

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

DATE: January 7, 2020
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
Office of Planning, 6th Floor Library
235 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order

Mr. Marzan called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

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: Melia Kamahale-Lane (National Park Service)

AGENDA ITEM 2: Review of Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2019

MOTION: Mr. Wong moved to approve the minutes of December 20, 2019; Ms. McEldowney seconded the motion.

The members present voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of December 20, 2019.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments

None.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Discussion and Action on the Report of the Permitted Action Group (PIG) established to gather information and review name proposals for the feature known as "Fissure 8."

Mr. Cummins thanked the members of the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) for their work and for organizing the report so well. The report provided a timeline of significant events, summaries of the community meetings, and an explanation of the criteria the PIG used to select the four names for consideration. Mr. Cummins expressed his desire to have the community make the choice, perhaps led by the Hawai'i County Council. He favors extending the discussion period to allow more community input as the PIG suggested in its report.

Mr. Marzan commented that the four names were presented at the last community meeting, but there was not a lot of input or engagement by the few who were in attendance. The community did not express a clear preference toward a single name or group of names.

Ms. Oliveira feels that the Board has a kuleana to designate the name. The Board discussed how to go about making the decision. Several Board members expressed the desire to visit the site and to conduct a full Board meeting in Pāhoā, similar to the meeting on Maui for the Wailuku River renaming. OHA had provided some funding support for the travel to Maui.

Members will check with their organizations to see if there is funding available for travel to Puna. Mr. Wong will check with OHA to find out if funding is available. Ms. Oliveira said that UH was already agreeable to sending her to Puna to complete the naming process.

In an informal poll, several Board members expressed support for the Ahu'ailā'au name because of the explanation and documentation that were provided, the nature of the group that put forward the name, their standing in the community, and the general support that was expressed by the community.

The name that is designated now may not be the only name that is associated with this feature. There may be variants proposed in the future, based on common usage. Ms. Kamahele-Lane suggested reaching out to the name proposers whose names are not selected to inform them of the Board's decision and to send them the PIG's report.

A discussion followed about how to move forward with the process to name other features resulting from the eruption. That may be another question for the county council to weigh in on.

Mr. Marzan volunteered to reach back out to the Hawai'i County Council members – Ashley, Sue, and Matt – to get some feedback from them about how they would like the naming process to conclude and if they want to be directly involved.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Discussion and Action on Creation of a Permitted Interaction Group

No action was taken on this item.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjourn

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 10 a.m. in the Office of Planning Conference Room.

Mr. Marzan adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.