

**MINUTES **DRAFT****  
**FOR THE MEETING OF THE**  
**HAWAI'I BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**

DATE: January 14, 2019  
TIME: 2:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building  
Office of Planning, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
235 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order**

Mr. Marzan called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

The following were in attendance:

**MEMBERS:** Marques Marzan (Bishop Museum)  
Brad Ka'aleleo Wong (Office of Hawaiian Affairs)  
Meyer Cummins (Land Survey Division)  
Arthur Buto (Office of Planning)  
Noenoe Silva (University of Hawai'i)  
Holly McEldowney (Department of Land and Natural Resources),  
arrived 2:06pm

**ABSENT:** Kaleo Manuel (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands)

**ADVISORS:** Renee Pualani Louis, left 3:30pm  
Leo Asuncion (Office of Planning)  
Regina Hilo (State Historic Preservation Division)

**GUESTS:** Councilmember Ashley Kierkiewicz (Hawai'i County Council,  
District 4 (Puna))

**AGENDA ITEM 2: Review of Meeting Minutes for November 26, 2018:**

Members reviewed the minutes. Mr. Marzan asked for a correction of a typo on the last page.

**MOTION:** Mr. Cummins moved to approve the minutes as revised; Mr. Buto seconded the motion.

*The members present voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of November 26, 2018 as revised.*

**AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments**

Russian Fort

In December 2018 the Office of Planning received a copy of a letter from the Russian Ambassador to Governor Ige asking that the name of “Russian Fort Elizabeth” not be changed.

Ms. McEldowney provided some background. After a 2017 symposium that addressed the future of Russian Fort Elizabeth, a group was put together to develop plans, one issue being the name of the site with the Hawaiian community members recommending using the historical Hawaiian name.

The authority for renaming the site rests with the Division of State Parks. If the name of the site is changed, it may still come to HBGN for appropriate changes to the GNIS.

Name applications

A number of name applications were received following an NPR broadcast that included a piece highlighting the Kīlauea eruption and the Fissure 8 naming process. These included:

Name application from Brian Thompson to name one of the waterfalls on the Makaleha Trail on Kaua‘i “*Nakeli Falls.*” This request can be added to the list of feature names on the island of Kaua‘i that the Board will consider at a later date.

Ms. McEldowney noted that having the property owner identified on the Name Application Form would be helpful.

Other name applications were proposals for fissure 8:

- Ahu‘ailā‘au*                      Kalani Makekai-Whittaker on behalf of Pi‘ilani Ka‘awaloa, Keone Kalawe, and Lei Kaleimamahu
- Hanaia‘na*                      Feeyah Hutchinson
- Enoho*                              Feeyah Hutchinson
- Hou Ho‘omaka*                Feeyah Hutchinson
- Keahilapalapa*                Vanessa Lee-Miller
- Pu‘u Kupaianaha*              Mele Stokesberry
- Pu‘u O‘Luku*                    Rick LaMontagne
- Kekoheho‘ohenonohoikala‘iopunapaia‘alaikahala*      D. Leilehua Yuen

**AGENDA ITEM 4: Announcements**

Mr. Buto announced that prior to stepping down as Acting Director for the Office of Planning (OP), Mr. Asuncion delegated OP’s member position to Mr. Buto, until an interim Director is in place.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Presentation at the Joint HLSA and HIGICC Conference in March 2019**

Mr. Cummins reminded members that there is a joint conference on March 21-22 between surveyors and GIS professionals.

The conference is an opportunity to do a practice run on introducing ourselves, what we do, what the GNIS is, how we make decisions, how those decisions affect agencies and the community. Mr. Cummins will come up with a framework for a presentation for HBGN, but he's looking for other Board members to help present and to speak as a group.

