

Maui County Arborist Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2014

1. Call to order 1:36 pm
2. Meeting Business
  - a. Approval of minutes—copies unavailable
3. Unfinished Business
  - a. Costco—Planner will carefully review plan for appropriate trees as Costco works to install PV panels in the parking lot.
  - b. Staff support to committee—Sue Kiang has been reassigned to the committee to assist in the work. Secretarial help will be forthcoming.
  - c. Keopuolani Park—The irrigation has been repaired. Funds continue to be available to accomplish the desired project of adding trees to the park.
  - d. Exceptional tree nominations—Sue will assist Kimberly in developing the packet for transmittal. The fourteen trees along South Kihei Road were surveyed and found to be the property of the County of Maui according to the Deputy Director of Public Works. While the Department of Transportation has given a verbal approval for those trees along the highway going into Wailuku, this needs to be verified with a letter from them. If all the information can be compiled, the chair of the EAR Committee of the Council is willing to present the packet of nominations to his committee on 11/18/14.
4. New Business
  - a. Arbor Week—The honorary chair position was discussed. Pat Bily of The Nature Conservancy on Haleakala was nominated in a motion made by Jeannie Pezzoli and seconded by William Jacintho and approved unanimously. David Sakoda will prepare the Proclamation by the Mayor. He will be coordinating a planting project with the Lion's club at Luana Gardens on 11/8/14. Other activities include the tree give-away at the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens on 11/1/14. On 11/8/14, Maui Green & Beautiful will sponsor "Malama the Trees" conference to be held at Maui College from 8 am until noon. The theme of the conference is using the Maui County Planting Plan to create landscapes. At 1 pm on the same day, a Tree Circus will be held at Maui Mall as an educational event for children regarding the value of trees. This is a joint project of U.S. Forestry and the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. They will also be making presentations at the Boys and Girls Clubs and several schools.
  - b. County bill on park volunteers—no additional information was available.
5. Old Business
  - a. Maui County Planting Plan—Copies were distributed that reflected the input from the departments. It was difficult to identify the changes so the Committee asked to have the marked copies from the various departments to more readily see their changes. Chris Reynolds made a motion to request the marked copies from the departments by 10/17/14. It was seconded by Jeannie Pezzoli and approved unanimously. Ernie Rezens, the author of the revised plan, reminded members that

the departments had been contacted throughout the development of the plan and their input already had been incorporated. Brianne Savage, Interim Director of Parks, had communicated that the distributed documents were the revisions. However, David Sakoda did not see his input and still did not agree with the charts. The process for approval is the Committee forwards the document to Council for their review then a Public Hearing is held before it goes to the Mayor for his final approval. The members spent time discussing how the document should be forwarded. After much discussion and a tabled motion, the Committee gave itself another month to review and reflect on the finalized document. The intent of revising the Plan was to create more shade, provide better management of the care of trees and to address the issue of invasive species.

#### 6. Committee Reports

- a. Tree Concerns—The trees that had been cut to the ground in the parking lot of Azekas shopping center in Kihei have been replaced with new trees. Maui Marketplace is replacing the trees that were malpruned with new rainbow shower trees. The palms at the corner as people come into Kihei are very dry. This had been true in the past when the Governor made a visit to the island and he was able to get them watered.
  - b. Exceptional Trees—Members recalled a past project regarding the rainbow shower trees along Baldwin Avenue. They were told to defer the project until the trees could be pruned. Jeannie Pezzoli made a motion to request a follow-up report from the Arborist regarding the status of the work on those trees. The motion was seconded by William Jacintho and passed unanimously. The annual inspection of the exceptional trees was discussed. Members wondered if the care of exceptional trees had a priority for the budget. The upcountry trees were assessed by Jeannie Pezzoli and Ernie Rezens. They found the jacaranda at the manager's house was in good shape with a full canopy. The Moreton Bay Fig at the old Baldwin manor is dead. Her report will be attached to the minutes for the record. Chris Reynolds will review the Hana trees as he has done in the past. He asked about a stand of Cooke Pine that are due to be removed under a contract with the County. Members knew that one had fallen and harmed an individual. They wanted to be sure a risk assessment had been done before all were removed. Richie Campas will assess the tree in Harlan Hughes yard and give him feedback on bracing some of the branches. The exceptional trees at D.T. Fleming arboretum will be seen at an event scheduled by Maui Green & Beautiful on 10/25/14.
7. Chairman's Report—deferred due to lack of time.
  8. Arborist's Report—unavailable as he excused himself before the agenda item.
  9. Agenda Development—Meeting in November will be in the Parks Conference room on 11/12/14. Topics to be discussed will include but not be limited to the Keopuolani planting project, the Exceptional Trees transmittal, Tree concerns to include the Kihei palms, volunteers in Parks, and the Maui County Planting Plan.

Those present: Kimberly Thayer, Richie Campas, Jeannie Pezzoli, William Jacintho, Dennis Morihiro, Chris Reynolds, members of the Committee; David Sakoda, Sue Kiang, Parks staff; Guests: Cheryl McGrath, Elaine Molina, Ernie Rezens, Barbara Fernandes, Marilyn Colvin

Respectfully submitted: Sue Kiang 11/21/14 approved as corrected