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Mauna Kea Management Board
Tuesday, September 25, 2001
Institute for Astronomy, Room 131
640 N. A'ohoku Place
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Members Present: Arthur Hoke, Chair; Robert Pacheco, 1st Vice Chair, Barry Taniguchi, 2nd Vice Chair/Secretary; Heather Cole; Jim Kennedy, and Harry Yada

Kahu Ku Mauna Members Present: Ululani Sherlock, Ed Stevens

Interim OMKM Staff Present: Walter Heen, Arnold Hiura and Stephanie Nagata

Others Present: Claude Berthoud, Richard Berner, David Byrne, Richard Crowe, Leimana DaMate, Alice Kawakami, Ron Koehler, Ron Laub, Wendy Light, Kimo Pihana, Deborah Ward.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hoke called the Mauna Kea Management Board (MKMB) meeting to order on September 25, 2001 at 9:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Jim Kennedy and seconded by Heather Cole that the minutes of the August 21, 2001 meeting of the MKMB be accepted. The motion was carried unanimously.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

August 31, 2001 Luncheon with Senator Daniel K. Inouye

Senator Inouye conveyed that respect of the indigenous host culture is the key to peaceful and cooperative undertakings. He praised Mr. John Lee of NASA for his efforts in working with the Hawaiian community groups, listening to their concerns and keeping them informed of the status and development of the outriggers project. The Senator also made a couple of announcements relating to federal funding for programs, including securing funding for training, and tuition waivers for Native Hawaiian students majoring in astronomy.

Invitees included members of the Mauna Kea Management Board, Kahu Ku Mauna Council, Ahahui Ku Mauna, observatory representatives, Regent Billy Bergin, President Evan Dobbelle, Chancellor Rose Tseng and Institute for Astronomy Director, Rolf-Peter Kudritzki.

Ed Stevens gave a heartfelt presentation of his views of progress being made and some important "big" steps that have been undertaken since the Master Plan was put in effect. He felt good about the new President and looks forward to working with him and his administration.

The Office received word that the Senator was pleased with the presentation, in particular Ed Stevens' warm and passionate statement regarding cooperation and efforts to protect Hawaiian cultural resources.

President Dobbelle and Tuition Waivers

President Dobbelle informed Senator Inouye that Native Hawaiian students are interested in entering the field of astronomy. It is not yet certain how the process of tuition waivers for Native Hawaiian students majoring in astronomy will work, however, the Hawaiian Studies program is pleased with the idea.

Funding for Training Programs

OMKM was to meet with staff from Senator Inouye's office on September 26 regarding funding for: 1) machinist program at Hawaii Community College; and 2) ranger/guide training. Due to the September 11, 2001 tragedy, these meetings have been postponed.

American Red Cross and Subaru Visitor Gallery

The Office received two requests: 1) installation of an antenna for the American Red Cross; and 2) visitor gallery addition at the Subaru observatory. Both projects have limited impact on the summit and, according to the Master Plan (MP), may be exempt from the Design Review process as described on pages XI-15 of the MP.

American Red Cross Antenna. The Red Cross wants to install a small antenna for emergency use. This antenna would be installed above an existing antenna located on the side of the lunch room building at the summit. Once installed it would extend about 2 feet higher than the existing antenna. Radio transmissions from the antenna will not have an effect on observatories and no observatory has raised any objection. Only authorized Red Cross personnel will have access to the antenna's use.

Installation is expected to take about two hours and will not require any excavation or the use of heavy equipment. Electronic equipment necessary for operation would be housed inside the lunch room and only the antenna will be visible on the outside.

Subaru Visitor Gallery. Subaru is planning to add a visitor gallery to its control building. OMKM met with Mr. Masa Hayashi of Subaru to discuss the specifics of the project. The addition will be a small extension (approximately 40' by 6' wide) on the Hilo side of the 2nd floor and only minor digging will be required to set posts that will support the gallery.

Exemptions from the Master Plan. Following the introduction of the Red Cross and Subaru projects there was discussion regarding the interpretation of text presented on pages XI-15 of the Master Plan. It appears the topic of *Exempt Activities* applies to activities not anticipated by the MP and if such an activity were brought to OMKM and Office of the Chancellor for consideration it would not require an amendment to the MP. An *Exempt Activity* does not mean projects that might be considered "less – than – minor" are exempt from the MP project review process.

