

Maui County Arborist Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2016

1. Call to order at 1:36 pm when it was determined that a quorum was present.
2. Public testimony—Victor Pelligrino, a resident of Waiko Road, presented pictures of tree stumps that had been left after cutting down a total of fourteen trees. The first seven were removed seven years ago and the remaining seven in November of last year. The stumps are unsightly. He asked if the County planned to remove the stumps and wondered if new trees would be planted. David Sakoda, the County Arborist was not present but he had informed Sue Kiang that the stumps had been treated with herbicide Garlon 3. David reported that he plans to replant the trees with milo, Australian Harpulia, and ligumvitae. Reid Kawabota, the president of the Waikapu Community Association told Victor that the group had never been informed that the trees would be removed, much less consulted regarding the replacements. The Arborist Committee has not been given an opportunity to review the planting plan for the street. It is unfortunate that the mature Morton Bay Fig trees, reportedly over 100 years in age, were not taken into account when the subdivision was planned. Ernest Rezens had assessed the trees and recommended that the community park be planned for that location rather than the street. The roots of the trees over time ruined rock walls and the foundations of some homes. Unfortunately, no park has been built for the community as the property was sold as it was being developed. The Committee reviewed the suggested tree species and looks forward to the opportunity to provide input. Members decided this was within their purview of advocacy and voted to send a letter to Public Works and the Parks Department requesting that the neighbors be included in the choice of the trees, the stumps be removed by grinding them out, and to encourage the replanting in a timely manner. The motion was made by William and seconded by Jackie Brainard. It passed unanimously.
3. Approval of the minutes of February 10, 2016—William Jacintho made a motion to approve the minutes as circulated with a second by Casey Foster. The motion passed unanimously.
4. The message from the Mayor that opens the Planting Plan has not been received. Kimberly and Sue will follow up with Mike Molina, the Executive Assistant to the Mayor.
5. Old business—
 - a. Waiko Road action will include forwarding the letter approved by the Committee.
 - b. The Arborist has not identified the ownership of the damaged trees on Baldwin Avenue to date. It will remain on the agenda for action.
 - c. Participation of plan reviewer from the Planning Department on a regular basis was discussed. The ordinance was referenced. It states several department directors or their representative act as non-voting members. Sue had made telephone contact with Planning. Once the planting plan is finalized, Kim will contact the Director of Planning as this would be an appropriate time to re-establish the work between the two departments and the Arborist Committee.
6. Chairman's report—Kim shared with members the conversation that she and Sue had with the Mayor. He had several concerns about what trees have done with the hardscape. Kim assured him with the excellent guidance provided by the revised plan, these types of situations would be lessened. Sue complimented her as the representative of the Committee. Kim spoke with knowledge and confidence. In summary, she told the Mayor that the Committee looked forward to working in collaboration with the Planning Department and the Arborist to create a

healthy urban forest for Maui County under the guidance of the Third Revision of the Maui County Planting Plan.

7. Arborist report—Due to the absence of the Arborist, no report was given.
8. Agenda development—Welcome new members, Exceptional trees; tree removals on Waiko Rd; Piihola/Olinda Rd. survey; ownership of Baldwin Avenue trees; new projects
8. Announcements—**next meeting of the Arborist Committee is scheduled for April 13 at 1:30 pm in the parks conference room.**
9. Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Those present: Kimberly Thayer, Alex Haller, Chris Reynolds, Jackie Brainard, Jeannie Pezzoli, Casey Foster, William Jacintho, members of the committee; Elaine Malina, Maui Green & Beautiful; Ernest Rezens, Victor Pelligrino, members of the public; Sue Kiang, staff support to the Committee; excused members Heather Heath & Bill Myrter.

Drafted by Sue Kiang 3/28/16

Amended and approved by Committee vote 4/13/16