

MINUTES

PARKS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

Council Chamber

November 30, 2006

CONVENE: 9:05 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson, Chair
Councilmember Charmaine Tavares, Vice-Chair (arr. at 9:18 a.m.)
Councilmember Michelle Anderson, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Danny A. Mateo, Member

STAFF: Shelly Espeleta, Legislative Analyst
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary

ADMIN.: Edward Kushi, Jr., Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel
John Buck, Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation

OTHERS: Rob Parsons
Plus (1) other person

PRESS: *Akaku--Maui County Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR JOHNSON: . . . (*gavel*) . . . The Parks and Economic Development Committee meeting of November 30, 2006 will come to order. This will be our final meeting of this Committee for this term and for the end of the year. So we have in attendance, Members of the Committee, Mr. Robert Carroll, Michelle Anderson, Danny Mateo, and . . . uh . . . Vice-Chair Tavares will be joining us shortly. We have members of the Administration, Mr. Ed Kushi; and also from Parks, in the audience, we have Mr. John Buck, who's Deputy Director of Parks. We have Ms. Shelly Espeleta on Staff and Ms. Pauline Martins. So Members, this as the final meeting will be where we refer items over to the next Council for their consideration. I have several items, which--when we finish with public testimony, I'll read through--are being sent forward as being recommending by the Chair for transfer to the next Council. So we have one individual member, who has signed up to testify today, and he will be testifying on one of the items, which is on our agenda (which is PED-29) and that is the sand quantification study, and that is Mr. Rob Parsons. So Rob, if you could come forward and give your testimony.

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... BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY ...

MR. PARSONS: Good morning and Aloha, Chair--

CHAIR JOHNSON: Aloha.

MR. PARSONS: --and Committee Members. I wanted to thank you for putting the PED-29 agenda item forth and addressing this. I know that this was discussed at your most recent meeting on November 16th. I was unable to attend as I was on the East Coast attending an EPA Brownfields Conference. I'm the County rep for that. I have talked to a couple of the people who attended and I will be reviewing a tape of the meeting just so I can get up to speed here. But I think more than anything, I wanted to offer my assistance to you in moving forward to take some kind of action on the rapid rate at which the sand exports are leaving. And I think in my memo cosigned by the Mayor, of October 5th, we presented a bunch of viable alternatives, and I really believe that this Committee has interest in taking action. Everyone has told me that at . . . testimony at the last meeting was well received and that, we're just kind of trying to collectively brainstorm an effective way that we can take action here with . . . and yet remain on legal grounds. I know that that's been kind of the bugaboo. I've spent many months this summer and I know your Staff has . . . and actually, my MCC Intern also did an online search trying to find other jurisdictions, which have limited this kind of export of sand, gravel, something that doesn't fit into the mineral mining category. So I think there are some . . . um . . . some good possibilities. One of the obvious ones might just be the dreaded "M" word (moratorium) which would raise the red flag up and say "look, we know a moratorium doesn't solve anything; but we need to do something". This would give us time to study it before we deplete a resource, which I honestly think is far less than what the sand study conveyed to you portrays, which was five to seven years at the current rate. I've brought you two handouts today. One was on behalf of Sierra Club, which couldn't be here and asked me to send their letter of concern; and the other is the current information from Harbor Master Steve Pfister on the sand barge this year leaving Kahului Harbor. You'll note that after June, from July on, there is a different vessel docking there. This is a much larger sand barge than we've seen before. I think only Ameron knows the true quantities. We did the best we could. Or our contractor did the best he could in determining the quantities which have been excavated and exported. But I think that we are in a very critical situation that needs action as soon as possible; and I'm here to offer my support in the next Council term in whatever capacity I may to help this body take action. Let me look at my notes to see if there's anything else. I guess I've . . . um . . . I've witnessed the Ameron mining site on my own throughout this year. I went out in February after we received the inland sand quantification study and a t.v. crew from KITV was interested in looking as was NPR. So I made two trips out there to the old Waikapu landfill, where you have a birds eye view down on the Ameron quarry site; and then I went again last month with a freelance reporter who wanted to see what that site looked like. The difference in that seven or eight months from when I went in February to when I went last month is shocking; and I truly think that there may be perhaps two years or less of sand available. So we really need to act as soon as we can here to preserve good quality sands that we will need in the future to replenish our beaches. Thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning.

