

Maui County Arborist Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2015

1. Call to order at 1:35 pm when it was determined that a quorum was present.
2. Public testimony—Elaine Malina of Maui Green & Beautiful asked about the ten monkey pods on South Kihei Road that were nominated to be Exceptional Trees previously and whether they had completed the process. After an explanation of what happened at the earlier Council meeting, she was told that the nomination was still in process. She informed the Committee that the organization is still interested in nominating the trees at Olowalu for exceptional tree nominations.
3. New business
 - a. The public education campaign is on hold while Jackie Brainard is off-island. She is seeking another video resource for producing the PSA as the person she had thought would be interested at Akaku is not available. She was informed about the video club at Maui Waena Intermediate School. The students came to the “Malama the Trees” conference and took footage. Barbara Fernandez has the contact information.
4. The minutes of the July meeting were approved as circulated in a unanimous vote on a motion made by Heather Heath and seconded by Jackie.
5. Unfinished business
 - a. The Keopuolani planting project scheduled for August 8 did not happen as planned. It has been rescheduled for September 13 to begin at 8 am to plant the akia in one island of the parking lot. Kaeo Ah Sau is the contact person that Kim has spoken with regarding the project. The sprinkler heads in place should be sufficient to establish the 176 plants to be planted. The second phase of planting at the upper pavilion has been tentatively scheduled for October 25. The planting locations will be flagged in a walk-through with District personnel. Once bubblers are installed, the Parks Department will dig the holes. Elaine and William will work on sourcing the trees.
 - b. The Maui County Planting Plan was transmitted by the Mayor to the Council. A public hearing will be scheduled once there has been Council review according to guidance from Corporation Council in determining the process. The Committee will be notified about opportunities to testify.
6. Chairman’s report—Kim will be meeting with Robert Carroll’s office on September 4 to discuss the parking lot shade tree ordinance draft. Barbara Fernandez will be there to represent Maui Green & Beautiful, if Elaine is unable to attend.
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Arbor Week—The sub-committee will meet soon to determine candidates for Honorary Chair as well as this year’s theme. The first Friday in November is officially Arbor Day in Hawaii. David Sakoda creates the proclamation to be signed by the Mayor. Jackie mentioned “Stop the Chop” as a potential theme. The sub-committee will report back at the September meeting.
 - b. Exceptional trees—Maui Green & Beautiful presented a package of 54 trees on the old Maui High School campus that will be proposed for nomination. The trees are in five groupings. The species are Royal Poinciana, Royal Palms, monkey pod, Hala, and Plumeria. Pictures were presented. David, the Arborist was aware of some that had structural problems. According to the nomination, the trees are in good shape and have

been well-cared for by the Friends of Old Maui High. The campus was closed in 1972. There is a caretaker on property that could be contacted if members wanted to visit the site to see the trees. Casey Foster will conduct a site visit to the campus to evaluate the nominated trees on behalf of the Committee.

- c. About the Exceptional Tree nominations in general—Sharon Brooks from Council Services is working on codifying the exceptional trees that have been designated into one place within Maui County Code rather than in different bills as they are now.
8. Arborist report—David reported that he would soon be out of funds for tree care in the current fiscal year because the storm damage has been so great. County Council has made it difficult to move funds from one line item to another. There is \$300,000 for street tree care and \$300,000 for park trees. Another source of funds is the Highway Beautification fund under the management of the Finance Department. The bulk of the funds goes to abandoned car removal. Members asked about the care and maintenance of the rainbow shower trees along Baldwin Avenue as well as replacing those at the Kihei Community Center. It was suggested that the Kihei Community Association could be included in the Kihei Community Center planting. David will follow up on both projects. A question was also posed on how members could help increase the funding for trees in Maui County and for funding future planting projects. Individuals can attend the community meetings to advocate for the funds.
9. Agenda development—Keopuolani Park planting, parking lot ordinance, exceptional trees-new nominations, exceptional trees-annual assessments, support for budget line item.
10. Announcement—next meeting is scheduled for October 14 at 1:30 pm in the parks conference room.
11. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Those present: Kimberly Thayer, Chris Reynolds, Jackie Brainard, Casey Foster, Jeannie Pezzoli, Heather Heath, Bill Myrter, members of the committee; Elaine Malina and Barbara Fernandez, Maui Green & Beautiful; Sue Kiang, David Sakoda, Jerrie Shepherd, staff support to the Committee

Drafted by Sue Kiang 8/25/15; revised by Kimberly Thayer 8/28/15
Approved by the Arborist Committee 10/14/15 meeting