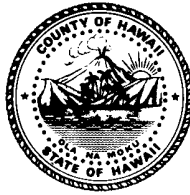


Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor

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, September 12, 2023
DRAFT Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Member Charles Young facilitated the Kona Community Development Plan (KCDP) Action Committee (AC) meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:06 P.M. This meeting was held online via Zoom, and in person at the West Hawai'i Civic Center Planning Department Conference Room.

The YouTube video of this meeting can be found here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_1iCCxtivc

ROLL CALL

AC Members Present: Charles Young (via Zoom), Nancy Pischchio, John D. Pelletier, Gary Jaster, Zarine Dorabji, David Huerta (via Zoom), and Heather Korotie

AC Members Absent-Excused: Marisa Bankston, Roselyn Molina

County Staff: Planners – Bethany Morrison, Maryam Palma, Janice Hata

County Officials: Deputy Corporation Counsel, Suzanna Tiapula

Members of the public: 8

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Kona CDP Action Committee Welcome New Members
2. The Action Committee is seeking a volunteer Secretary to take meeting notes and collaborate with the Planning Department accordingly. Any interested parties should email cdp@hawaiicounty.gov. AC Member Nancy Pischchio offered to use a Microsoft 365 program to transcribe the recorded file of the meeting into a text document and create a summary of the minutes of the meeting. AC Member David Huerta commented that Zoom has a transcription program that is part of the software, therefore eliminating the need to export a file. Charles Young pointed out that the minutes do not have to be verbatim, but they really do have to capture the spirit of the content of the discussion and to be accurate in terms of who makes motions, who seconds the motion, and the final vote. Corp. Council agreed but

she added that speakers need to identify themselves for the record. This includes members of the public not sitting at the table. In addition, Corp. Council pointed out that she can only hear the people who are at the table, the people farther away cannot be heard through the speakers.

3. General Plan Update: Bethany Morrison, Long Range Planner with the County of Hawaii provided a brief update on where we are on the General Plan comprehensive review. Recently a press release has come out that details the various things that we're doing to reach out into the community and make sure that the Action Committee has an opportunity to participate in this update. The Planning Department hosted a recorded video series on the planning YouTube channel. The PD will also be doing public informational workshops. One is scheduled for September 30th. It will be here at West Hawaii Civic Center from 2:00 to 4:00. Other opportunities for sharing the new GP draft with the public include roadshow presentations where community groups can invite staff to their already regular meetings. There will also be informational booths at various planned Community events. Workshops, which are similar to the public informational workshops for those that cannot attend in person, there will be a Zoom webinar option there. The General Plan is our comprehensive long-range document for our county. It guides infrastructure decisions and land use decisions. Everything we do has to be consistent with that plan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Committee Member Nancy Pisicchio moved to approve the July 25, 2023 minutes. Motion seconded by Committee Member John Pelletier. Motion passed with 6 votes aye, 0 votes nay.

BUSINESS:

1. Chapter 5.3 Implementation Matrix:

Discussion to initiate a status update of the items within the matrix. Consider top priority community actions the AC may want to move forward and the potential creation of respective permitted interaction groups. The matrix can be found on pages 163 - 172 of the Kona CDP. This agenda item was suggested by Committee member Zarine Dorabji. Zarine was questioning the current status of action items that appear in the Matrix. She asked, for example, whether the Kona Mauka Watershed Partnership has been formed yet. Committee members suggested there is a need to go through the Matrix and identify things we want to work on, and what has been done so we can get a sense of where the AC could have the most impact. It was suggested that the previous Meeting Minutes be reviewed to identify priorities that have been identified by the Committee in the past and not to "reinvent the wheel". A five-year look back through the Minutes was suggested. The Minutes would also include letters from the AC Members to the Planning Director that identified priorities. The Committee members discussed the need to go through the Matrix and identify things we want to work on, just what has been done and what so we can get a sense of what, where we could have the most impact.

Charles Young also suggested that the new County Climate Change Plan also be reviewed in the process of reviewing the Kona CDP Matrix. It was suggested that the possibility of forming a Permitted Interaction Group to look at the Climate Change Plan could be added to

the next meeting's Agenda. Heather Korotie expressed an interest in the idea. The new Permitted Interaction Group could make recommendations with respect to implementation of the matrix and any additional needs that any additional needs might be related to the Climate Change Plan.

2. Kealakehe Regional Park:

Discussion and potential creation of a permitted interaction group to follow and support this project. This agenda item was suggested by Committee member John Pelletier. The Kealakehe Regional Park is identified in the KCDP Implementation Matrix as Policy PUB-6.2 (a). John explained that the West Hawaii Parks and Athletic Corporation has been trying to move this park project forward. He explained a desire to determine what we can do to help. He would like to create a Permitted Interaction Group to investigate where we're at and try to move this project forward. The park is mapped out, but currently, there is nothing there.

