MINUTES
MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE ON BEACH AND WATER SAFETY

September 28, 2006
Hilo, Hawaii

Attendance: Ralph Goto, Ocean Safety, City and County of Honolulu
Daniel S. Quinn, DLNR, State Parks
Kalani Vierra, Kauai County Ocean Safety
Marian Feenstra, Maui County Parks and Recreation
Larry Davis, Hawaii County, Aquatics Division
Archie Kalepa, Maui County

The Task Force approved the minutes of the June 16 and July 27, 2006 meetings.

New Business

1. There were no requests for approval of new sign locations.

   Update from Kauai - They will probably be moving some signs at Kealia following construction. When driveway grading is complete, they will determine where the signs should be. In next budget, asking for another tower at Kealia.

2. Report to the Legislature

   State Parks will be generating the annual report and requests input from the Counties. The Task Force discussed the content of the report to include funds saved by Hawaii County no longer needing to purchase liability insurance. The Task Force discussed emphasizing on the benefit of having Act 170 in place is that lifeguards will not have any concerns about being sued from doing their job; no hesitation.

   The Task Force discussed including in the annual report information regarding the Act 190 signs including; benefits of statewide standardization; use in other areas of the country; consideration for use by other countries; and setting a standard referred to in the Sacred Falls lawsuit.

3. Sunset Provision – Act 190/Act 170

   The Task Force discussed how best to work with the Legislature to make Act 190 and Act 170 permanent.
The County Task Force members will work with their agencies and Corporation Counsels to prepare testimony and, whenever possible, to attend hearings and testify in person.

Kauai County will seek participation from the County Counsel, the Kauai Ocean Water Safety Task Force, and the Kauai lifeguards.

The Task Force discussed how to keep all members informed of the progress of relevant measures at the Legislature. Agencies have monitoring systems in place.

Injury Prevention and Control Program at DOH monitors all injury related bills – can monitor Acts 170 and 190 – can send out emails to list several with updates, like when a hearing is coming up, status of bill, when testimony is due, etc.

The Hawaii Lifeguard Association will be preparing and presenting testimony on the issue.

The Task Force discussed getting the word out to the lifeguards on the beaches and the general public to raise awareness of the importance of Act 190 and Act 170.

Testimony in opposition to making the measures permanent has said that Act 170 was passed to allow the State to contract with the Counties for lifeguard services, which is true. Need to make sure testimony points out that Act 170 also provides liability protection for lifeguards for actions in the performance of their duties; a very important issue.

The Task Force discussed the consequences if Act 170 and 190 sunset.

- The Task Force will not exist

There was no old business so the meeting was adjourned
AGENDA

MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE ON BEACH AND WATER SAFETY

September 28, 2006
Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, Hilo, Hawaii

4:30 P.M. Welcome, Introduction

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

New Business
  1. Requests for approval
  2. Report to Legislature
  3. Sunset Provision - Act 190/Act 170

Old business

Adjourn
9:00 A.M. Welcome, Introduction

Approval of Previous meeting Minutes

New Business
1. Requests for Approval
2. Legislative Update
   - Discussion of Act 152
   - Next Steps

Old Business

Adjourned