

**MINUTES
FOR THE MEETING OF THE
HAWAII‘I BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**

DATE: December 20, 2019
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
Office of Planning, 6th 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 3:05 pm.

The following were in attendance:

MEMBERS: Marques Marzan (Bishop Museum)
Holly McEldowney (Department of Land and Natural Resources)
Meyer Cummins (Land Survey Division)
Kapā Oliveira (University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa)
Brad Ka‘aleleo Wong (Office of Hawaiian Affairs)
Arthur Buto (Office of Planning)

ABSENT: William Aila (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands)
Mary Alice Evans (Office of Planning)

GUESTS: Mahealani Henry (by phone)
Kaleo Manuel (Department of Land and Natural Resources)

AGENDA ITEM 2: Review of Meeting Minutes for November 25, 2019

Mr. Marzan and Mr. Cummins pointed out corrections for some of the member names in the draft.

MOTION: Mr. Cummins moved to approve the minutes of November 25, 2019 with revisions; Mr. Wong seconded the motion.

The members present voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of November 25, 2019.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments

Ms. Mahealani Henry commented that the name she offered came to her through a dream, “*Keahiluaewalu O Pele*,” the eighth fire pit of Pele, and the feature is less than a mile from her location in Nanawale. She asked that two spellings of the name she submitted be accepted, “*Keahiluaewalu O Pele*” and “*Keahiluawalu O Pele*.”

AGENDA ITEM 4: Announcements

UH President David Lassner sent a letter designating Kapā Oliveira as the UH representative on the Board. Dr. Oliveira introduced herself – she has been teaching Hawaiian language for twenty years, she has a PhD in cultural geography, and knows Renee Louis, a long-time cultural advisor to the Board.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Presentation of the Report of the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG)

Mr. Marzan presented the report of the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG). The report includes a timeline of the Kīlauea eruption event and a timeline of the PIG and its activities – the establishment of the PIG, a summary of the May 2019 community meeting in Puna, the four names that emerged after evaluation by the PIG, a summary of the September Puna community meeting, and a summary of the November Hawai‘i County Council meeting at which PIG member, Dr. Renee Louis presented a summary of the Board and this naming process.

At discussions with the community and the County Council, PIG members emphasized that the intention was to elicit names from the community. It is up to the community to come together in support of a name. PIG members regretted that they didn’t have the capacity to create better spaces to bring people together.

Mr. Wong outlined the recommendations of the PIG in the report. One option is to extend the discussion period to allow the community to weigh in on the submitted names, look at other naming decision processes, or come together to put forward a name. The second is to select the name that seems to have the most community support, *Ahu ‘Ailā ‘au*.

The report concludes with suggestions for next steps: discuss with Council members Ashley Kierkiewicz and Matt Kaneali‘i-Kleinfelder, who represent the district of Puna, their insights into the community’s sentiments; consider scheduling a Board meeting in Puna to vote on designating the official name for Fissure 8.

Discussion and decision making regarding the report of the PIG will be on the agenda for a future HBGN meeting. The PIG report will be posted on the HBGN website.

What the PIG learned from this process can be used to tweak the process to help name other features created as a result of the Kīlauea eruption. It is hoped that the community feels empowered through this process if/when it wishes to identify/name other features.

Ms. Henry commented that she understands that the modern naming process is new, she appreciates that the PIG made a concerted effort to reach out; she feels that the opportunities for community input were there.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Adjourn

Board members discussed their availability for a January meeting and regular monthly meetings going forward. The first Tuesday of each month from 10am – 12pm was selected as the regular meeting date and time going forward. The next meeting of the Board will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 10am-12pm in the Office of Planning 6th floor conference room.

Mr. Marzan adjourned the meeting at 3:49pm.