The AC voted to form a Kealakehe Regional Park Subcommittee with John Pelletier representing the AC on the new Subcommittee. The motion was made by Committee member Nancy Pischio, seconded by Heather Korotie. Motion passed with 6 votes aye, 0 votes nay.

3. Permitted Interaction Groups (PIG):

The existing groups will provide updates, reports, or discussions and may vote to close any PIGs as needed.

o Community Outreach:

Open nominations: Corp. Council explained that the AC needs to establish who's going to be on the committee in this meeting or in a public meeting. She reminded the AC members that there is a limitation of four AC members and that those four need to be articulated in the meeting. After that, other members of the public may join the Permitted Interaction Group. It was agreed that Nancy Pischio, John D. Pelletier, Zarine Dorabji, and Heather Korotie will be members of the new Community Outreach Subcommittee.

A member of the public raised the issue that the Commission he serves on with the county, Department has Staff serves to generate Community Outreach. He stated that the Police Department has a Community Outreach officer. He recommended that the Planning Department should have a community outreach person.

o Flood Mitigation and Erosion Control:

The AC Committee currently has no members on the Flood Mitigation and Erosion Control Subcommittee. It was recommended that it be closed out. Charles Young stated that he doesn't think the subcommittee actually met so there is nothing on the record. It officially doesn't exist. The AC can re-agendize it later if the committee decides to bring it back for later discussion. In that case, as new Subcommittee would have to reform with a new purpose and new members.

o Kona Open Space Network (KOSN):

of the Subcommittee, Kari Kimura summarized the written report that was submitted to the AC. The lead consultant under contract with the County is Jacob Engineering. The

project leader is Christian Nishimura. The Planning Department is the lead agency. County Planning Department Staff Natasha Soriano is the project leader. About 80 to 100 people came to the Old Kona Airport Pavilion for the KOSN Kick Off open house.

Subcommittee Janice Palma suggested that we need to have those concepts of smart growth that are in the Plan such as TOD's and somehow have them a part of the open space network are the green belts.

Kari Kimura stated that the Subcommittee will come back to the AC periodically just to keep everyone updated.

Charlie Young commended Kari, Janice, and Shirley for their commitment to getting this project to where it is.

AC Member Nancy Pischio had been nominated to represent the KOSN Subcommittee. Kari Kimura suggested that three AC Members serve on the KOSN Subcommittee as had been the case when Kari, Shirley David, and Janice Palma had served on the KOSN Subcommittee before stepping down as AC Members.

A question was raised regarding how new community members are able to join a Subcommittee. The recommendation was that this should be decided by the Subcommittee members.

Nomination of new AC members to KOSN Subcommittee.

Committee Member John Pelletier moved to add Nancy Pischio, John Pelletier, and Gary Jaster to the KOSN Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Committee member Gary Jaster. Motion passed with 6 votes aye, 0 votes nay.

o Public Access, Open Space, Natural Resources (PONC):

There currently is no Public Access, Open Space, Natural Resources (PONC) Subcommittee.

4. Action Committee Meeting Strategy:

The Action Committee will discuss the meeting cadence schedule, logistics, and format of future meetings such as if they should be all in-person or hybrid Zoom/in-person.

It was pointed out that Staff needs to participate in order to provide the option for Zoom participation. For the in-person meeting format, AC members can run the meetings themselves and keep meeting Minutes. The draft Minutes are sent to Staff to complete. A number of individuals also pointed out that the use of Zoom increases the chances that people are unable to hear the discussions.

AC Members raised the point that in-person meetings are preferable, but that providing the opportunity to participate via Zoom was practical. Members stated that they can commit to attending meetings if Zoom participation is an option. Without providing for Zoom participation, it may be difficult to get a quorum. It was agreed to continue running hybrid Zoom/in-person meetings.

Regarding the schedule for future meetings, Staff pointed out that to provide the opportunity for Zoom, the room should be reserved a month in advance. The AC Members discussed whether to schedule monthly meetings or to continue holding meetings every other month. These meetings would be held on the third Tuesday of the month, from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

1. Nancy Pisicchio requested that Community Outreach be included on the agenda.
2. John Pelletier requested that Kealahou Regional Park be included on the agenda.
3. A discussion of Kona CDP Action Priorities was suggested to be included on the agenda
4. Gary Jaster suggested that KOSN be included.
5. Charlie Young asked that a General Plan Update be included in the Community Outreach report.

The next meeting was set for November 28, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT:

Without objection, Committee Member Young adjourned the meeting at 6:38 P.M.

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