The difficulty will be in determining what is considered "less than minor." For example, why wasn't the underground storage tank removal project considered "less – than – minor"? Director Heen stated removal of the underground tank required excavation and involved handling potentially hazardous materials. With respect to the Red Cross antenna, some judgment will be required as to whether additional review is necessary, but in the Subaru Visitor Gallery case, it is suggested that it be classified as a minor project. It was also suggested that the President be asked to make a determination on the exempt status of the Red Cross project.

It was mentioned that even though the MP did not anticipate "less – than – minor" types of activities, it does not mean these activities would require less review. It was suggested that if a project was deemed as "less – than – minor" it would still require review by the Office or even the Board. Members were asked how minor a project does the board need to review. The MP does not provide a definition for the term "project"; for example, is road maintenance considered a "project"?

OMKM will reconsider and submit for Board consideration and recommendation the classification of “minor project” for the two projects.

Range/guide Report

Copy of the Ranger/Guide report is attached. There is no significant difference in vehicle traffic patterns from previous reports. Dave Byrne and ranger/guides provided a report on their activities (see discussion below).

Mauna Kea Users Committee Meeting

OMKM, officers of the MKMB and Ed Stevens were invited to attend the annual meeting of the Mauna Kea Users Committee in Waikoloa on October 4 and 5. In addition to presentations of status reports by each observatory, OMKM will give a short presentation.

Hale Pohaku Planning Committee

OMKM would like to convene the Hale Pohaku Planning Committee. In addition to the three board members, Heather Cole, Rob Pacheco and Barry Taniguchi, the committee needs to consider additional members, such as representatives from Kahu Ku Mauna, MKSS, and the environmental and observatory communities.

Rules and Regulations

OMKM is planning to convene the Administrative Rules committee to begin review of proposed rules and regulations. Committee members are advised to be prepared to set aside a good part of the day for this review.

Mauna Kea Oversight Committee: Headlights and Dust

At a recent meeting of the Mauna Kea Oversight Committee, 2 issues were mentioned: 1) headlights from cars driving around the summit at night; and 2) dust from cars driving on the unpaved road from the SMA site to Subaru. Observatories have noticed an increase in automobile headlights at the summit late at night. Installing signs telling drivers to dim their headlights was suggested. However, there is the problem of newer vehicles that have automatic running lights that can't be turned off. Although observatories avoid using the unpaved road leading from the SMA to the Subaru site, many tourists are using the road creating a dust problem and contaminating telescope optics. The committee suggested installing a sign stating “Subaru Staff Only” or “Emergency Traffic Only.”

Board Discussion. Unless observatories agree and are willing to close the road at night, the headlights situation will continue. The 1995 Management Plan, which is still the authorized management document for the mountain, gives UH the authority to close the road. The Administrative Rules and Public Safety Committees need to review and discuss this matter further.

Ron Koehler stated that observatory personnel generally do not drive with headlights on at night, instead they use their flashers. Rob Pacheco stated that if his tour stays on the mountain after dark, his vans park below the summit, usually at the 11,000 ft. elevation.

What draws people to the mountain after dark? Some are just joy riding, others drive up after star gazing, especially after a special event, e.g. meteor showers. It is a misconception that the higher the elevation, the better one is able to see the stars. Visual acuity with the naked eye is better at Hale Pohaku than at the summit where the reduced oxygen level affects eyesight.

IV. KAHU KU MUANA COUNCIL REPORT

Renaming of the IfA Building

Ed Stevens reported receiving a call from Walter Kirimitsu requesting Kahu Ku Mauna Council's opinion on the renaming of the Hilo IfA building. Kahu Ku Mauna feels the name Malama Ia Mauna Kea Center implies multiple use or users and has no objection to the proposed name, including listing of University of Hawaii. However, because of implied multiple uses, the Council did not feel it was appropriate to include specific UH departments in the building's name. Instead, a directory in the building could serve as a guide to specific entities housed in the building.

Mr. Kirimitsu also asked Kahu Ku Mauna if it would be willing to conduct a ceremony at the renaming of the building. As of this Board meeting, Kahu Ku Mauna did not have a chance to discuss the requested ceremony.

