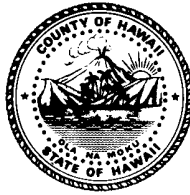


Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor

Lee E. Lord
Managing Director



Zendo Kern
Director

Jeffrey W. Darrow
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i PLANNING DEPARTMENT

KONA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN ACTION COMMITTEE

Aupuni Center • 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Phone (808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-8742

Tuesday, January 10, 2023
DRAFT Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Marisa Bankston called the Kona Community Development Plan (KCDP) Action Committee (AC) to order at 11:12 a.m. This meeting was held at the West Hawai'i Civic Center Planning Conference Room Building E (2nd floor) and via Zoom. Quorum was established at this meeting.

ROLL CALL

AC Members Present: Marisa Bankston (Acting Chair), Charles Young, Shirley David, Janice Palma-Glennie, David Huerta, Shane Palacat-Nelsen, Kari Kimura, Roselyn Molina.

AC Members Absent-Excused: None.

County Officials: Deputy Corporation Counsel, Suzanna Tiapula

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Action Committee Member Shane Palacat-Nelsen motioned to approve the December 18, 2023 meeting minutes. Seconded by Action Committee Member Kari Kimura. Motion passed with 8 votes aye, 0 votes nay.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Two (2) members of the public provided oral testimony.

Community member Cory Harden, representing herself, provided testimony on her experience at a Zoning & Subdivision Code Update Focus Group session. She shared that the online Focus Group was superficial and too fast paced, and expressed concern regarding preserving Hawaiian culture. She also expressed concern on the revision of the General Plan, specifically wanting to know what is being changed and why. She lastly expressed concern and confusion on the current relationship between the Action Committees and the Planning Department, and the Sierra Club's request for a Hawai'i County Council hearing regarding these matters.

Community member Chuck Flaherty, representing the Sierra Club reiterated Ms. Harden's statements. He questioned the legal obligation for the Planning Department to provide support

for Action Committees. He also discussed the revisions to the General Plan requesting a Ramseyer format of proposed changes, the contradictions between the General Plan and the Community Development Plans, and the implementation process.

The Action Committee, Ms. Harden, and Mr. Flaherty discussed the concurrent revisions of both the Zoning & Subdivision Codes and the General Plan, its limited revision timeline, and the Action Committees' role in implementing the Community Development Plans (CDPs) and the General Plan. There was discussion on the need for more transparency, education, and involvement of Action Committees. There were concerns about the process, time and energy, and unintended consequences.

BUSINESS:

1. Action Committee Strategy:

The Action Committee expressed their frustration and confusion with the Planning Department's recent short staffing and level of support provided to Action Committees. They discussed the terms "stewardship", and "administer", as they relate to the Action Committee and Planning Department's respective roles. They considered their strategy to draft a letter to the Planning Director asking the department to contract a committee secretary. They questioned why they should be a formal County board if they have to do their own minutes. Questions were posed by the Action Committee regarding the Planning Department's legal obligation to Action Committees as committees that serve in an advisory capacity to the Planning Director.

There was a brief conversation around the Planning Department's short staffing situation and the County's recruitment for new Action Committee applicants. The Action Committee had a robust discussion regarding the Planning Department's commitment and legal obligation to the Action Committees. They discussed their draft letter to the Planning Director, asking for more support and clarification.

Community member Flaherty raised the 2019 Kona CDP amendments stating that the Planning Department purposely did not change the term "Implementation Committee" to "Action Committee" in the revisions. Committee members shared general concern about the amendments, specifically the policy changes from "shall" to "should".

Note: A Ramseyer format of the ordinance to amend the Kona CDP (ordinance 19-91) can be found here: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/WebLink/0/doc/985469/Page1.aspx>

Action Committee Member Palacat-Nelsen recommended the Action Committee create a strategy timeline to reaffirm the commitments between the Planning Department and the Action Committee. He suggested to create a formal strategy outline to be inclusive of their formal agenda. He thanked everyone for their mana'o, though stated that today's discussion reiterated the last meeting's deliberations.

Action Committee Member Shane Palacat-Nelsen motioned to amend the draft letter to the Planning Director to include a question to ask for clarity regarding the relationship between the Planning Department and the Action Committee. Seconded by Action Committee Member Charles Young. Motion passed with 8 votes aye, 0 votes nay.

68 Agenda Items #2 and #3 were tabled at this time. The Action Committee agreed that Vice-Chair
69 Bankston will continue to Chair all future meetings until an election takes place.

70 **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** The Action Committee discussed having
71 Director Kern attend their next meeting to address their concerns. They agreed to meet on
72 Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 11:00am.

73 **ADJOURNMENT:**

74 The meeting was adjourned at 1:10pm.

75 This agenda and all related documents are available in the Planning Department's Kona
76 Community Development Plan Action Committee folder via [the County of Hawai'i Public](#)
77 [Documents Repository](#). These documents may also be requested from the Planning Department
78 by calling (808) 961-8288 or emailing cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov.