



640 N. A'ohoku Place, Room 203, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Telephone: (808) 933-0734 Fax: (808) 933-3208

Mailing Address: 200 W. Kawili Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Minutes Regular Meeting

Mauna Kea Management Board
Tuesday, October 22, 2002

Kūkahau'ula, Room 131
640 N. A'ohoku Place
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Attending

- MKMB:** Chair Arthur Hoke, 1st Vice Chair Rob Pacheco, 2nd Vice Chair/Secretary Barry Taniguchi, Heather Cole, Jim Kennedy, Barbara Robertson and Harry Yada
- Kahu Kū Mauna:** Ululani Sherlock
- OMKM:** Arnold Hiura, Stephanie Nagata and Bill Stormont
- Others:** Ron Koehler, Rolf-Peter Kudritzki, Ron Laub, Mike Maberry, Ron Nagata, Andrew Pickles, and Dwight Vicente

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hoke called the Mauna Kea Management Board (MKMB) meeting to order on October 22, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Jim Kennedy and seconded by Rob Pacheco that the minutes of the August 27, 2002 meeting of the MKMB be accepted. The motion was carried unanimously.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. OMKM Access Survey

A public opinion survey concerning access to the summit of Mauna Kea was distributed on October 2, 2002. Approximately 1,400 surveys were mailed directly to individuals on OMKM's mailing list. A press release inviting public participation was also sent to the local papers. To date the office has received about 350 surveys. Deadline to respond is October 23, 2002.

The office will tally and compile comments and submit information to Walter Heen who is drafting the administrative rules. Survey results and comments will be made available to anyone who requests them and will be posted on the website.

B. Ranger Corps

Two rangers resigned and recruitment has been initiated to hire replacements.

C. Hawaiian Culture Brochure

The layout of the brochure has been completed and a final review of the text will be made prior to going to print. It should be available for distribution in mid to late November.

D. Wekiu Baseline Monitoring

Gregg Brenner submitted the results of the third installment (August 6 – 28, 2002) of his wekiu baseline monitoring survey. A total of 155 wekiu were observed in his traps, 144 on Pu'u Hauoki and 11 on Pu'u Wekiu.

Dr. Brenner indicated he would be looking at the relationship between the average temperature and capture rates. The fourth monitoring survey is scheduled for November 2002.

E. Arizona Trip

Following the trip to Arizona, members of the group held a follow-up meeting to discuss individual impressions. A presentation will be made to the Board, Kahu Kū Mauna Council and MKMB committees. Andrew Pickles of IfA has volunteered to host the group for IfA and observatories. An article on the trip will be published in UHH's newsletter.

F. Annual Meeting of Mauna Kea Users Group

The annual meeting of the Mauna Kea Users Group was held on October 3-4, 2002 in Hilo. Director Stormont presented an update of OMKM's functions, activities and initiatives.

Jim Kennedy presented a summary of the meeting's presentations. The meeting began with an executive meeting of observatory directors to discuss internal business matters, followed by presentations by each of the observatories on the scientific and technical activities for the preceding 12 months and plans for the near future. A special presentation was given on the Big Island Weather Prediction Project. The objective of this project, which is funded by the observatories and carried out by UH Meteorology Department, is to provide accurate 24 to 48-hour predictions for summit weather.

George Jacob gave a presentation on the status of the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center. David Byrne and Douglas Pierce-Price (incoming committee chair) gave an update on the Mauna Kea Observatories Outreach Committee's activities and its involvement with the VIS. Pui-Hin Rhoads reported on the recent significant upgrades to the observatories digital network connections to the outside world.

G. Impending Visit by UH Manoa Chancellor Peter Englert

Peter Englert, Chancellor of Manoa, will be visiting Hawaii Island on November 10 – 12, 2002. He has requested a visit to the summit. Since IfA falls under Dr. Englert's responsibility, the purpose of his visit is to gain a better understanding of the Mauna Kea situation. He also would like an opportunity to meet members of MKMB and Kahu Kū Mauna Council. OMKM will coordinate the meeting and will inform every one of the date, time and place.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Kahu Kū Mauna Council

Ululani Sherlock deferred the Council's report to the next meeting at which time Ed Stevens will give an update on Kahu Kū Mauna's activities.

B. Administrative Rules, Environment, Hawaiian Culture and Public Safety and Conduct Committees

No reports.

C. Astronomy Education

Dr. Kennedy reported the committee met on September 17, 2002. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the renovation of the Visitor Information Station (VIS) at Hale Pohaku. The meeting opened with a review of the mission of the VIS as depicted in the Master Plan and the OMKM project review process.

