



University of Hawai'i at Hilo

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**Minutes
Regular Meeting**

Mauna Kea Management Board
Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Kukahau`ula, Room 131
640 N. A'ohoku Place
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Attending

MKMB: Chair Barry Taniguchi, 2nd Vice Chair/Secretary Ron Terry, Herring Kalua, and Christian Veillet

BOR: Dennis Hirota and Eric Martinson

Kahu Kū Mauna: Arthur Hoke

OMKM: Stephanie Nagata and Dawn Pamarang

Others: Taft Armandroff, Doug Arnott, Debbie Chang, Kristin Duin, Linda Fisher, Jim Gaines, M.R.C. Greenwood, Cory Harden, Nelson Ho, Jim Kennedy, Ron Koehler, Tim Lui-Kwan, Jeff Melrose, Stuart Putland, Helen Rogers, and Ian Sandison

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Taniguchi called the meeting of the Mauna Kea Management Board (MKMB) to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Ron Terry and seconded by Herring Kalua the minutes of the October 14, 2009 meeting of the MKMB were unanimously approved.

III. INTERIM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Pu`u Poli`ahu Road Re-naturalization Project

The Department of Land and Natural Resources verbally approved this project; however, the Institute for Astronomy (IfA) has not yet received a written site plan approval from the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). Funding from the original source will expire and Mike Maberry is in the process of looking for other funding sources.

B. Galileo Block Party

On October 24, 2009 the astronomy community held a Galileo Block Party in celebration of the International Year of Astronomy. All of the observatories as well as this office had booths and displays for the public. The event was very well attended.

IV. KAHU KŪ MAUNA COUNCIL (KKMC)

No report.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Public Access Plan

Interim Director Nagata gave an overview of the draft Public Access Plan (PAP) for the UH management areas on Mauna Kea.

Key tenets

The plan is based on six key tenets:

1. Mauna Kea is part of the Public Land Trust and held in trust for Native Hawaiians and the general public
2. Protecting the health and safety of people is a primary concern for UH
3. An informed and educated public is best prepared to make good decisions and behave appropriately
4. Traditional and customary rights are legally and constitutionally protected
5. Good management decisions should be based on data
6. UH has the responsibility to adopt formal rules to manage public activities and should seek compliance at the lowest level of control

The PAP identifies a range of control methods for managing public access. They range from the lowest form of control such as personal responsibility and education, to higher levels of control in the form of contractual requirements and situational control, such as the use of off duty police officers. The highest level of control would involve some level of official law enforcement presence through collaboration with other agencies or the hiring of law enforcement officers. Generally people felt the rangers were most effective in terms of educating the public and controlling activities on the mountain. Because of the infrequency of serious incidents on the mountain, primary law enforcement at this time may not be necessary.

Primary Objective of the Plan

The Public Access Plan is a plan that provides guidance such as principles and policies for OMKM and MKMB to follow in developing specific access management actions and administrative rules.

Key Principles proposed in the PAP include:

1. The University has a mandate to protect the resources.
2. The UH Management Areas are part of the "Public Land Trust" to be managed as a public resource.
3. Public health and safety and the conservation of natural and cultural resources are the highest management priorities.
4. Traditional and customary Native Hawaiians rights need to be preserved and protected.
5. UH should strive to be consistent with the policies and practices in effect for adjacent lands under State jurisdiction.

Key Policies proposed in the PAP include:

General

1. Public access rules will be subject to review and approval by BLNR.
2. Ranger, VIS staff, and volunteer training programs will be sustained and enhanced to ensure high quality interpretive capacity, public safety response and constructive relationships with all user groups.

Public Safety and Emergency Response

1. Public access to the summit region will be limited when road, weather conditions and crowds create conditions that are hazardous to public health and safety.

Education and Interpretation

1. To instill a sense of wonder and respect among all visitors, employees and island residents for Mauna Kea's natural, spiritual, cultural and scientific resources.
2. Educational outreach and advisories regarding health issues are a high priority.

Traditional and Customary Activities

1. Individuals and groups wishing to conduct traditional and customary practices will be safely accommodated.

Commercial Activities

1. UH will follow DLNR's "Policy for Commercial Activities on State Owned and Managed Lands and Waters" in the UH Management Areas.
2. UH will continue to regulate commercial activities and enforce permit conditions to ensure that commercial entities operate safely and appropriately.

Enforcement

1. A range of public control and enforcement options will be used to ensure public safety and resource protection.
2. Compliance with rules will be sought at the lowest levels of control using education, communication and collaboration.

Infrastructure

1. The VIS facilities should adequately accommodate current and anticipated visitor needs.

Monitoring and Management of Human Impacts

1. Public activities will be encouraged to remain in already disturbed areas.
2. Public hunting is allowed and subject to State laws and DLNR rules and enforcement.

Public Review

Open Houses for both the Public Access Plan and Decommissioning Plan will be held on December 1st in Hilo, December 2nd in Waimea, and December 3rd in Kona from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. The public can review the plans and exhibits and submit written comments. There will be no public testimony taken. Both plans will be available on our web site beginning November 23rd. Electronic copies of the plans will also be available at the libraries on this island as well as major libraries on the neighbor islands.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 21, 2009 and is subject to change.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Taniguchi asked for a motion to move into executive session to discuss issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4). It was moved by Ron Terry and seconded by Herring Kalua to enter into executive session.

The public portion of the meeting ended at 10:17 a.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Upon returning from executive session and there being no further business, Chair Taniguchi adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Signed by Dr. Ron Terry
Dr. Ron Terry, Secretary, MKMB

1-19-10
Date