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Minutes Regular Meeting

Mauna Kea Management Board
Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Kūkahau'ula, Room 131
640 N. A'ohoku Place
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Attending

- MKMB:** Chair Arthur Hoke, 1st Vice Chair Rob Pacheco, 2nd Vice Chair/Secretary Barry Taniguchi, Heather Cole, and Jim Kennedy
- Kahu Kū Mauna:** Reynolds Kamakawiwo'ole
- OMKM:** Arnold Hiura, Stephanie Nagata and William Stormont
- Others:** Jim Bell, Gary Fujihara, Bill Heacox, Bob McLaren, and Antony Schinckel,

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hoke called the Mauna Kea Management Board (MKMB) meeting to order on March 25, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Rob Pacheco and seconded by Jim Kennedy that the minutes of the December 3, 2002 meeting of the MKMB be accepted. The motion was carried unanimously.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. OMKM New Secretary

Director Stormont introduced OMKM's new secretary, Dawn Pamarang. Prior to joining OMKM in January, Ms. Pamarang was the Secretary for the Dean of Instruction at Hawai'i Community College.

B. New Ranger Hires

Two new rangers were hired in January bringing the ranger corps to its full complement of four full-time positions. The new rangers are Trevor Anderson and Kalani Lee.

C. Results of the Public Opinion Survey

There was general agreement on:

- Protecting the cultural and natural resources
- Making visitors aware of Mauna Kea's historical, cultural, environmental and scientific importance
- Restricting vehicular traffic during extreme weather

Responses were more evenly divided over the issues of limiting the number of vehicles, type of access management (i.e. entry booth, gate, shuttle service, etc.), and increasing recreational opportunities.

It was noted that this survey was not sent to a random audience, but to OMKM's mailing list, therefore the results are not statistically valid. OMKM is working with Dr. Alton Okinaka, Sociology Professor at UHH, to conduct random phone surveys and focus groups as follow-up activities.

D. Outrigger Telescopes Contested Case Hearing

The contested case hearing will reconvene on April 3 following the February sessions. The hearing officer is giving the interveners an opportunity to review and prepare testimony on the management plan that was submitted as part of the Conservation District Use Application (CDUA). The April sessions will focus only on the management plan that was included in the CDUA. During the earlier sessions of the hearing, various management plans, including the 2000 University of Hawaii Master Plan, and the previously Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) approved management plans, were mentioned. This created much confusion over which management plan was applicable to the Outrigger project. The hearing officer then realized the management plan that was submitted as an attachment to the CDUA required approval. Since this was not stated in his original orders to the interveners, he ruled the hearing would reconvene in April to address the management plan.

Mr. Pacheco asked, as a means to avoid further confusion, if it was possible to change the wording in the hearing process to site management as opposed to management plan. Director Stormont stated the wording comes directly from the regulations and refers to an attachment to the CDUA. The regulations also list components to be included in the management plan. Mr. Pacheco also asked if the Office contacted the media to inform them about permitting procedure and the new process under the Master Plan. Director Stormont reported the office suggested to the UH System Office to contact the media to clarify the situation, but the System Office felt it was not necessary.

Following the close of the hearing, the hearing officer will submit his finding of facts, conclusions of law, and recommendations to the BLNR for its consideration. At the earliest, the BLNR will take up the matter at its June 27, 2003 meeting.

E. Mauna Kea Observatory Outreach Committee (MKOOC)

MKOOC is working with the *Hawaii Tribune Herald* on an astronomy themed tabloid. The publication will be about 48 pages and will appear in one of the June 2003 Sunday editions. Director Stormont will be submitting an article on how to visit Mauna Kea safely and responsibly. There will also be an article on the roles and functions of the OMKM, MKMB and Kahu Kū Mauna. Janice Harvey from Gemini Observatory is coordinating this effort.

F. Public Safety Brochure

The Office is in the process of developing a public safety brochure. It will be similar in format to the Hawaiian culture brochure, but will focus on visiting Mauna Kea safely and responsibly. It will address the effects of altitude, sudden weather changes and conditions, rangers, and road conditions. A map will also be included.

G. AstroDay

OMKM will be participating in the second annual AstroDay event on May 3 at Prince Kuhio Plaza. It will be an all day event with displays and presentations. (See discussion by Gary Fujihara in the Announcement section below.)

H. Correspondence to Walter Kirimitsu, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs and UH General Counsel

The Office submitted correspondence to Walter Kirimitsu suggesting OMKM partner with UH to develop a risk hazard assessment for the Mauna Kea Science Reserve. Several land management agencies throughout the country have developed a similar assessment for lands under their respective jurisdictions. The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) recently completed a study identifying hazards associated with state parks, trails and beaches. DLNR hired experts from the US Forest Service to conduct the study.

IV COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Kahu Kū Mauna Council

Reynolds Kamakawiwo'ole reported that while the Council is undergoing an organizational reassessment, it would be deferring the reappointment of Mikahala Roy.

B. Administrative Rules, Astronomy Education, Hawaiian Culture and Public Safety and Conduct Committees

No reports.

