

MINUTES OF PARKS, WATER & ROADS SUB-COMMITTEE September 28, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Sarah Pule-Fujii, Toni Withington, Carter Collins, Andi Longpre (minutes by Andi)

INTEGRATED AG WATER SYSTEM: Toni Withington reported on a September 26, 2016 meeting that she attended. In attendance were Senator Lorraine Inouye; Keith Okamoto, head of County Water Supply; Jeffery Pearson, deputy head of the State Water Commission; Bob Lindsey and Guido Giacometti, Kohala Ditch Foundation board members. Senator Inouye has transferred the \$1.5 million from DOA to the DNLR where it will be administered by Mr. Pearson. Mr. Pearson is tasked this first year with studying the resources, the need, sustainability and the preliminary costs of getting it online. Future funding will be available through the state and federal governments, but decisions will be made locally.

There was complete agreement that the system will be staffed and operated by locally by Kohala residents through a non-profit.

The DWS has agreed to provide all the legal and geographical information about the tunnels and other available resources. The State Water Commission is willing to draw up the R.F. P. for an engineer to do the work before the end of this year. The most immediate need is for a non-profit entity to take on the administration of the system. Senator Inouye would like to get together a community meeting with the stakeholders, farmers and anyone interested in being involved or supportive of a system fairly soon. Toni reported that the "Water Paper" that John Winter developed was extremely helpful for this meeting. Our sub-committee will reach out to various community members such as the "Community Cooperative Association" (see Kohala Mountain News Sept 23rd) to ascertain their interests in this project.

HISAOKA GYM: ROOF and FLOOR: Carter reported that the new floor is in at the gym; it is a synthetic material that has some "bounce" in it. However, the roof has leaked again and damaged about 15 square feet of the new floor. The Park Manager is looking into whether the one year warranty on the roof is still in effect.

ROADS: Coast Guard Road has become dangerous and needs repairs. Mr. Bobby Command has spoken with the Halbritter family and agrees that the road is in need of repairs. He agreed to seek a "work order" from the Mayor's Office to start the repair process.

Pratt Road: Despite a March 7 meeting in Hilo, a letter of June 20, and an e-mail on July 21st; Mr. Lee and the Dept. of Public Works have not responded to our request for assistance in developing a "Revocable Right of Entry Agreement" between the Pratt Rd. landowners and the community IF there is a need to use Pratt Rd. as an emergency by-pass. (as identified in the North Kohala CDP).

Akoni Pule Highway (especially in the Niuli'i area to Pololu look-out): There is a great need for road reflectors for night driving. This is a dangerous road with many unseen curves, road debris and narrow bridge areas. On June 3rd, Andi called Mr. Panem's office (Highway Dept) re: our request for a copy of the bridge evaluations. He was out of the office that day so she called back on June 10th, she called again on June 13th and was transferred twice to his office. He did not respond; Andi sent another e-mail request. Sarah Pule – Fujii has also called and to this date there has been no response from Mr. Panem.

PARKS: Mahukona toilets are filthy and in very poor conditions. The sink at Keokea is still plugged and the tree trimming along the park road has not been done.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 5 P.M. at the Senior Ctr.