

Aloha mai kākou,

HPPOA 6.21.23 Mtg. 6pm

My name is Kalena Blakemore, I am 'ōiwi, a Native Hawaiian resident of Puna with ancestral roots to this 'āina pre-European contact and colonial occupation. My ten-years as an archaeologist in Cultural Resource Management at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park led me to serve on the Hawaii Island Burial Council representing Puna. I also work for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs as the land manager for Wao Kele o Puna Forest Reserve.

I'm here tonight in response to a kāhea (calling) from 'ōiwi community members and the Cultural Preservation Committee, who are concerned about the village site known as "Koolauo" in the ahupua'a of Waikahekahe. Discussion of developing a golf course, shopping center, and a water park name just a few proposed plans that have triggered these concerns.

In 1977, this 'āina was granted to Paradise Hui Hanalike with specific guidance for the grantee regarding development of these parcels. In 1985, Rosendahl, observed significant archaeological remains with potential scientific research and interpretive value. His recommendation was to 1) preserve in place and 2) prepare a comprehensive inventory of the remains present. Nearly 40 years have passed and there has been no Archaeology Inventory Survey.

The AIS is mandatory for the of State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) and County permitting before anyone can even begin to entertain such a development in a cultural preserve.

The HPP Community Master Plan (~~2005;section 3.2~~) states, "A community-based planning effort can only be successful if the community is allowed to participate in the implementation of any plan approved by the County." The actions being proposed by HPPOA require your subcommittees to organize and implement public information, news releases, and public information meetings.

My main point for being here tonight is to ask the board to engage in community-based stewardship, to provide a seat at the table for our 'ōiwi voice. I understand the board has at least 8 various subcommittees and directors who are tasked with specific kuleana.

Membership and Title on a HPPOA committee does not grant you authority for sole decision-making processes. If community voice is not allowed, invited, or cultivated for future development and 'āina stewardship...then trust issues, and conflict will arise. This is why I am here tonight. The kāhea is regarding the lack of transparency, trust and potential hidden agendas that leave 'ōiwi community hurt, betrayed and unheard.

My recommendations to the board are:

- to recognize and work with the Waikahekahe Cultural Preservation Committee (WCPC), a community-based organization comprised of Native Hawaiian families with generational ties to Puna, and residents of HPP subdivisions.
- Use the Monthly Newsletter to convey the timeline for the AIS, funding, and details that answer the community concerns. And finally to,
- ~~Utilize an~~ archaeology firm that employs excellent 'ōiwi staff, ASM Affiliates, Nohopapa Hawaii are two-

This ōlelo no'ēau from Tutu Pukui speaks to this kāhea and the boards mission:

He Ali'i ka 'Āina, He kauwā ke kanaka – *The Land is a Chief; man is its servant.*

We the kanaka serve and steward the land, that is our kuleana! The meaning of Hui Hanalike is to work together as a community.

Mahalo nui ā aloha ahiahi