C. Environment

Rob Pacheco reported the committee will be developing an environment brochure. This brochure will be similar in format to the one on Hawaiian Culture, but will contain an overview of Mauna Kea and its natural resources. He also reported there has been movement on establishing a resource collection of literature and maps relating to the environment, culture and history of Mauna Kea. This collection will supplement information and documents

gathered by Bishop Museum in its research of its collection that is being conducted as part of the protocol project. The committee is looking at working with other MKMB committees on developing an interpretive program.

V. OLD BUSINESS

W. M. Keck Observatory request to remove two Temporary Optical Test Sites

Background

1. Site Plan Approval. On September 10, 1998 DLNR granted a Site Plan Approval allowing Keck Observatory to construct and operate two temporary optical test sites (TOTS) on its Mauna Kea property.
2. Purpose of TOTS. The tests sites were needed to facilitate the development of the interferometry capability of the two 10-meter Keck telescopes. Beams of starlight collected at the TOTS are used to test and debug the relay optics, delay lines, beam combiners, and image sensors that comprise the Keck I and Keck II interferometer. Much of the interferometry testing is through the use of the TOTS, thereby eliminating the need to interrupt the ongoing research activities of the two Keck telescopes.
3. TOTS Progress and Status. It was anticipated that it would take about 45 months to complete the interferometric testing. However, development testing is proceeding at half the rate originally planned, and instead of completing testing by the end of 2002, testing is now estimated to be completed sometime in the year 2006.
4. Request to DLNR to Extend the Site Plan Approval. IfA, on behalf of Keck Observatory inquired with the Department of Land Natural Resources (DLNR) about the possibility of extending the Site Plan Approval from the end of 2002 to 2006. Indications from DLNR were that due to the ongoing contested case hearing involving the Conservation District Use Application for the NASA/Keck Outrigger Telescopes Project, DLNR was not inclined to grant an extension of the Site Plan Approval. IfA and Keck decided against filing a formal request for an extension.
5. Required Removal. One of the conditions of the Site Plan Approval calls for the removal of the TOTS at the end of the 45-months development test period. The test period expired at the end of 2002.

Removal Process

Keck will hire a contractor to dismantle and remove the structural components off the summit for proper disposal or storage. Removal will involve: unbolting roofs, walls and frame support structures; removing the above ground portion of the concrete foundation perimeter wall; and restoring the ground to a level, flat surface. There will be no ground excavation.

OMKM Recommendation to the Board

1. OMKM recommends this project be classified as an insignificant project:
 - This project will not significantly alter the external appearance or structure of a facility by adding external structural elements. Instead, this project will result in the removal of external structural components.
 - It is a requirement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources that the structures be removed upon expiration of the Site Plan Approval.
 - This project does not involve ground excavation.
2. OMKM recommends imposing the following conditions:
 - Compliance by the contractor with the conditions, precautions and preventive measures proposed by Keck for the removal of TOTS.
 - Mauna Kea Rangers shall have access to the TOTS removal site to monitor contractor's activity and to ensure compliance with OMKM's conditions.
3. Notification
If MKMB concurs with OMKM's recommendations, OMKM will notify the Chancellor of UHH and the President of MKMB's actions. OMKM will also notify W. M. Keck Observatory to proceed with the removal of TOTS.

Heather Cole asked if there would be a future request to put the TOTS back. Dr. McLaren said no. Although it was a set back for the project, because of the concern about credibility over the original intention cited in the Site Plan Approval, it was decided to permanently remove the TOTS.

Mr. Pacheco inquired about an equipment cleaning process, specifically a base yard at the Saddle Road intersection. Has there been any initiative for developing a protocol for all projects, or will such a process be handled on a project by project basis. Director Stormont stated the Office has not looked into this matter, but indicated the Outrigger project

includes such a process in its best management practices protocol and serves as a good model. Ms. Cole mentioned the Army had been considering putting in a high pressure cleaning facility for its trucks.

Mr. Pacheco also asked if there were any plans for the TOTS buildings. Jim Bell stated Keck will either sell or donate the structures, provided they are put to good use.

It was moved by Barry Taniguchi and seconded by Rob Pacheco that MKMB concur with OMKM's recommendation to classify the removal of two temporary optical test sites as an insignificant project and that W.M. Keck Observatory be allowed to proceed with the removal under conditions imposed by OMKM. The motion was carried unanimously.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gary Fujihara extended an invitation to the Board, office, and public to the 2nd anniversary of AstroDay. The purpose of the event is to educate the public about astronomy and Mauna Kea – its role in astronomy research, its spiritual and cultural significance to Native Hawaiians. AstroDay also hopes to inspire kids to become interested in science. Last year's AstroDay received the Astronomy Day of the Year Award, making Hawaii's event the best in the world. Several Native Hawaiian displays and presentations will be featured including Hale Kuamo'o's Hawaiian Navigation in Astronomy Project, Tom Whitney's *Mauna Kea the Temple* exhibit, and various cultural speakers including Hawaiian interpretive guides from the Visitor Information Station

VII. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting is May 27, 2003 10:00 a.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hoke adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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

May 27, 2003
Date