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CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you very much, Rob. Are there any questions of Mr. Parsons? Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Thank you, Rob, for being here. This is really disturbing. I got some phone calls from somebody who goes down to the harbor often, and she indicated that these larger barges are now taking sand out. And first question is "do you have any way of finding out who is receiving this sand at the other end?"

MR. PARSONS: I believe the best way to determine that would be to ask Ameron, itself.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: And you haven't done that?

MR. PARSONS: We have not done that.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: I think it'd be interesting to know who is actually using this sand, especially since it seems like since this issue has come forward publicly, they have practically doubled the amount that they're exporting. In other words, they're ramping up the export.

MR. PARSONS: Yeah. From 2004, I think that is the case. There were 63 barges that left Maui in 2004, and we're on schedule for about 90 this year. It was 96 last year. We're on schedule for about 90 this year. However, with the larger quantity of the bigger barges, it's actually more like a hundred. I haven't done that exact math because I don't know the exact volume which goes into each barge. We have those only in estimates. Our estimate with the sand study was about 130 truckloads per barge with the old smaller sized barge and that's 20 cubic yards per truck.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: So it appears that they're ramping this up in anticipation that the Council might do something to stop this. That's really quite disturbing, especially since they came and represented to us that they were sensitive to this issue, and never once did they tell us that they've increased the amount of sand that they're exporting. So . . . um . . . the other question I had, Mr. Parsons, on this listing that you gave us with vessels. After the DT285 vessel, at the bottom, there's an AWB240--is that vessel the same size as the DT vessel? Or is it a large barge?

MR. PARSONS: I'm told by the Harbor Master that the two barges listed after July 1st are both larger sized. So yes, that's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you very much, Rob.

MR. PARSONS: Thank you very much.

. . . END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

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CHAIR JOHNSON: And just . . . uh . . . for your information, Members. On this particular item, Staff (after our last meeting) is sending out correspondence; and we did receive some possible suggestions from Mr. Jesse Souki, who is no longer with us in Corporation Counsel, as to what possibilities we may be able to take on that. Even though, I know we're wrapping up this term, I will still be continuing on with preparing draft legislation of whatever it is that we can control, utilizing some of those suggestions, and getting additional information. Hopefully, next term, I will have something to present to you. Yes, Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: In regards to that, Ms. Johnson, have--at the last meeting and even the meeting before that, we asked Corp. Counsel to give us a legal opinion as to whether or not we could pass legislation prohibiting the export or the mining of the sand. I was told (after the meeting) by J.D. Kim. He wasn't at the last meeting, but he said that he found Supreme Court rulings that determined that sand is not considered a mineral; so that the . . . uh . . . I guess whatever objection there had been would no longer apply. And also the fact, which I brought up at the last couple of meetings, that there's already legislation (State statute and County statute) that prohibits the mining of sand on the beach. So I don't know why we couldn't do the same thing for inland sand. So I'm wondering if we've received anything in that regard from Corporation Counsel.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Mr. Kushi, are you--I know you're sitting in on this meeting today, and I don't mean to spring this on you--but are you aware of anything that is in the process of being a response anyway to the questions that Member Anderson raised?

