



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

DATE: October 11, 2017
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
Office of Planning, 6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Mr. Mills is serving as Chair for today's meeting in the absence of Mr. Marzan.

Mr. Asuncion delegated his authority on the HBGN for today's meeting to Mr. Arthur Buto for the purposes of quorum and voting in his absence.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order

Mr. Mills called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

The following were in attendance:

MEMBERS: Kamana'o Mills (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands)
Holly McEldowney (Department of Land and Natural Resources)
Noenoe Silva (University of Hawai'i)
Arthur Buto representing Leo Asuncion (Office of Planning)

ABSENT: Marques Marzan (Bishop Museum)
Kalani Akana (Office of Hawaiian Affairs)
Meyer Cummins (Land Survey Division)

ADVISORS: Melia Lane-Kamahele (National Park Service)

GUESTS: Cindy Orlando (National Park Service)
Kaleo (National Park Service)
Bobby Camara (member of the public)

AGENDA ITEM 2: Review of Meeting Minutes for September 13, 2017

Mr. Mills noted that both he and Ms. Silva were not present at the September 13 meeting.
No action taken on this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments

None.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Announcements

Mr. Buto announced that Mr. Akana is out on extended leave from OHA. OHA is in the process of designating a replacement for Mr. Akana on the HBGN.

Mr. Mills provided an update on research into the Pu‘u ‘O‘o place name in Kūki‘o. He checked a story in “*Kona Legends*” about a rooster crowing on the pu‘u, but there was no link to this place or place name. The hill in the story is ‘Akahipu‘u. More research is needed; Ms. McEldowney suggested stories about the area from J.W.H. Isaac Kihe in the newspaper “*Ka Hoku o Hawai‘i*.”

AGENDA ITEM 5: Discuss procedures for reviewing place names within National Park Service boundaries.

[HBGN called Ms. Cindy Orlando, Superintendent at Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park (HAVO), and Keola.]

Recommendation #1.

HBGN include the Superintendents for all National Parks in Hawai‘i in electronic and other distribution lists for meeting notifications, agenda, and meeting packets.

No comments.

Recommendation #2.

To the extent that they are known, the place names to be reviewed at a meeting that are within National Park Service (“NPS”) boundaries will be identified. Likewise, place names to be reviewed that are known to be within designated Wilderness areas within NPS boundaries will be identified.

No comments.

Recommendation #3.

Superintendents or their designees may provide oral testimony or written testimony or documentation for any place names that are likely to be reviewed at an HBGN meeting, or they may provide written comments and concerns within 30 days after the meeting has taken place.

Ms. Orlando noted that the proposed 30 day turnaround time will be difficult to meet. They need to organize a meeting of the kupuna for consultation. A suggested revision to a 60 day turnaround time is acceptable.

Recommendation #4.

HBGN will reference the concerns or documentation provided by NPS in the comments section for the appropriate place name. If provided after-the-fact, the HBGN will notify USGS by email of the NPS concerns or documentation for a

particular place name, and whether or not the HBGN plans to reconsidered its decision as a result.

No comments.

Keola provided some background about the consultation and decision making process for the kupuna group. In particular for Pu‘u ‘Ō‘ō, the kupuna at the time named the feature as two words; the current group wants to retain the two words to honor the kupuna who were involved in the naming. Also, the way that the names appear reflects the time period in which they were named (e.g., “Uwēkahuna” versus “Uēkahuna,” or one word versus two words).

Ms. Louis provided some background about the HBGN’s role to help standardize the spelling of Hawaiian place names for the State and for the US BGN.

Ms. Orlando outlined the corresponding place name process for the local national parks. They make their recommendations to the regional office, which after concurrence forwards them to the Washington office for approval.

Mr. Mills recommended finalizing the draft with the amendment noted above for decision making at the next meeting.

Ms. Louis suggested that the HBGN meet with the HAVO kupuna group in the future to discuss the work of the HBGN. Ms. McEldowney recommended sending a comprehensive list of all of the names in the GNIS that are located in the local national parks. If HBGN meets with NPS we can bring maps showing the names to allow for markup, coded to identify which are currently under review, which have already been decided, etc.

A discussion followed regarding spelling standardization with respect to place names on USGS maps. Ms. Silva noted that we rely on our reference works (e.g., “*Place Names of Hawaii*”) and the Ahahui guidelines; standardized spelling has evolved since the 1950’s to now. It helps users of the maps with pronunciations and to better understand the meanings behind the place names. It was also noted that the process of reviewing the place names in the GNIS allows retaining spelling variants in the database.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Review of selected place names on the island of Hawai‘i (Bobby Camara).

[HBGN called Mr. Bobby Camara, who submitted a list of names that he asked the Board to review. Most of these place names will appear on a map that Frank Trusdell is preparing for publication.]

Ms. Louis related the history of the source “Kumukahi” which is noted on some of the place names that the HBGN reviewed years ago. Ms. Louis was working with some people who were taking maps to kupuna. Puakea Nogelmeier went to visit the singer, Ku‘uipo Kumukahi’s father who was in hospital. Mr. Kumukahi was a native Hawaiian

speaker and grew up in the South Kona area. Mr. Nogelmeier took a map with him, so that Mr. Kumukahi could see it and see how the place names were written. Mr. Nogelmeier transcribed the names based on Mr. Kumukahi’s pronunciations, which Ms. Louis then transferred onto the HBGN spreadsheet, noting “Kumukahi” as the source.

The HBGN discussed the place name ‘Ālika Homesteads on Mr. Camara’s spreadsheet. The spreadsheet shows a “Status” of 5 (“Already Correct in GNIS”), but the “Corrected Name” column shows ‘Ālika Homesteads.

Ms. Silva noted that PNH says, “‘Ālikā ...now called ‘Ālika.” To complicate the issue, on the USGS map, the ahupua‘a name where the homestead is located is spelled “Alika” (it does not have an ‘okina or a kahakō). Furthermore, the source of the flow, ‘Ālika Cone is not in the Alika ahupua‘a at all, but in the Kahuku ahupua‘a in Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park.

Fortunately, the GNIS consistently lists all of the features with the same spelling, ‘Ālika. Similarly the master HBGN spreadsheet lists all of the features with the same spelling, ‘Ālika, **except** ‘Ālika Homesteads. Ms. Louis thinks this is likely a typo. The HBGN spreadsheet will be revised to show the “Corrected Name” as ‘Ālika Homesteads, consistent with the other features, and the “Status” will remain 5.

Status Key: 1 = Not Hawaiian; 2 = Not Reviewed; 3 = More Research Needed; 4 = HBGN Corrected 5 = Already Correct in GNIS; 6 = Name Change

Stat	Feat ID	Feat Name	Feat Class	Corrected Name	Source	Notes	USGS Quad Name	MHZ Comment	AB Notes
5	358568	‘Ālika Homesteads	Civil	‘Ālika Homesteads	Kumukahi	PNH: ‘Ālikā (var); HBGN: associative	Papa	Checked; GNIS has ‘Ālika Homesteads	Pre-09/22/2011: HBGN: ‘Ālika Homesteads; associative; PNH: <i>‘Ālikā. Volcanic cone (7,843 feet), Mauna Loa qd., Hawai‘i, now called ‘Ālika. Probably lit., dig, thrust.</i>

AGENDA ITEM 7: Review of Selected Place Names on the Island of Moloka‘i.

The HBGN did not review these place names.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Adjourn

Mr. Mills adjourned the meeting at 11:55am.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the Office of Planning Conference Room.