Mr. Stevens raised the issue of renaming the building to the Board because he was unsure of the proper protocol. The Board felt the renaming of the building did not require Board approval. Further, Mr. Kirimitsu did not ask for the Board's opinion, and naming of the IfA building is not addressed in the MP. It was suggested that Mr. Stevens respond directly to Mr. Kirimitsu and provide a copy to the Office and the Board. Board members thanked Mr. Stevens for apprising the Board of the situation and giving it an opportunity to comment.

Space in IfA Building for Hawaiian Studies

Mr. Stevens was asked if he could forward a request to OMKM about the possibility of securing space in the IfA building for the Hawaiian Studies program. This request to OMKM was not deemed appropriate since OMKM does not have control over the building. The request should be processed through Dr. John Whittaker, Vice Chancellor of Administrative Affairs, University of Hawaii at Hilo.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ranger/guide Project Report

Dave Byrne, Manager of the Visitor Information Station (VIS) introduced Kimo Pihana and Rich Berner, the two ranger/guides who are participating in the ranger/guide project.

Overview – David Byrne. The ranger/guide program, Maka'ainana, which was initiated on June 10, 2001, provides the following basic services:

- Conduct 3 summit patrols per day (morning, afternoon and sunset)
- Respond to emergencies
- Provide health and safety infrastructure, including maintenance of the Emergency Evacuation Vehicle
- Monitor activities on the summit, VIS and the Access Road including:
 - Observatory activities (construction and repairs)
 - Commercial tour companies
 - Health & safety infrastructure
 - Weather
 - Visitors
 - Hikers

- Collect information and data
- Report violations, accidents, and errors
- Pick up trash
- Provide information to visitors
- Provide appropriate support to Visitor Information Station operations

Additional Duties:

- Trail maintenance
- Promote the VIS Volunteer Program to increase the number of Maka'ainana Volunteers

Statistics:

- Provided services 106 of 107 days; a 99.06% reliability factor
- Conducted a total of 318 summit patrols
- Major violations:
 - 4 un-permitted commercial tour companies
 - 1 major accident involving a 4-wheel drive vehicle

- Mauna Kea sees the highest utilization during the months of July and August

Recommendations:

- Continue the Mauna Kea Maka‘ainana program
- Maintain the program under the unified management of the Visitor Information Station
- Increase the number of Maka‘ainana ranger/guides from 2 to 4 full time employees with 3 part- time/on-call positions to complete the 7 day a week schedule and fill in during vacations, sick leave, snow days and emergencies. This will provide a total of two people per shift.

Culture, Maka‘ainana Services to Visitors - Kimo Pihana. Although only a limited time is spent on the summit, he has come to recognize areas that are of concern to people. He felt Hawaiian culture on the mountain is alive and well, but visitors do not “see” it. They only see Mauna Kea from a “postcard” perspective, i.e. observatory activities and facilities. There is very limited information available for visitors, and therefore there is a need to expand and promote the cultural aspects.

Mr. Pihana assisted and participated in the MKSS Cultural Display at the County Fair. He explained that part of the display included pohaku (rocks) from Mauna Kea, but before removing them from Mauna Kea, he asked for “permission,” an important part of protocol when removing an object from its resting place. The pohaku were returned to their original location after the Fair ended.

Health & Safety, Film Permits and Trash – Rich Berner. Mr. Berner explained the ranger/guides operate under the Mauna Kea Emergency Procedures. The vehicles carry basic emergency equipment including First Responder gear. He also thought it was a good idea that ranger/guides are required to escort film crews to the summit. In addition to safety and health reasons, it provides an opportunity to convey the cultural sensitivities of Mauna Kea, as well as monitor their activities.

Mr. Berner has observed that tour companies are very good about picking up litter and keeping the area clean after their stops on the mountain. Trash at the summit generally is not a big problem, however, he has noticed that the most prevalent trash is cigarette butts. He recommends all observatories install ashtrays outside their facilities.

Mr. Stevens stated the proper protocol for disposing offerings left at a site is to burn them. He suggested a place at Hale Pohaku be established to incinerate the dried offerings. Ron Koehler stated MKSS policy, unless instructed otherwise by OMKM, MKMB, or Kahu Ku Mauna, is to leave the offerings in place.