MR. KUSHI: Madam Chair, I'm not aware of any requests from the Council to our office; but I do recall Mr. Kim discussing this matter with some other fellow attorneys, and I believe he's still working on it.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, thank you. Member Anderson, Staff will be following up also on that response because I know that there was a formal communication sent. It's just that Mr. Kushi may not be aware of it. So we'll try to get that information. I know Ms. Espeleta has been working to try to get something in writing so that we can at least--even though it's in the interim--send it forward to the Members just for your information, and then it would be made part of this particular item.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you. Are there any additional people in the audience who wish to testify? Seeing none. If there is no objection, the Chair will close public testimony at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No objections.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. And we've received--from Sierra Club and also from Mr. Parsons--written documentation. So if there is no objection, we will also receive that into the record; and that will be in regard to PED-29. Seeing no objections, that will be made part of the record. And joining us, we also have our Vice-Chair of the Committee. Member Tavares, thank you very much for joining us in our final meeting.

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Members, I'll just go through the items that are on our . . . or the Chair's list of recommendations for sending on to the next Council.

PED-2 TREE PRESERVATION (C.C. No. 04-220)

CHAIR JOHNSON: There's PED-2, which is tree preservation. That is a bill that has been sent forward by Councilmember Robert Carroll. We do have some changes that we're making to that, but Corporation Counsel is also assisting us with that.

PED-3 GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMO) (C.C. No. 03-195/C.R. No. 04-74)

CHAIR JOHNSON: We have PED-3, which is genetically modified organisms. I have kept that on the agenda because it's still of concern to members in the community. That is a very voluminous file but I think it's important to at least keep it on the agenda as developments occur.

PED-14 PENALTIES PERTAINING TO THE RECREATIONAL AREA REGULATIONS GOVERNING CAMPING (MISC.)

CHAIR JOHNSON: PED-14 regards penalties pertaining to the recreational area regulations governing camping. We still have some outstanding information that we are waiting for; but I believe that next term, we should be able to move something forward in regard to camping.

PED-27 TAXICAB OPERATIONS (C.C. No. 06-56)

CHAIR JOHNSON: PED-27 is taxicab operations; and as you know, Members, we did adjust the rates. But I kept this in Committee because I also believe that there were some additional items that we could consider to regularly review taxicab operations, and I've not yet been able to complete some of the work in that regard.

PED-29 MAUI INLAND SAND RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION STUDY (C.C. No. 06-69)

CHAIR JOHNSON: PED-29 is the item that we received testimony on this morning, which is our Maui inland sand resource quantification study. We're working on legislative options.

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PED-32 PARK DEDICATIONS SEMIANNUAL REPORT (C.C. No. 06-153)

CHAIR JOHNSON: PED-32 is our park dedications semiannual report. The reason that I have kept that particular item on is because we are awaiting a final opinion from Corporation Counsel because there appears to be some inconsistencies with regard to the manner in which park assessment has been computed. So it's not Mr. Kushi that's working on that but we do have almost completed the final information on that; and the Chair has asked "what do we do with that information if we realize that there are errors in the way that the park assessment was calculated?" So that's why I kept that particular report on.

PED-38 DEFINING "AGRICULTURE" FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX AND WATER RATE BENEFITS (C.C. No. 06-214)

CHAIR JOHNSON: PED-38 is defining "agriculture" for real property tax and water rate benefits. I have not yet had an opportunity to do draft legislation. I know it was suggested that we do some kind of a loose outline; and with our Mayor-elect Tavares, she may also have some legislative thoughts on that particular issue. Did you have any comment on that Member Tavares?

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Yeah. The comment I had, Ms. Johnson. If you want to consider filing that issue and let my Administration work on it and send down an actual bill, that would be one of our priority things to do because . . . uh . . . it's gonna take a lot of discussion (a lot **more** discussion) and to use up committee time to do it, I think, would just make it a longer process. But I have made that a note on my to-do list is to actually rework this; so if you don't mind, in essence, referring it back to Administration is what would happen. But if you just file it, and I have my copies of what was submitted, I can work off of those copies, and then reconvene that agriculture group, and actually work on an ordinance.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you very much for that. I'll leave that as an option for the Members, you know, whatever the majority wishes to do on that, I'm fine with it.

