Kaua’i Ni’ihau Island Burial Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, August 20, 2014
TIME: 09:18 am To 10:34 pm
PLACE: Kauai Department of Transportation Conference Room
1720 Haleukana Street
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

KNIBC MEMBERS: Keith Yap, Landowner/Developer Representative
Mauna Kea, Koloa Representative
Janet Kaeo Bradford, Lihue Representative
Palala Harada, Napali Representative
Barbara Say, Hanalei Representative
Nathan Kalama, Kawaihau Representative
Debra Ruiz, Waimea Representative

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Leiana Robinson, Excused

SHPD STAFF: Kauanoe Hoomanawanui, Kauai Island Burial Sites Specialist
Mary Jane Naone, Kauai Island Lead Archeologist

GUESTS: Randy Wichman, Napali Coast Ohana
Alan Carpenter, State Parks Division
Milton Ching, SCS
Wanda Kau-Shibata, Governor’s Office

I. OPEN REMARKS:

Keith Yap, KNIBC Chair called meeting to order at 9:18 am

II. ROLL CALL/ PULE:

Commissioner Nathan Kalama gave pule.
Chairman Yap, KNIBC members and the SHPD staff introduced themselves.
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. None

IV. BUSINESS

A. Section 106 Consultation Regarding Puhi Road Rehabilitation in the District of Lihue, Island of Kauai, Ahupua’a of Nawiliwili. Federal Aid Project No. STP-5010(1). TMK: (4) 3-3-02, (4) 3-3-03, (4) 3-3-04, (4) 3-3-05, (4) 3-3-12, (4) 3-3-14.

Information/Discussion/Recommendation: Discussion and recommendation of the consultation listed above. Presentation by Department of Transportation.

Chairperson Yap asks for presentation and or comments regarding the consultation. No response or comments were noted.

B. Napali Coast Ohana & Bishop Museum NAPRA Repatriation at Nu’alolo Kai, Napali Ahupua’a, Mana District, Island of Kauai.

Information/Discussion: Presentation by Napali Coast Ohana.

Randy Wichman of Napali Coast Ohana introduced himself and presents a slide show describing their timeline of projected activities of repatriation in Nu’alolo Kai. They have been in consultation with Bishop Museum and working closely with the lineal descendants of the area. Alan Carpenter introduces himself and will be in participation with the group. The group has been in existence for over 20 years and purely voluntary, with the help of many lineal descendants. We have been involved in 3 repatriations in the past. The fragments that are being repatriated came out of a house site in the area. We are repairing numerous other sites in the area that include large walls and terraces. We have a main cemetery as well as a Christian cemetery near the burial site. We have preserved artifacts that will all be reinterred. We already repaired many of the sites and will continue to restore the area the best we can. We invite those here to participate with us once we have the logistics. Councilmember Ruiz asks if the activities will be open to the public. Wichman answers we have much sensitivity to our protocols and locations that won’t be open to the public.

Chairperson Yap asks if the KNIBC can be updated with any progress that takes place as you folks finalize the logistics. Wichman added the next generation needs to learn the kuleana as the old dogs look on. Council member Harada Mahalo’s the Napali Coast Ohana for all their kokua. Wichman continues to explain the logistics will be finalized once Bishop Museum has released the iwi to us. Meanwhile we are standing by for the 30 notification period to end. Our group is ready and prepared to take care and if the council members are interested in attending please let us now as we are entering from the North.

C. Removal of Naupaka from Kaumu‘ali‘i State Park Reinternment Site located at Wailua Ahupua’a, Puna District, Island of Kauai.

Information/Discussion: Presentation by DLNR State Parks.

Alan Carpenter from the State Parks introduced himself and stated the concern described by Holly Mcdowney in a letter addressed to the KNIBC with concerns of the recent naupaka removal. On July 25th state parks groundskeeper observed the removal of the naupaka that covered the burial site. On July 31st the Oahu office was notified and we then notified SHPD. August 4th SHPD did a site inspection to observed possible impacts to the site. From these point state parks doesn’t have clear leads as to why the removal took place. In going forward we could speculate in the reasoning however we would like to restore the site. We would like guidance from this council in how to proceed. Council member Say suggests small signage to prevent intruders. In the original plan we omitted signage answered Carpenter.
Chair Yap suggests they restore the site and Council member Kalama recalled Mrs. Pomroy and Mr. Ching were lineal descendants at the time and suggested the naupaka in the original plan. Councilmember Trask includes discussion with Mr. Joe Kamai whom admits to removing the naupaka as it seemed overgrown. Chair Yap reminds us in respect to the lineal descendants we would recommend the site restored with naupaka in compliance to the original plan.

V. SHPD INADVERTENT DISCOVERIES/OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

A. Kauai SHPD Iwi Inventory Repatriation Plan.
Information/Discussion: Discussion of proposed Repatriation Plan.

Ms. Hoomanawanui from SHPD begins to explain the current inventory of iwi here on Kauai and perspective locations of possible reinternment. Councilmember Trask includes the consultation with the community and the verification of implementation in earlier approved BTPs that may protect some of these sites. In addition we have been working with Nancy McMahon previous SHPD whom knows all or most of the existing burial sites and sites that have been excavated and require reburials. Since most of our office resides in Oahu we here on Kauai are limited in resources until a permanent office becomes available.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2014.

Chair Yap concludes the announcement with a brief moment of silence in respect to the late Cheryl Lovell as she spent numerous years in advocacy for the iwi kupuna here on Kauai.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Yap adjourned the meeting at 10:53 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kauanoe Hoomanawanui