There was a general discussion of the overall role of the VIS as envisioned by the Master Plan, including the impact of traffic. It was reported that the visitor count at the VIS has been increasing steadily in recent years. It is likely the visitor count will increase with improvements to the Saddle Road and interest sparked by the Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center.

The core topic of the meeting was astronomy education's role at the VIS and how it would impact any renovation plans for the facilities. Currently, observatories provide primary financial support for the VIS. In addition, many of the observatories have individual outreach objectives that contribute to VIS presentations. It is important for the observatories (perhaps through the Mauna Kea Observatories Outreach Committee) to focus on the message they want to communicate and for other elements of the astronomy education community to collaborate in an overall plan for the astronomy component of the VIS.

There was a wide-ranging discussion about a number of possible enhancements to the facilities. But it was agreed that hard data on current visitor load and demographics would help focus the discussion further. An ad hoc committee will work with David Byrne to do a survey and headcount of visitors over a period of time.

Another meeting will be scheduled later this year.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election Board Officers

It was moved by Jim Kennedy and seconded by Heather Cole to nominate Arthur Hoke for Chair, Rob Pacheco for 1st Vice Chair, and Barry Taniguchi for 2nd Vice Chair/Secretary. The motion was carried unanimously.

B. Approval of New Members of the Kahu Kū Mauna Council

The Kahu Kū Mauna Council recommended Kaleo Kualii and Niniau Kawaihae to fill the remaining two vacant seats on the Council. Mr. Kualii has a background in developing and promoting cultural programs at Hualalai Resort, Four Seasons Ka'upulehu, and was a crew member on the voyaging canoe Makali'i when it sailed to Micronesia. Ms. Kawaihae is a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i studying indigenous politics. As an outreach coordinator for the Hale Kipa 'Oiwi project under the 'Aha Pūnana Leo program, she is responsible for coordinating and disseminating information about the Hawaiian immersion program. Both candidates are born and raised on the Island of Hawai'i.

It was moved by Rob Pacheco and seconded by Barbara Robertson to approve Kaleo Kualii and Niniau Kawaihae as new members on the Kahu Kū Mauna Council. The motion was carried unanimously.

C. Pan-STARRS

Rolf-Peter Kudritzki, Director of the Institute for Astronomy, gave a brief presentation of the Pan-STARRS project. It will likely be a system of small, wide-field telescopes that will be able to scan the entire sky. Most conventional telescopes look only at small sections of the sky. Repeated observations and data gathered over the years will provide a detailed image of the sky, as well as the ability to detect and track "killer" asteroids. The potential harm of an asteroid colliding with earth could be catastrophic. In addition to tracking asteroids, the Pan-STARRS system will study supernovae, expansion, and structure of the universe.

Conceptually, the Pan-STARRS system will include an array of 4 small (1.4 – 1.8 m) telescopes. The real challenge facing the project is the development and construction of a one-gigapixel high-resolution imaging instrument, or charged couple device (CCD). IfA recently received a \$3.4 million award for telescope design study, and for camera, software and data processing design and development. Estimated total cost of this project is \$40 - \$50 million. It is hoped that construction can begin in FY 2003.

IfA will be conducting site tests for image quality at Haleakala and Mauna Kea. A potential location on Mauna Kea is the coude rooftop of the UH 2.2 meter telescope facility. It is envisioned this project will have a low impact on the surrounding environment. IfA will decide which site to propose after it completes its site tests.

IfA will continue dialogue with the Office and Board. All attempts will be made to avoid impact on the cultural and environmental resources. The principal investigator of this project is Nicholas Kaiser.

The Board will take up major/minor project classification at the next meeting.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. OMKM Announcements

Director Stormont made several announcements:

1. Director Stormont will be the featured speaker at The Universe Tonight at the VIS on November 2.
2. Speaking Engagements:
 - November 20: Rotary Club of Hilo Bay
 - November 23: League of Women's Voters
3. Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory will be hosting a groundbreaking ceremony for its new Hilo base facility in University Park on October 28, 2002.
4. Gemini Observatory will be holding a renaming ceremony for the Gemini North Telescope on November 13. The new name will be Frederick C. Gillette Gemini Telescope.
5. Mauna Kea Astronomy Education groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for November 19.

B. Public Statement

Dwight Vicente presented his perspective of the applicability of U.S. constitutional law in Hawaii.

VII. NEXT MEETING

Since there will not be a regularly scheduled meeting in December, the November 26, 2002 regularly scheduled meeting was rescheduled to December 3, 2002, 10:00 a.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hoke adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Barry K. Tamguchi, Secretary, MKMB

December 3, 2002

Date