PED-41 AUTHORIZING A GRANT OF A CONCESSION FOR THE IAO THEATER (C.C. No. 06-288)

CHAIR JOHNSON: PED-41, which is our final item that I'm referring, would be the authorizing of a grant of a concession for the Iao Theater. I'm sure you're all very familiar with the concession law issues that have arisen as a result of this. So I think because this is one component and there is action that at least, I believe, should be taken with regard to this specific grant. I've kept the item open, and then of course the Administration may also assist us in trying to resolve this particular issue.

But Members, those are the items that I have. So the Chair, at this point, would entertain a motion to refer the items as outlined to the Council Chair for the term beginning January 2, 2007 pursuant to Section 19 of the Rules of the Council.

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VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Madam . . . Madam Chair?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Could we have a separation of item . . . uh . . . PED-38?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yes. And so, would you like to make the motion?

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Yeah. If we can separate it with no objection, then I would make the motion to refer all the others.

CHAIR JOHNSON: There's . . . and the Chair has no objection.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: No objection.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. So Member Tavares, if you would . . . uh . . . then--I'll restate the motion.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Okay.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Which would be to send forward all the items with the exception of PED-38 on to the Council Chair for the term beginning January 2, 2007 pursuant to Section 19 of the Rules of the Council.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: So moved, Madam Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Second.

CHAIR JOHNSON: So it's been moved by Member Tavares, seconded by Member Carroll. Any further discussion on any of these items? Seeing none. All those in favor, please signify by saying "aye".

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR JOHNSON: And the . . . are there any "nays"?

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VOTE: AYES: Councilmembers Mateo, Anderson, and Carroll, Vice-Chair Tavares, and Chair Johnson.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: REFER ALL COMMUNICATIONS (EXCEPT FOR ITEM NO. 38) TO THE COUNCIL CHAIR FOR THE TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 2, 2007.

CHAIR JOHNSON: And the Chair also concurs. So Members, that . . . those items will be sent on. With regard to PED-38, taking the suggestion that Councilmember Tavares and Mayor-elect Tavares has made, the Chair would move forward the motion to file PED-38, defining "agriculture" for real property tax and water rate benefits.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: So moved, Madam Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Second.

CHAIR JOHNSON: So it's been moved by Member Tavares, seconded by Member Carroll to file the agriculture issue in anticipation that this would again be brought back with a bill attached to it or an ordinance for our consideration.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Yeah. And Madam Chair, if . . . uh . . . ?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Under discussion, if that could be also stated in the committee report just as a reminder to everyone that that's why it was filed.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Uh-huh. Staff, if you could note that.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Is there any further discussion? Member Anderson.

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COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Thank you, Chair. I'm wondering if your Staff has access to the master agenda?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yes. And what I'm gonna do . . . um . . . I have items that are automatically referred and automatically filed; and I believe that when we went through with Member Tavares in her committee meeting the other day, there are items, which I am willing to consider in the same manner that we have considered in other committees--putting items on the agenda. There's also some things that I will be reintroducing with new information that I've received. So if any Member wants to go through those with me individually, I have no problem doing that; and then when this does go forward at the full Council, I would entertain any kind of amendments to either. There are some items that are automatically referred and there are 1, 2, 3. There are six items that are automatically referred; and then the ones that have auto-filing are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. There were eleven different items that would receive auto-filing; but if any Member wants access to that information--because those items were not specifically posted on our agenda for today's discussion--that is something that I offer you as an option. And . . . uh . . . Staff, is it inappropriate for me to mention which items are automatically referred? Okay. Staff is indicating that because they're not posted on the agenda, I will make this information available to the Members.

So . . . um . . . because we're in discussion on the agricultural issue, is there any further discussion on that? Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: So the Staff does have the master agenda. I'm wondering how many communications are under PED-38 on the master agenda, if she could tell us that.