The name Maka‘ainana was chosen after discussion with Mr. Pihana and Koa Ell of the Visitor Information Station and in consultation with Mr. Stevens.

Related Issues. Presently the Maka‘ainana can only give advice and communicate health and safety recommendations and regulatory information to visitors, observatory staff and contractors. At the present time, giving advice and issuing caution to people are adequate for enforcing the rules and regulations and, therefore, carrying weapons is not necessary. The Maka‘ainana will, however, support any decision OMKM and MKMB make regarding the carrying of weapons. The Maka‘ainana also support a kiosk on the access road as a monitoring point, as well as from a health and safety perspective.

B. Design Review Panel for the NASA/Keck Outrigger Telescope Project

A Design Review Panel was convened on August 31, 2001, to discuss the first phase of the Design Review Process - the Pre-Design meeting. The Panel was composed of a representative from Keck, Jim

Beletic, and NASA, John Lee; project engineer, Jim Bell (Keck); Bob McLaren (IfA); Arthur Hoke (MKMB); Ed Stevens (Kahu Ku Mauna); and Ron Nagata (Design Review Committee (DRC)). (Note: President Dobelle appointed Mr. Nagata to the DRC and to serve as its representative in the Design Review Panel.) Minutes from the meeting will be circulated.

Director Heen indicated the project review process for the Outrigger Telescope project is an aberration from the MP process because the Pre-Design meeting should have been conducted at the time the project was conceived and before schematics were drawn. The purpose of the Pre-Design meeting is to introduce the applicant to the design and environmental goals of the MP and to discuss the specific development standards and guidelines of the MP. However, even though the NASA/Keck Project plans were conceived and developed prior to the development and approval of the MP, it was decided that a Pre-Design meeting should still be convened and incorporated as part of the overall process.

At the meeting, Bob McLaren stated that the Outrigger Telescope project was developed in parallel with the MP and although plans were ready before the MP was approved, it was decided that the project should not proceed until the MP was approved.

Director Heen indicated that the Project Review Process recommended by the Board and approved by President Mortimer needed revision. In particular, the DRC should be a permanent committee as opposed to the establishment of a DRC on a project by project basis. The entire committee does not participate in all phases of the review process, just its representative. The entire DRC is involved only in the construction document review phase.

OMKM will prepare a revision and submit it to the Board for its review and recommendation to the Chancellor at the next meeting. It was also suggested that representatives from the DLNR Land Division and State Historic Preservation Division be on the Design Review Panel.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

University of Hawaii at Hilo Request for Space in the Construction Cabin Dormitory.

Richard Crowe and Alice Kawakami, co-principal investigators for the New Opportunities for Initiatives in Space Science (NOMISS) program, requested the use of two offices in the construction camp dormitory for its program as well as by faculty in the UHH Astronomy Department doing research on Mauna Kea. These offices would be used for conducting business and research between observing periods on the summit, and for storing equipment. In addition, Drs. Crowe and Kawakami are requesting use of the Subaru Cabins for several weeks in the summer to house students doing research as part of a summer astronomy course.

The NOMISS program engages a broad range of participants, including Kindergarten - graduate students and teachers. It is an integrated space science research project that incorporates cultural activities. The program is to encourage local students, especially Native Hawaiians, to consider careers in space science and to become involved in Mauna Kea. The MKMB Astronomy Education committee reviewed and supports this program.

Cost. Expenses for the use of the facilities should be worked out between Ron Koehler and UHH. In response to the question of whether there was disagreement over the suggested charges, Dr. Kawakami indicated the NOMISS grant can cover some of the summer program expenses. Mr. Koehler indicated he did not have any objections to the use of the cabins, but rather his concern was recovering the cost to provide services.

The Hale Pohaku Planning committee will need to look into this matter further.

It was suggested that the request be granted with the understanding that long term use is not guaranteed. There may be changes depending on plans developed by the Board.

It was moved by Barry Taniguchi and seconded by Rob Pacheco that NOMISS and UHH Astronomy Department be granted use of office space in the construction dormitory and Subaru cabins on a month-to-month basis which can be terminated by either party upon 60 days written notification. The motion was carried unanimously.

VII ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ron Koehler reported MKSS participated in the Hawaii County Fair. MKSS was given a 32' X 8' booth space for a cultural display and the setup of an infrared camera. Visitors were given a chance to see themselves in the infrared spectrum.

