

**State of Hawai'i
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200
Honolulu, HI 96817**

**Minutes of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, January 22, 2015, 12:30 pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robert K. Lindsey, Jr. called the meeting of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees to order at 12:30 pm. Those present were as follows:

Attendance

| | |
|--|--|
| Trustee Robert K. Lindsey, Jr., Chair (departed at 2:30) | Trustee Peter Apo (arrived 1:20 pm) |
| Trustee Dan Ahuna, Vice Chair | Trustee S. Haunani Apoliona |
| Trustee Lei Ahu Isa | Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey |
| Trustee Rowena Akana (arrived 12:40 pm) | Trustee Colette Machado (departed 3:20 pm) |

Excused

Trustee John Waihe'e IV

Staff Present

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Dr. Kamana'opono Crabbe, Ka Pouhana/CEO | Laurene Kaluau-Kealoha |
| Ernest Kimoto, Acting Board Counsel | Crayn Akina |
| Harold Nedd, Chief of Staff | Melissa Wennihan |
| Capsun M. Poe, Board Secretary | Kawika Burgess |
| Jeremy Kama Hopkins | Kawika Riley |
| Kauikeaolani Wailehua | Miles Nishijima |
| Claudine Calpito | Momilani Lazo |
| Davis Price | Derek Kauanoë |
| Lady Garrett | Jim McMahan |
| Liana Pang | Leona Kalima |
| Kanani Souza | Luci Meyer |
| Reynold Freitas | Ikaika Nakanishi |
| Louise Yee Hoy | Natashja Wahine Tong |
| Lehua Itokazu | Keala Nichols |
| Kathy Owara-Takeo | Pilialoha Wong |
| Dayna Pa | |

Others Present

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Dan Purcell | Joe Tassil |
| Louis Agard | Joyclyn Costa |
| Cindy Apana | Breann Nu'uhiwa |
| Clare Apana | Routh Bolomet |

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Apoliona wanted to clarify that she voted kanalua for the first vote for Chair and then voted aye on the final vote. She requested that the minutes note that correctly.

Motion

Trustee Apoliona moved, seconded by Vice Chair Ahuna, to approve the minutes of December 9, 2014, as amended.

| TRUSTEE | 1 | 2 | 'AE (YES) | A'OLE (NO) | KANALUA (ABSTAIN) | EXCUSED |
|--------------------------|---|---|--------------|---------------|----------------------|---------|
| TRUSTEE LEI AHU ISA | | | X | | | |
| TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA | | 2 | X | | | |
| TRUSTEE ROWENA AKANA | | | X | | | |
| TRUSTEE PETER APO | | | X | | | |
| TRUSTEE HAUNANI APOLIONA | 1 | | X | | | |
| TRUSTEE HULU LINDSEY | | | X | | | |
| TRUSTEE COLETTE MACHADO | | | X | | | |
| TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E | | | X | | | |
| CHAIR ROBERT LINDSEY | | | X | | | |
| TOTAL VOTE COUNT | | | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

MOTION: UNANIMOUS PASSED DEFERRED FAILED

Motion passed with nine (9) YES votes, no (0) NO votes, no (0) abstentions, and none (0) excused.

III. COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Ms. Routh Bolomet addressed the Board to discuss the Kū'e Petition, which she views as the voice of the people. She wants to make sure people understand what the petition was about, the struggle they went through, and knowing what they wanted for their children. When she met Clare Apana, she realized that the Kū'e Petition allow our kūpuna to speak to us in the current day. She asked the Board to support Ms. Apana and Joyclyn Costa to continue what their ancestors have asked of them. She was concerned that \$24 million was spent on the Akaka Bill and another \$4 million was spent on Kana'iolowalu. She concluded that the Kū'e Petition is a healing process and until we address that, we can't move forward. She feels if all of us don't win, then none of us win and it doesn't feel good to us to only do for ourselves. That will be the healing that will allow us to prosper in the future.

Trustee Apoliona asked which Kaneakua Ms. Bolomet was related to, to which she responded Carmen Winona Kaneakua.