MS. ESPELETA: Councilmember Anderson, can you give me a few moments. I have the items list in front of me, but I can bring up the master agenda on the laptop.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Yeah. And the reason I'm asking this, Madam Chair, is because . . . if we file this, whatever communications are attached to the master agenda, we're gonna lose them. And . . . and I appreciate Mayor-elect Tavares letting us know that she's gonna make this a priority to bring back to the Council for further action. It's just that if there are items underneath PED-38 that are informative and speak to this issue of definition of agriculture, I'd hate for us to lose them--

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Yeah. Madam Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: --and then have to resubmit `em. So I'm just wondering if there's much there, because I know this was only referred in August of this year. So there may not be much.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Madam Chair?

CHAIR JOHNSON: First . . . uh . . . can Staff answer?

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MS. ESPELETA: Yes, Madam Chair. Under PED-38, there's the County Communication 06-214 from Councilmember Johnson, transmitting a copy of a letter from the Mayor relating to the definition of "agriculture"; and under that, we have received two written testimonies from the October 5th PED meeting: one is from Warren Watanabe, President of the Maui County Farm Bureau; and written testimony from John Brooks II.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: I have no objections to filing on that case.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, thank you. Member Tavares?

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Yeah. I was just gonna say that, Madam Chair, as . . . part of what I would include in whatever we send down is the actual communication that Mayor Arakawa sent. It is actually a two-page report from the committee that was reviewing it, and I would attach that as part of the exhibits for background information for the bill.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you. And I know that there was a very slim file, that's why--

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Okay.

CHAIR JOHNSON: --I really appreciate the offer to actually have the draft legislation because also the agricultural working group, with Mr. Carroll's work before, plus some of the Agricultural Park work that Ms. Tavares did when she served all those years on the Ag Park Committee, I think it's very valuable. So I do appreciate that. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, the Chair will call for the question. All those in favor, please signify by saying "aye".

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Are there any "nays"?

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CHAIR JOHNSON: That's my little gift for winding down our Committee for this term and I will . . . it's just a small token of my appreciation for your hard work and really for all the things that you have done. So it's my little small token to you.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: I sort of suspicioned [*sic*] that, since you didn't have one on your desk. Thank you very much for that. We all appreciate it. And for the leadership you gave us this term in the Parks Committee, I thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, too.

CHAIR JOHNSON: And . . . and are there any other comments? Member Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, thank you very much. And Chairman, you know, I echo the same sentiments; and somehow unfortunately, the Parks Committee has been a committee that has really not been given the appropriate recognition that it really deserves. Somehow, we've always dealt with problems and catch-ups and everything else relative to Parks; and the reality is the . . . uh . . . your persistence and your sticktoitiveness have really allowed us the opportunity to look at things a little more differently. I'm really grateful to your Staff for allowing us the opportunity to actually call them and ask questions, and get clarifications, and they were always ready and available to assist the Committee Members, myself in particular. So you know, through . . . to you and your leadership, I thank you very much. To your Staff, I am very grateful that we had this kind of access to them. And obviously, I echo the same sentiments as Mr. Carroll in recognizing Mr. Buck and his contributions to making our job a little easier in being able to get the information that we needed. So Madam Chair, thank you very much.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you very much, Member Mateo. And are there any comments from Member Tavares?

VICE-CHAIR TAVARES: Yes. I'll just echo the same sentiments of the previous Members and thank you for your kind gift. They are beautiful. I love these flowers; but I too was kind of like . . . (*mmmmm*) . . . did I miss something yesterday? That everybody got one and . . . and then I see there's none on your desk. So I was having the same wheels turning that Michelle was having turned; but thank you very much for that and also for attacking some of the difficult problems that face our Parks Department. And then in the agriculture area, I am looking forward to continuing to work in a different capacity with you and the Council next term.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah, Member Anderson?