Mr. Koehler also reported the Royal Order organized an equinox ceremony. MKSS provided use of the dining hall from midnight to 5:00 a.m. and hosted breakfast at Hale Pohaku.

Mr. Koehler expressed his concern over the proliferation of the use of the name Mauna Kea, for example, OMKM, MKSS, and Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center, and wondered if it was possible to consider another name for the building.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date is October 23, 2001, Institute for Astronomy Building, Room 131, 9:30 a.m. (Note: The meeting was subsequently rescheduled to October 15, 2001)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hoke adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Signed by Barry Taniguchi
Barry K. Taniguchi, Secretary, MKMB

October 15, 2001
Date

SUMMARY OF RANGER/GUIDE REPORTS
August 5 – September 15, 2001

Vehicles

Weekly Vehicle Count – All Non Commercial

June 10 – July 14, 2001

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Range | 7 – 45 | 31 – 63 | 20 - 52 |
| Average | 28 | 44 | 37 |

July 15 – August 4, 2001

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Range | 2 – 31 | 13 – 60 | 8 - 77 |
| Average | 31 | 66 | 72 |

August 5 – September 15, 2001

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Range | 5 – 30 | 10 – 56 | 8 – 70 |
| Average | 37 | 61 | 64 |

Weekly Vehicle Count – 4 & 2-Wheel Dr. (non Commercial)

July 8 – July 14, 2001

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| 4 - Wheel | 37 | 37 | 29 |
| 2 – Wheel | 8 | 13 | 7 |

July 15 – August 4, 2001

| | Morning | | Afternoon | | Evening | |
|-----------|---------|------|-----------|------|---------|------|
| | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. |
| 4 - Wheel | 11 - 31 | 23 | 43 - 60 | 51 | 43 - 77 | 59 |
| 2 – Wheel | 2 – 14 | 8 | 13 – 18 | 15 | 8 – 16 | 13 |

August 5 – September 15, 2001

| | Morning | | Afternoon | | Evening | |
|-----------|---------|------|-----------|------|---------|------|
| | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. |
| 4 - Wheel | 15 - 30 | 24 | 27 - 56 | 46 | 37 - 70 | 49 |
| 2 – Wheel | 5 – 26 | 13 | 10 – 25 | 16 | 8 – 33 | 15 |

Weekly Commercial Vehicle Count

June 10 – July 14, 2001

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Range | 0 – 8 | 0 - 19 | 32 – 70 |
| Average | 4 | 5 | 49 |

July 15 – August 4, 2001

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Range | 2 – 14 | 2 - 16 | 8 – 71 |
| Average | 6 | 6 | 51 |

August 5 – September 15, 2001

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Range | 1 – 5 | 0 - 3 | 55 – 78 |
| Average | 4 | 2 | 69 |

Incidents Involving Vehicles

There were a couple of vehicle incidents – overheating, stopping on the side of the road. There was an accident in which the driver of a vehicle on its way to the summit was apparently blinded by the setting sun and dust stirred up from a vehicle on its way down from the top. He was not able to see the road and drove off the road and rolled into a culvert.

Hiking

Weekly Hiker Count
June 17 – July 14, 2001

| | Hikers |
|--------------------|--------|
| Range | - 47 |
| Average Group Size | 3 |

July 15 – August 4, 2001

| | Morning | | Afternoon | | Evening | |
|------------|---------|------|-----------|------|---------|------|
| | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. |
| Summit | 1 - 7 | 3 | 4 - 60 | 27 | 28 - 70 | 50 |
| Lake Waiau | 0 – 6 | 4 | 0 – 7 | 3 | 0 – 13 | 5 |
| General | 0 – 15 | 5 | 2 – 6 | 3 | 2 – 5 | 3 |

August 5 – September 15, 2001

| | Morning | | Afternoon | | Evening | |
|------------|---------|------|-----------|------|---------|------|
| | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. | Range | Avg. |
| Summit | 1 - 14 | 5 | 0 - 21 | 10 | 10 - 63 | 31 |
| Lake Waiau | 0 – 7 | 6 | 10 – 10 | 6 | 0 – 13 | 3 |
| General | 0 – 22 | 7 | 0 – 27 | 9 | 0 – 13 | 3 |