



County of Hawai'i
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
PUNA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN ACTION COMMITTEE

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Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Dan Taylor called the Puna Community Development Plan (PCDP) Action Committee (AC) meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Kea'au Community Center, with the following persons present:

Action Committee: Barbara Bell, Madie Greene, Kelly Nafie, Keikialoha Kekipi, René Siracusa, Patti Pinto, Dan Taylor and Oshi Simsarian. Excused: Frank Commendador.

Staff: Larry Brown (Planning Department, Project Manager), Elizabeth "Liz" Hultman-Salfen (Planning Department, Community Planning Assistant).

Members of the public: 5

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Dan Taylor introduced and welcomed the new members of the Action Committee
2. Larry distributed the following documents to the Action Committee members
 - a. Updated Title Page to the Puna Community Development Plan with all Ordinance Numbers
 - b. Updated Puna Community Development Plan with all revision approved by the County Council
 - c. Open Meetings- Guide to the "The Sunshine Law" for State and County Boards dated October 2011
 - d. Contact list
 - e. Memorandum from the Planning Director to the North Kohala CDPAC regarding the roles of the Action Committee
 - f. Scope of Community Development Plans by the Planning Department Staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Barbara Bell made a motion to approve the minutes with the following corrections:

- **Correct Public Testimony # 8 René Siracusa. Add “Patrick Kahawaiolaa has expressed his opposition”**
- **Greg Braun comments should be included in Public Testimony # 6**
- **Correct the following misspelled names: Dan Taylor, Jon Olson, and Mac Castillo.**

Second by Madie, 7 in Favor and 1 Abstain (Keiki); Motion Passed

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

1. Jerry Souza – He owns property across from Woodland Center and is inquiring why the boundary line of the Pāhoa Village Center in the Puna CDP does not include his property. Mr. Souza was told that the boundary lines are only preliminary and all zoning changes would have to go through the normal channels (Planning and State Land Use). The AC invited him to join the Pāhoa Regional Town Center Planning Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Election of Chair and Vic-Chair:** After discussion this agenda item was tabled to the end of the meeting.
2. **Hawaiian Paradise Park PMAR Committee:**
 - a. James Weatherford reported on the results of the survey of HPP (Hawaiian Paradise Park) residents by the HPP PMAR Committee. The HPP PMAR Committee was formed by residents of HPP. The survey had 204 responses (94 hard copy and 112 on-line). This was an initial survey and another will be going out with the HPP annual road fees.
 - b. The survey results regarding travel patterns were as follows:
 - i. 45% other community; 38% car to Hilo; 17% travel elsewhere by car; and 1% travel to Hilo or elsewhere by bus
 - c. The survey results regarding awareness of the PMAR:
 - i. 69% were aware of PMAR and 31 % not aware
 - ii. Awareness was from 57% from Association and neighbors; 22% news media; 12% other.
 - d. The survey results regarding the advantages of PMAR:
 - i. 27% Less congestion on Hwy 130; 34% Emergency evacuation; 9% internal travel in HPP; 14% travel to Puna Makai; and 15% no advantage.
 - e. The survey results regarding the negative factors of the PMAR (one could choose more than one answer):
 - i. 24% loss of property; 22% noise/pollution; 22% increase traffic and trucks; 19% community split; 10% other which included increase crime.
 - f. The survey results to “Do you favor the PMAR across HPP?”:

- i. 14% yes; 24% yes with community input; 41% No, and 21% Uncertain.
 - g. The PMAR committee is seeking a better survey which should include more precise information on purpose of travel. They are seeking a scoping survey and community input before the EIS. Larry informed the AC that he had prepared a survey in collaboration with DPW that still requires approval by the Mayor before running, which is hoped will provide input from a broad range of stakeholders. Oshi suggested having focus groups looking at “what would work.”
- 3. **Fern Forest-Eden Rock Estates Connectivity:** Paul Lackner from Fern Forest presented his vision of intra-subdivision connectivity between Fern Forest and Eden Rock which would include roundabouts and roadways that keep the natural scenic beauty. He would like this to be a first good example of community planning leading to intra connectivity. He believes the road should connect the subdivisions and not be thought of a quick way to Hwy 11.
- 4. **Pāhoa Regional Town Center Planning Committee:** Kelly reported that the committee will be seeking community input at farmers markets in the area followed by a town meeting and brainstorming session in Pāhoa, probably in mid-February. More details to come with press releases. They will introduce an Appreciation Inquiry Process which asks individuals what they like about Pāhoa and what would make it better. They will be seeking input from all stakeholders in the 96778 zip code area.
- 5. **Park Development Projects:** Tuesday, January 17, 2012 there will be a Public Meeting on the 56 Acre Pāhoa Park Parcel at the Pāhoa Community Center at 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. to discuss how the 5.5 M bond money might be used to develop park facilities on the site.
 - a. Councilman Fred Blas will be introducing several CIP projects this year. They include Ahalanui Park restroom and parking lot improvements; Kehena emergency phone; an ADA walkway and paving at the Isaac Hale Beach Park.
 - b. Hannah Hendrick would like to request a mechanism for communities to develop local neighborhood parks.
 - c. **Madie Greene made a motion for the formation of an AC subcommittee attend the public meeting for the 56 Acre Park and report on how the proposed P & R park plans align with the Pāhoa Regional Town Center planning effort. Subcommittee members will be Kelly, René, Oshi, and Madie. Second by Barbara. All voted in favor**
- 6. **International Biosphere Reserve Progress Report:** Three individuals are filling out the formal nominations to be submitted. The reserve boundary being proposed will be as shown in the PCDP. The whole community of Fern Forest was not in favor of being included within the Biosphere Reserve.
- 7. **Kapoho Wastewater Project:** Barbara Bell summarized the findings of the subcommittee and distributed the Final Report of the Subcommittee with their recommendations. Discussion and Actions on the Kapoho Wastewater program will be on the January Action Committee Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Capital Improvement Project Budget:

- a. Discussion of Barbara Bell proposed CIP for wastewater disposal near the Wai'ōpae Marine Sanctuary. The AC questioned if land acquisition could be included in a CIP budget. Larry will seek an answer. Item will be tabled for the January AC meeting.

2. Action Priorities:

- a. Dan and Oshi will work on the AC priorities identified by the AC at the September 13, 2011 meeting and at a future meeting will introduce a course of action for each priorities.

RETURN TO NEW BUSINESS ITEM 1: ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Oshi moved to Nominate and elect Dan Taylor as Chair and René Siracusa as Vice Chair to serve for the next year. Second by Madie. All voted in favor.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

- 1. Capital Improvement Projects**
- 2. Bike and Pedestrian issues and invite PATH to speak regarding their proposal for Railraod Ave.**
- 3. Invite Richard Bidleman regarding internet connectivity**

ANJOURNMENT:

Madie moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Barbara. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.