Mr. Buto contacted the Office of Information Practices (OIP) to identify any concerns with HBGN Board members participating in this conference. OIP felt that there shouldn't be any issues because the conference is not about any decisions that HBGN is currently facing. OIP said to be conservative, however, fewer than four members (a quorum) should attend.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: Establishment of Permitted Interaction Group**

Mr. Asuncion reviewed the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) process. Three meetings of the Board must take place:

- **First**, to establish the scope of the PIG's investigation and the scope of each member's authority. The PIG can then conduct its investigation.
- **Second**, at which the findings and recommendations of the PIG are presented. The Board cannot discuss or act on the report at this meeting. The PIG is disbanded at this meeting.
- **Third**, at which the Board discusses, deliberates, or makes decisions based on the PIG's report.

This meeting of the Board is to discuss and develop the scope and timetable of the PIG. The consensus is that the PIG should review the names that have already been submitted, get clarifications, and identify what is missing from applications. The PIG can also be the body that goes to Puna to hold public meeting(s) to get more information. The PIG's final task is to come back to Board to present its recommendations at the second mtg of the Board. There is no deliberation at this meeting, the Board only accepts the report. At the third meeting the Board can deliberate and make a naming decision.

In case of Wailuku River, the third meeting took place on Maui after a meeting with the community. Unlike Wailuku River where there was only one name change application, the Board is considering multiple applications.

The PIG may schedule as many meetings as it needs. But it has to do so within the timeline established by the Board. The timeline of the PIG should allow for multiple community meetings if that is what the Board anticipates.

The PIG doesn't have to just recommend one name, it may offer several options.

The Board discussed possibly coming to a naming decision by the end of this fiscal year. So, working backwards, the third meeting could be at the end of June; the second meeting could be in May; then the PIG would have February, March, and April to gather information and draft its report.

Ms. Louis noted that Merrie Monarch is at end of April and would be an opportunity to gather public input from attendees who are not from Puna. Members thought it might be too distracting for Merrie Monarch and would not preclude the need to gather input from the Puna community. Also gathering input at that time would not leave a lot of time to put together the PIG's report by May. If the PIG does not meet its report deadline, the AG's office for a different task force recommended disbanding the PIG and establishing another.

Ideally, the PIG's report would be submitted prior to the Board's second meeting, so that it can be included in the meeting packet. This would give the Board time to read and digest the report and formulate any clarifying questions to be answered at the second meeting. The report is public and the meeting packet containing it would be available to the Board members and the general public at the same time.

The Board should set a deadline for applications; prior to the deadline the PIG goes to the community to give overview of process and the criteria/guidelines used (i.e., style guide); the PIG researches applications that have come in to identify any deficiencies; the deadline comes; the PIG comes up with list based on style guide; the PIG goes back out to the community to present all names and its narrowed down list; is there an opportunity to add more names to list? For name applications that are already in, reach out to applicants directly with criteria and guidelines with an opportunity to include more information in their submission.

The PIG puts its report together. Does the PIG come back with one or more names? The report should include recommendations and feedback from the community – how popular was each name; how close to consensus.

If new names added at the community meeting, then the PIG needs to make sure they are complete to avoid having to go back to get more information so that they are on par with the other applications. The PIG needs to be efficient in getting as much information as possible and the best available data from the community meeting.

Councilmember Kierkiewicz asked for clarification about what is meant by "community."

Mr. Cummins clarified that while applications are accepted from anywhere, more weight is given to those coming from people or groups with familial, historical, or cultural ties to the Puna area.

Councilmember Kierkiewicz asked if the naming process will be prolonged if an acceptable name is not found.

Ms. Silva responded that the PIG could report to the Board that the community cannot come to a consensus and recommend that no action be taken; it will depend on the process.

Councilmember Kierkiewicz offered her office's help in coordinating and promoting a Puna meeting with local media and targeted ads on Facebook. She would work with the District Senator and Representative and feels that this would encourage trust in government.

Ms. Louis summarized the discussion: set a deadline for applications; prior to the deadline, the PIG meets with the Puna community to introduce the process, guidelines, and decision making criteria; the PIG contacts current applicants with the same information to give them an opportunity to provide additional information to come up to those standards; after the deadline, the PIG reviews the name applications; the PIG meets again with the community to get their feedback – the PIG presents all names received and may identify the PIG's recommended names – is there a consensus?

