

CHARTER COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 2, 1991  
LANAI SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Present

Dolores Fabrao  
Robert Nakasone (Chair)  
Victor Reyes  
Allan Sparks  
Anne Takabuki  
Lloyd Yonenaka  
Sue Nakano-Ruidas (Staff)

Excused

James Cockett  
Sherrilee Dodson (Vice Chair)  
Annette Mondoy  
Jamie Woodburn  
Deborah Wright

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nakasone opened the public meeting at 7:12 p.m.

II. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT CHARTER FOR MAUI COUNTY AND  
PRESENTATION OF IDEAS FOR AMENDMENTS

- A. Commission member Sparks presented a brief history of the Charter of Maui, subsequent amendments to the Charter and a description of the duties of the Charter Commission.

As Chair of Committee A, Sparks presented details of proposed districting schemes for an At-Large system (with adjusted residency requirements) and for two types of True District systems: all nine equal districts and a seven equal plus two district system.

Sparks noted that the proposed "districts" on the three presentation maps were merely for visual purposes and that "districts" could be formed in any number of ways. He asked Lanaians present to "keep an open mind about districting and not reject it out-of-hand," further reminding them that it was possible that their percentage of influence and pool of candidates would both become larger.

- B. Commission member Anne Takabuki presented a brief overview of the County budgeting system and the purpose of the Board of Ethics in County government.

II. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT CHARTER FOR MAUI COUNTY AND  
PRESENTATION OF IDEAS FOR AMENDMENTS (Continued)

- C. Commission Chair Nakasone explained the purpose of the public meeting on Lanai as being educational, informational and also the opportunity to receive input from the public. He noted that this was the first phase of the Commission's work, with the second phase being deliberation and the third phase decision-making and packaging for the voters.

III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

- A. Ron K. Mc Ombler (NOTE: Although Mr. Mc Ombler signed in as representing Lanaians for Sensible Growth, his testimony was presented on a personal basis) addressed several concerns:
1. Home-rule for Lanai with Lanai electing its own representative.
  2. Limit terms of Council to ten years to allow for "new blood."
  3. He felt the Board of Variance and Appeal had an "exhorbitant amount of power" to change zoning and that the Board should be limited to making recommendations to the Council--not have the power to actually get zoning changes passed.
  4. He further felt Lanai needs its own Planning Commission to allow them to "govern their own destiny." He also felt that it should be built into the qualifications for the commission that members not be related or tied to the "company."

When questioned by Charter commissioners, Mc Ombler stated that he did not favor an advisory commission/committee to the current Planning Commission.

III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY (Continued)

- B. John W. Ornellas (Individual) supported the previous testimony by Ron Mc Omer and added his concerns for the need to have a planning commission for Lanai for three reasons:
1. He feels decisions about Lanai should be made by Lanaians;
  2. He feels Lanai does not have the representation they need; and
  3. If Molokai can have their own planning commission, why not Lanai?

When questioned by commissioners, Ornellas replied that he "could live with Molokai" if it came to putting the two islands together in a district scheme.

- C. Elaine Kaopuiki (Individual) noted that it was time for new blood and new ideas, and she felt that a planning commission for Lanai was a "great idea."

She voiced her concern over current water shortages, noting that she was born and raised on Lanai and there were never these concerns before recent development.

- D. Martha Ann Evans (Individual) supported previous testimony for a planning commission for Lanai. She noted that they had a chance to be part of Molokai's Planning Commission at one time but did not take that opportunity. She also felt the current planning commission was not listening and responding to Lanai's recommendations.

When questioned by commissioners, Evans noted that she personally felt that Molokai and parts of rural Maui "could be palatable" in a districting scheme, IF Lanai had its own planning commission.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Nakasone pronounced the public meeting closed at 8:58 p.m.

APPROVED:

Robert Nakasone                      1/16/92  
Robert Nakasone, Chairman              Date