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Minutes
Regular Meeting

Maunakea Management Board
January 12, 2021

Virtual Meeting By Zoom

Attending:

MKMB: Chair Roberta Chu, Dr. Greg Chun, Julie Leialoha, Billy Bergin, Diana Van de Car, Dr. Doug Simons and Keahi Warfield

Kahu Kū Mauna: Shane Palacat-Nelsen

CMS: Dr. Gregory Chun, Wallace Ishibashi, Karie Klein

UH/BOR: Bonnie Irwin

Others: Laura Aquino (Current Events), Cory Harden, Deborah Ward, Stewart Hunter (MKSS), Jared Chang (SSFM), Rene Pierre Martin (UH), Kathy Cooksey (UH)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Maunakea Management Board (MKMB) meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. It was noted that those in attendance constitute a quorum.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Speaker Cory Harden gave a brief summary of her comments on the comprehensive management plan (CMP). She credited Ku'iwalu for stating that native Hawaiians were not adequately consulted or involved in decision making. The evaluation should not be considered independent since Ku'iwalu evaluated a plan that Ku'iwalu itself wrote. Thus, making the conclusion not credible. She voiced that there are independent evaluations from the State Auditor, and other audits from over the past 23 years finding that UH did not adequately manage Maunakea's natural resources. She also mentioned the lease that is expiring in 12 years, and the issues with decommissioning telescopes properly. She felt the evaluation should have recommended two things, someone other than UH should manage Maunakea, and actions should be taken to avoid abandoned telescopes if and when the lease is not renewed.

Speaker Deborah Ward gave a brief summary of her comments on the comprehensive management plan. She submitted written testimony about the bond case, which is under review at the Intermediate Board of Appeals. She noted that this is her 20th year serving on the environment committee. In that time, criteria, benchmarks and issues were identified, which helped to develop the natural resource management plan. This plan

preceded the CMP. She felt the CMP did not include the existing plans for natural resource, cultural resource, public access or decommissioning. She continued that the glaring omission is the absence of the hydrology report, and hopes the Board will consider exploring this again.

III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MKMB MEMBER KEAHI WARFIELD

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board member Julie Leialoha moved to approve the minutes. Board member Dr. Doug Simons seconded the motion to approve the minutes, and the motion carried unanimously.

V. KAHU KŪ MAUNA COUNCIL REPORT

Kahu Kū Mauna chairman Shane Palacat-Nelson reported the Council will be having a retreat later this month and have agenda items that include discussion on the CMP.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Cesspool Conversion

Executive Director Greg Chun reported that they are working on converting that last known cesspools on Maunakea to either closed or convert to other systems. Design is still in the works for the maintenance shop and Dorm A cesspool. Design issues for the other two have been addressed.

B. Master Plan Update

The consultants have been actively involved with the second round of outreach regarding the Master plan and changes being considered. To date, the focus has been on meeting with various UH executives, UH advisory groups, UH faculty, agency stakeholders, and commercial tour operators. Meetings with other non-UH groups are being scheduled. Agency consultations completed include DHHL, DOT, DLNR, and HTA, and another being scheduled with OHA. Scheduling challenges have been encountered due to the meeting being held virtually and consultation fatigue. There are virtual consultations occurring with other projects at the same time. An interactive website is being explored, where visitors to the site can provide direct feedback. After this round of consultations is completed a re-write, as needed, will be done and sent out for a broader community input in the Spring 2021.

C. Board of Regents

The UH Board of Regents has reconvened and reestablished the Maunakea Permitted Interaction Group. The purpose of the group is to build an understating amongst a core of Regents around various strategic issues and concerns regarding the Master Plan, CMP, and Master Lease Application. This is to assist in decision making when the item comes to the full board. Two meetings have occurred, with an initial focus on the Master Plan, astronomy, and a new land lease.

D. Shuttle Proposal

Executive Director Chun has met with Hawaiian Village Tours and Hui Ho'olako, and later met with DHHL to explore feasibility and a possible inter-agency collaboration. The primary issues are both agency's procurement policies and process. Both groups prefer a process of "open bid." Chun continued that UH is looking to collaborate with DHHL so that beneficiaries can be part of the solution. Further meetings are being scheduled. An update will be provided to MKMB in March, as MKMB requested.