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COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: I would just like to note that these poinsettias are grown in Kula, right here on Maui. So everybody that buys poinsettias this Christmas, please make sure they're grown on Maui. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: And the Chair took particular pains to make sure that they were locally grown. . . . *(chuckled)* . . . I just want to say on my behalf that I appreciate all of your efforts because I know at times some of the issues we've dealt with, they haven't been the most fascinating. Other times, they've been very controversial and many times we (as a body) get criticized because our Parks don't look great or the toilets need cleaning. And I think that what we've helped to also do is educate the general public that while we don't do toilets, we at least provide the funding so that other people can do the toilets and take care of our parks. And so I want to thank Mr. Buck, Mr. Correa, all of the Parks staff. I also want to thank Corporation Counsel because it's been Mr. Kushi, Mr. Kim, and now we have Mr. Kushi. . . . *(end of tape, start 1B at 9:37 a.m.)*. . . We've lost Mr. Jesse Souki, but he'll go on to other things. So I know that we have some challenges. They have some challenges because many of the items that we have pending in many of our committees are really in need of legislative action. Sometimes, it's draft legislation. Sometimes, it's reviewing what our options are. And I look forward to working with Corporation Counsel in the future, so that we can give them the tools that they need in order to help us so that we can help the public because it's a team effort, and I know that sometimes, that is not always the approach that's taken. It's, you know, sometimes adversarial; but we really do want to be there for all of our employees, and particularly, Corporation Counsel. They get hammered a lot. So I want to thank Mr. Kushi because he staffs not only our Committee on occasion, but also Water and other committees as well. To Mayor-elect Tavares, as I said to her privately, "my deepest condolences" because the work that she is going to have to face is really formidable; and she has a lot on her plate; but I also think that she's up to the task. And we . . . and myself (as one Member) will be more than happy to provide any opportunity to dialogue with the Administration in whatever forum is deemed appropriate by the Members. To Lynn Araki-Regan, who is not here, who will also be leaving the County, I want to thank her because (through her efforts) we did do some legislative initiatives. We sadly found out about the concession laws and the challenges that we face. I think that some of the individuals, who were able to avail themselves of the legislative initiative that we passed, that hopefully tax-wise may help some of the people in their small businesses and in their hiring. Some of those tax benefits are already being looked into by members of the community. I also want to thank Mr. Raatz, who is not here, who occasionally staffs our Committee as well. It's really refreshing to know that--as Mr. Mateo said--that you have a staff that is really supportive. I want you to know that many times, after hours, Shelly has called me at home to get clarification on items. She has worked so diligently, doing whatever she can, and we only can do so much because there's so many hours in the day, so I want to thank Shelly. And for Pauline Martins, for all of her work as well, because when we get these long-winded meetings, she has to do the minutes . . . *(chuckled)* . . . and sometimes, you know, it's really a very tough task. So my congratulations to all of you and I want to thank you for everything that you've done.

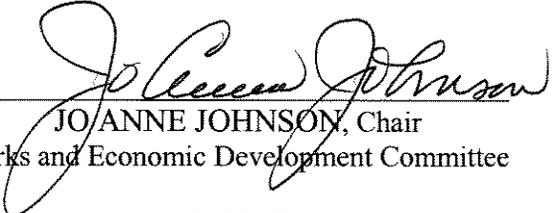
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I know, at times, we don't have to agree on all issues but it's that dynamic that makes us the best possible committee that we could be because we have different points of view; and that to me enables us to come up with legislation that is really meaningful. So I look forward to working with you and I hope that you have a very wonderful holiday. I really want to say, on behalf of myself and my husband Jim, who's, you know, not here in the audience, that he enjoys watching this because sometimes, he said "wow". He said you know, "that was really a heavy discussion". So he's always there, even if it's in the peanut gallery in front of Akaku. So, he sends his warmest seasons greetings to you all. So with that, are there any further announcements? Seeing none, the Chair thanks you all for your kind participation and for all the contributions; and with that, a happy holiday season. This final meeting of the Parks and Economic Development Committee is adjourned. . . . (*gavel*) . . .

ADJOURN: 9:40 a.m.

APPROVED BY:



JO ANNE JOHNSON, Chair
Parks and Economic Development Committee

ped:min:061130

Transcribed by: Pauline Martins