmirkin.
 - a. The MOU between Ala Kahakai NHT, SHPD, and the county has been approved by the Attorney General. It now goes back to the county for their signature and then it will be fully executed.
 - b. We are meeting with both Federal and State departments of transportation. During the widening of Queen Kaahumanu Hwy, subsequent to the MOA, 5 additional sections of the Mamalahoa Trail were breached. We are to negotiate mediation needed for the restoration of the trail. Mike asked if this is a monetary settlement being pursued. Aric was not sure but that they are proposing options for trail restoration.
- C. Information/Update: Tracking Tool (Deborah Chang).
 - a. #49 Black Sand Beach. David reported that the beach access sign has still not been replaced. Debbie pointed out that it is a violation of Mauna Lani's SMA permit (to not have a directional sign enabling the public to find one of their required shoreline public accesses). Mike said he would send a letter or email to the planning department director as a resident and cc Jackson with NAH. Riley forwarded contact information to Mike.
 - b. #2 Bluffs at Mauna Kea. David said he walked the trail in April and the landscape lighting and irrigation were still along the trail. Riley suggested Debbie ask Rick to send Jackson an update that he can distribute.
 - c. #6 Hōkūli'a Trails. No update since the last meeting.
 - d. #7 Humu'ula Trail. Debbie asked if this was a program trail. Jackson said yes. Jackson wanted to make it clear that the program trail starts just above the dairy and ends at Keanakolu just off Mānā Road. Debbie will add where the trail starts and ends on tracking tool.
 - e. #17 Keauhou. This will be updated at our next meeting. Riley asked Debbie to add that Perry Kealoha is the KSBE point of contact.
 - f. #18 Kohala Kai. No update.
 - g. #24 Pikohe to Kapalaoa Trail. This will be marked as resolved.

- h. #25 Pololū. Jackson reported that he met on June 13th with Bill Shontell of Surety Kohala, and Jay M. Hatayama, David Smith, Michael Millay, and Irene Sprecher all of whom are with DLNR. We reviewed the current status of the land consolidation and subdivision plan for the parking lot and bathrooms. The latest plan is that the state will get the valley floor and 5 acres just before the lookout on the Mauka side of the highway. Surety will get the land along the valley rim above the lookout. Also, we did get the CIP request approved for planning cost.
- i. #26 Puakea Bay. Jackson will be meeting with the HOA and owners in the future.
- j. #27 Puakō to Waimea trail. No update.
- k. #32 Trail between Mau'umae to MKB. Riley pointed out that you can't do any grading within a floodway. It was agreed to move this to inactive.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council member concerns.

- a. Maha asked about the 1200 gallons of herbicide used at the ATV Park. Jackson said that was mixed and was applied over 40 acres.
- b. Debbie asked if the Humu`ula trail that is partially on UH leased lands atop of Mauna Kea can be closed by the UH. Jackson said the trail does not cross UH leased lands. This section is not a program trail.
- c. Debbie asked if we could review the existing NAHA guidelines at the next meeting. Of concern is our advice on trail buffers and needing to update that information. Riley asked Jackson to email the word document to all members and that they add comments using track changes. Jackson asked for members to send him photos of what are good and bad examples.
- d. Jackson asked if we could set up subcommittees within the advisory council to tackle certain projects. This would help him out. Riley suggested that we add this to the agenda of the next meeting. David suggested that we put together a template together for emails by individual members.

B. Set next meeting agenda. August 21st at 6:00PM in Hilo DOFAW Office.

C. Next Meeting Agenda. Jackson and Riley to work on that.

VI. ADJOURNMENT. Riley called for a motion to adjourn. Maha motioned to adjourn and Debbie seconded that motion. Meeting was adjourned at 7:42PM.

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	Na Ala Hele
NAHA	Na Ala Hele Advisory (committee)
NARS	Natural Area Reserve System
OGR	Old Government Road
PONC	Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Commission
ROHVA	Recreational Off Highway Vehicle Association.
SHPD	State of Hawai'i Historic Preservation Division

**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.