E. Decommissioning

A complete site decommissioning plan from Caltech Submillimeter Observatory (CSO) has been received and reviews by KKM and MKMB are being scheduled. The projected date for CSO to submit a conservation district use application with DLNR for commencement of the decommissioning is Summer 2021.

The Hōkū Ke‘a Telescope site decommissioning plan is still under development. No schedule update to report on.

F. UH-Hilo’s New Educational Teaching Telescope

Planning and design is starting for this project. No schedule update.

G. Recruitment for Director of Stewardship Programs

Executive Director Chun completed a write-up of the position description. Once approved by UH President, it should be posted for recruitment.

VII. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review and approve new potential KKM member Noelani Cashman-Aiu

MKMB member Leialoha and Kahu Kū Mauna chairman Nelson provided comments. Board member Diana Van de Car moved to approve the nomination of Noelani Cashman-Aiu as submitted. Board member Dr. Doug Simons seconded the motion to approve Noelani Cashman-Aiu as a new member of KKM, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Information and discussion: Update on the proposed UH-Hilo’s New Educational Teaching Telescope

R. Pierre Martin (UH-Hilo) provided a general overview of what they do at UH Hilo Department of Physics & Astronomy. This discussion included the budget crisis, and the Department’s future. Jared Chang (SSFm) provided a presentation on the community outreach effort that was done for this project. UH Hilo conducted public outreach from September to October 2020. A total of 355 individual comments were received. Positive comments included those around the education and decommissioning efforts, and the opposing comments mainly address no more development anywhere on Maunakea. It was a 100% virtual process. The next step is the Environmental Assessment. MKMB members commented on the findings and how it relates to other current issues. Chair Chu commented that the Board has received the data and issues/questions generated by the presentation and will wait to receive feedback from UHH to determine next steps. MKMB will not take any action at this time.

C. Information and discussion: Mauna Kea Observatory Support Services (MKSS) request to consolidate existing hazardous material storage lockers, and construct a storage cabinet for oil and acetylene in the utilities base yard.

Executive Director Chun stated his and Stewart Hunter’s comments are in response to the secondary containment question from the last MKMB meeting. Stewart Hunter (MKSS) explained background of the project, and showed an image of the containment pallet that would be used. Chair Chu asked about permitting needs, if any. Hunter said the size of the storage cabinet is under the County’s 120 square foot limit to get a permit, so no permit is required. Note: Subsequent to this report the County determined that a building permit is required due to changes in the County Building Code. MKSS will be submitting the necessary application to secure the permit.

D. Information and discussion: CMP Independent Evaluation

Executive Director Chun explained the need to hear from the members. He inquired about their initial response to reading the report, and whether there were any questions. Board member Van de Car asked for a full discussion on how MKMB would respond to the report, and how MKMB could better communicate with the Hawaiian community. She noted that this was the main criticism included in the report and that this, along with the OHA written testimony submitted for the MKMB meeting this afternoon, needs to be discussed. Chair Chu agreed that as the community volunteer Board, we need to look at the issue of input, how we obtain the input, and then provide advice on it.

Chair Chu suggested a sub-committee be formed to further discuss the topic, and report back. Gary Takeuchi said setting up a sub-committee is permissible. He said other people (non-Board members) could be consulted. MKMB members Van de Car and Leialoha volunteered to participate along with Executive Director Chun as members of such a sub-committee. Gary Takeuchi informed Chair Chu that the formation of such a sub-committee will need to be officially voted on and approved at the next MKMB meeting. Chair Chu commented that this action will be included on the February 2, 2021 meeting agenda. The results of this sub-committee will then be shared with KKM. Executive Director Chun explained how this effort would assist with defining the roles of the two groups, MKMB and KKM. MKMB member Dr. Billy Bergin commented that all (Board members) need to participate in a thorough discussion on this topic – roles and responsibilities of MKMB community engagement and outreach. Chair Chu agreed and will hold a Special Meeting of MKMB when the sub-committee has a report to present to the Board for discussion.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Chu stated the next public meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Signature on File

March 2, 2021

Julie Leialoha, Secretary, MKMB

Date