Mr. Craig "Bo" Kahui addressed the Board to share information and a memorandum from La'i'Ōpua 2020. He feels OHA's mandate is to help native Hawaiians and Native Hawaiians, which he believes are all Hawaiians, and that they serve both. He also shared about an issue La'i'Ōpua 2020 had with a grant proposal, which was denied due to a technicality. He stated that they need kōkua to get their goals done. He understands that OHA staff is limited by the process that is in place. He requested that the grant policies be revised to include a grievance procedure as follows:

- Option 1:
24 hour response by native Hawaiian beneficiary organizations who fail the application submission on a technicality, be offered a "window" to redress the technical flaw related to the application; or, in the alternative

- Option 2:
Establish a grievance procedures/process to redress the initial application process, in which an application was denied for lack of information or a missing form. Qualification of non profit native Hawaiian Beneficiary Organizations with less than three employees are eligible to seek redress. All organizations with four or more employees are ineligible to the grievance process due to its capacity to address issues prior to submitting its grant. Organizations with a “paid grant writer position” are ineligible to seek redress of the denial of their grant application.

Trustee Hulu Lindsey pointed out to the Administration that this is the second time Mr. Kahui has come to address the Trustees on this issue.

Trustee Akana informed Mr. Kahui that this is something the ARM Committee is working on and will be addressing. She added that they will also be looking at the two-year grant cycle and recommended La‘i‘Ōpua pursue an ANA grant.

Trustee Machado inquired about how many other similar organizations have received denials and knows she has received concerned phone calls from those who have been denied. She noted now that it’s a 24 month grant period, it is a great challenge. Dr. Crabbe responded that Administration will present information about OHA’s grants program to the ARM Committee in the near future.

Trustee Hulu Lindsey asked what the purpose of the \$9 million tax credit was. Mr. Kahui responded that they are working with others to pursue new market tax credits, which helps them leverage their resources. Over 8 years, they received \$4 million and another \$8 million from their medical partner. All of that combined amounted to \$22 million, of which \$7 million was cash, for them to

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Crabbe announced that due to time constraints, he would work with Chair Lindsey to schedule an update in the future regarding Executive Team goals.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation by Hui O Maui re independent nation-building ideas, plans, and objectives

Ms. Joyclyn Costa and Ms. Clare Apana started their presentation by sharing a reading from Queen Lili‘uokalani. They shared a video, “Na Maka o ka ‘Āina”, which discussed the Overthrow, the efforts of Hui Aloha ‘Āina, and the Kū‘e Petition.

How do we know that Kū‘e Petition continues? They plan to answer it not just in a legal sense, but also to reach the na‘au. Joyclyn wanted to make sure they provide truthful information, in their handouts, they have familiar names. They also showed continuity of the Kū‘e Petition by having new people sign, citing several people who can trace their family’s support of the Kū‘e Petition to 1893.

Ms. Costa apologized and asked forgiveness for any offense she may have made and that is why she brought poi to share. In the words of James Kaulia, “Protest forever until the last hui aloha.”

Ms. Apana noted that within the pages of their distribution, they have the genealogy of their kūpuna from that time. She sees this as healing for everyone who has touched the Kū‘e Petition.

Ms. Costa concluded their presentation by playing a slide show of past events and outreach efforts, set to an instrumental version of Kaulana Na Pua. She referenced that it is easy for people to come to learn about Kū‘e Petition, she just needs everyone to support this.

Chair Lindsey thanked Hui O Maui for their presentation and noted that apologies were not necessary and that they and all Native Hawaiians should always feel that they are 'ohana and welcome here at Na Lama Kukui.

Ms. Costa noted that her father is her driving force, who just turned 79. She also brought her daughter as documentarian, her sister Jamie as her chauffeur, her Auntie Snookie from Moloka'i, her sister Cindy was called to task to make a database of Kū'e Petition signers, which took three weeks. She also thanked Lynnette Cruz and Uncle Joe Tassil, and Jan Keala Kelley for their support.