It will also be very helpful to the Board to know if there are comments or concerns about the way the names were arrived at – dreams, oral histories, people with genealogical connections – and to find out how the community ranks the importance of those factors.

Mr. Cummins noted that we may need Councilmember Kierkiewicz' help to coordinate two meetings. We need to set a deadline and should take into consideration how long it takes to put together a complete application. The second community meeting should be about a month after the deadline.

If the first community meeting is held at the end of January, with the deadline at the end of February; the second community meeting could be at the end of March; the PIG report at the end of April; the second meeting of the Board in May; and the third Board meeting in June to deliberate.

Mr. Wong asked if the community meeting could be a venue for a collaborative effort to identify a name rather than separate processes that result in name submissions. This approach has worked for OHA for some naming decisions for Papahānaumokuākea.

Ms. Louis stated that hopefully that kind of collaboration can happen on its own outside of PIG’s community meetings.

*Ms. Louis left the meeting at 3:30pm.*

Mr. Cummins added that the collaboration space could be coordinated by Councilmember Kierkiewicz’ office and might even be a social media collaboration.

Mr. Cummins suggested not rushing the developing the scope and timeline for the PIG and would like members to take the intervening month to think about it. He would also like to get Mr. Manuel’s input on process and the community meetings.

Councilmember Kierkiewicz expressed her appreciation for the Board’s consideration of community wants and needs as part of process. Once the scope and timeline are established, a press release should go out to let the community know; following up with the meeting is important. There should be no information gaps and people will feel included.

*Councilmember Kierkiewicz left the meeting at 3:40pm.*

Mr. Marzan raised the question of how the community meetings that the PIG convenes are promoted. Mr. Asuncion stated that the PIG’s meetings are not subject to the open meetings law, so there is more flexibility, e.g., they are part of the PIG’s investigative nature and don’t have to be noticed under Chapter 92. The meetings can be promoted using flyers and don’t have to have the state seal.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Review selected place names on the island of Hawai‘i (Bobby Camara)**

Ms. Silva stated that she’s always heard it as just “Kali‘u.” Bobby thinks the feature class (Puu) was just automatically added to the place name in the GNIS.

**Mr. Buto will check with Jenny Runyon to find out if removing “Puu” from the place name is a Name Change or a simple spelling correction.**

| Stat | FeatID | Name      | Class  | Desired Name | Source | Notes  | Quad        |
|------|--------|-----------|--------|--------------|--------|--|-------------|
| 4    | 363778 | Puu Kaliu | Summit | Kali‘u       | PNH    | PNH: Kali‘u: Hill, Kalapana qd., Hawai‘i (PH 22.) Lit., the well salted.<br>Kali‘u is a pu‘u immediately SW of Keahialaka, Leilani Estates, and Fissure 8. It appears to be another example of the Feature Class being auto-added to the name. The pu‘u, according to many, is simply named Kali‘u. Ka Wai Mukiki (Mūkīkī) in Pele and Hi‘iaka, Emerson. | Pahoa South |

| Stat | FeatID | Name | Class | Desired Name | Source | Notes  | Quad |
|------|--------|------|-------|--------------|--------|--|------|
|      |        |      |       |              |        | Ka wai mukiki ale lehua a ka manu,<br>Ka awa ili lena i ka uka o Ka-li'u,<br>Ka manu aha'i lau awa o Puna:<br>Aia i ka laau ka awa o Puna.<br>Mapu mai kona aloha ia'u<br>Hoolaaui mai ana ia'u e moe,<br>E moe no au, e-e!<br>TRANSLATION<br>O honeydew sipped by the bird,<br>Distilled from the fragrant lehua;<br>O yellow-barked awa that twines<br>In the upper lands of Ka-li'u;<br>O bird that brews from this leafage<br>Puna's bitter-sweet awa draught;<br>Puna's potentest awa grows<br>Aloft in the crotch of the trees.<br>It wafts the seduction to sleep,<br>That I lock my senses in sleep! |      |

**AGENDA ITEM 8: Adjourn**

Ms. Marzan adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 25, at 2:00 p.m., in the Office of Planning Conference Room.