Trustee Akana asked if the database was open for public access, to which Cindy answered that it is still in the process of being verified. They have all of Moloka'i and Kaua'i completed, most of Maui, and have just started on Hawai'i Island.

Mr. Joe Tassil shared a story about a woman who was listed as Hawaiian and whose sister was listed as part Hawaiian. He said this is of concern when it comes to Hawaiian Homes eligibility. He believes that many of our people face a problem when people can't prove their 50% blood quantum. He feels we should look into that, address it, and correct it. Many Hawaiians are married to non-Hawaiians, yet when the Hawaiian dies, the non-Hawaiian has to leave. He knows of many Nānākuli graves who include non-Hawaiians who were married to Hawaiians. This is an issue that affects not only us now, but generations to follow.

Dr. Crabbe asked the presenters to clarify what they are doing throughout the Pae 'Āina. Ms. Costa responded that they are using the original petition, without changes, add signature lines, have people find their kupuna, reference them, and continue the process; they are just continuing the same petition as before.

Trustee Hulu Lindsey asked about Hui O Maui's intention to bring this to the Board as an alternative to Kanai'olowalu, asking "What would the process be? Because some of the signers are not Hawaiian by blood." Ms. Costa responded that the problem is figuring out if someone is Hawaiian by blood or a Hawaiian national. She continued, "If OHA already has 125,000 people, why not send them a letter and give them the choice to add their name to the petition?"

Trustee Ahu Isa added, "What was, is...and what is...will be."

Trustee Apo was concerned about the legality of the petition because they are petitioning against annexation, an act that already happened in 1898. This is different than asking for nationhood, it's opposing something that's already been done. Ms. Costa responded that the handout addresses it. Trustee Apo continued that the annexation was with the Republic of Hawai'i. If we were all Americans, there would be no need to create a relationship with a people if we're not separate. He was engaged in a recent conversation with Ken Conklin, who traces his genealogy seven generations back, who feels he is Hawaiian and feels left out.

Ms. Apana stated that the Republic of Hawai'i represented about 3,000 people, whereas the Kū'e Petition represented 37,000.

Dr. Lynette Cruz noted that one of the things academics get hung up on is the truth of history. She reported there was no treaty of annexation, there was only a taking, we need to get that straight or we aren't on the same page. She believes kūpuna are still speaking and speaking to many people. To her, we have to recognize they were in a struggle and had to make a statement. The problem is that the OHA Trustees want to bring people together, but Hui O Maui is operating under a different premise. We have a second chance to fix this. OHA is going in one direction and others are going in another direction. It

doesn't mean they can't work together, we just make sure we all know our history. When there is a joining of efforts, then we will be home free.

Trustee Apoliona noted that every person on the petition, that's where they were at. But between that moment and the moments that followed, we don't know what the priority might have been for that 'ohana along the way. She asked, "Is Queen Lili'uokalani also making a statement?"

Trustee Apo wanted to clarify that he has no objection to empower community groups to pursue political agenda, regardless of direction. But there are some issues that it is not up to OHA to decide, there needs to be a puwalu, so that we can say "We the people want something."

Chair Lindsey thanked the Hui O Maui representatives for their informative presentation and asked that we all consider this a conversation in progress and that to let the conversation continue.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion

Trustee Apoliona moved, seconded by Vice Chair Ahuna, to go into Executive Session to consider Items VI. A. and VI. C. of the agenda, pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4). The motion passed via unanimous voice vote. The Board went into Executive Session at 2:10 pm and exited Executive Session at 3:22 pm.

VII. BENEFICIARY COMMENTS

There were no Beneficiary Comments.

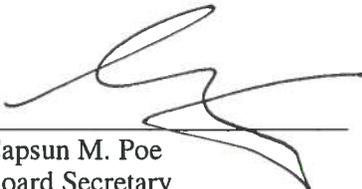
VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Announcements.

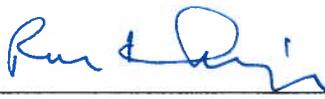
IX. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Vice Chair Ahuna adjourned the meeting at 3:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Capsun M. Poe
Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on February 26, 2015:


Trustee Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.
Chair, Board of Trustees