

**WEST HAWAII FISHERIES COUNCIL
POBOX 489 KAILUA KONA HI 96745**

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE WEST HAWAII FISHERIES COUNCIL

“To effectively manage fishery activities to ensure sustainability; enhance nearshore resources; develop and implement management plans for minimizing resource depletion and conflicts of use; per legislative mandate to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide for substantive involvement of the community in resource management decisions; and encourage scientific research and monitoring of the nearshore resources and environment from Upolu Point to Ka Lae.”

**WEST HAWAII FISHERIES COUNCIL
DRAFT Minutes for Thursday January 16, 2014
Kona Community Cultural & Educational Foundation (KCCF)
Meeting Room at Keauhou Bay
Presiding: Tina Owens**

Call to Order: 6:30pm

Attendees:

Member(s): Kim Koch, Dale Sarver, Tina Owens, JR Rosario, Pat Cunningham, Robert Hajek, Donna Goodale, David Dart, Malia Kipapa

Guest/Ex-Officio(s): Bill Walsh, Barbara Dalton

Member Tina Owens offered to preside over the meeting in the absence of (an) elected chair/chairs. Tina noted we are in flux in means of our meeting site for monthly meetings;

The December strategic planning meeting cancelled because no one could make it so was put off. We don't have minutes or agenda for this meeting. It's a good start for the new year with the approval of the rule package.

In terms of an impromptu agenda, Tina offered that perhaps we should deal with the following:

- 1) Election of chairs.
- 2) A short discussion on whether the Council meeting format can be changed. It was noted that the Practices and Procedures can be amended. A discussion should be held on this topic.
- 3) Need to establish a website of our own.

A question from Dale Saver started a discussion on how the rules package was finally pushed through:

- Babara Dalton
 - o Rule package approval I did not know about signing till day before. The topic would come up, and I heard in early November that it was in the hands of DLNR. It was the 11th hour to come my way; there was

the steady pressure of not getting governor re-elected and a lot has been going on; this issue was out of my hands, but it did come up steadily at staff meetings.

- Bill Walsh
 - o Why do you think it was kept hush hush about the signing?
 - Not sure why, only found out the day before.
 - o Is there a summary that we can get?
 - Barbara – constituency services will forward email and she will ask them.
- Tina
 - o Subsistence Fishing Areas throughout the State were asking about a scuba fishing ban in their community and was refused by William Aila.
 - o Some people thought that this ban in the rule package was for the entire state but was only for West Hawaii.
- Tina –
 - o This was a major victory for the West Hawaii Fisheries Council
 - o It was good how the attorney general refused to allow changes to be made
 - o Pat – can we get a copy of the rule package online?
 - Tina – DAR website
 - o Barbara – Lt Governor website
- Kim –
 - o I think along with the Rule Package there should have been an implementation plan with the package.
 - o Tina –
 - didn't know if it was going to be approved and when, was not prepared.
 - o Bill –
 - this just sprung on us, so we were not prepared for it to be approved so soon. Unexpected for us. We need to get terms and conditions and regulations mainly for the aquarium fish collection. Nothing changed for the registration for boats, still the same. Just like the bottom fish we still need an annual update.

There was then a call for nominations for chairs. Tina said that she believed the Council's Practices and Procedures called for three chairs. Tina handed out pieces of paper for people to write their three choices for chair. Malia, who had offered to act as secretary for this meeting, tallied the results and two names with a tie for third were the result.

Chad, Tina, Dale (Voted in)

- Robert made a motion to go ahead with the 3 chairs
- RJ – 2nd the motion
- All 9 members unanimously voted in favor of all 3 chairs.

Tina brought up what she saw as a need to establish our own West Hawaii Fisheries Council website. She was not able to find anything substantial, other than news stories, about the Council by doing an internet search. Malama Kai Foundation once offered to put up a page for us, but it doesn't seem to amount to much.

Next order of business

- Funding

Tina

- We need to find funding; Do we go independent without DAR and Malama Kai Foundation \$260 a year for the website. We have \$5000 left in our budget. We are very likely to apply for another grant from Harold K. Castle Foundation.
- Do we want to initiate research for cost of website host?
 - Dale - we need the money before we can do anything
 - Pat – we need to have a budget and need before we can do a website.
 - JR – the newspaper doesn't help for publicity.
 - Tina – a lot of people don't know about us and with this will maybe bring up the numbers in members; I couldn't find anything on the internet so who are they?
 - Pat – we have a website builder for our foundation and could ask him if he can help us build it
 - Kim – facebook is a free network with a lot of people on it
 - Dale – we still need to have an official site.
 - Barbara – January 31 is the deadline for State grants
 - State legislature website
 - Grant and aid – last year the Waimea Regional Park received a grant last year.
 - Pat – you need to get a non-profit status (State \$50) and federal 501-c3 (\$900) status
 - Tina – not sure of the legal ramifications; not an official arm of the State.
 - Kim – with the grants that council received in the past how did they track it in the past?

- Tina – Malama Kai is a non-profit 501c3 and they give money for projects; don't need us to be a 501c3 to be a project. This is probably how we have been managing. Established mainly due to Act 306.
- Dale – easiest thing is to continue doing what we do;
- Tina – Carolyn Stewart from Malama Kai ran a check on our account and mentioned that we had \$5000.
- Pat – will do research on website and grants
- Tina – we are not paid by anyone; if we start having to pay someone we will start becoming like an NGO.
- Dale – if we keep it the way it is now we will not need to go through all the grief of managing grants and large sums of money.
 - Tina- I agree with Dale
 - Bill – I don't think you have that much to gain to go on your own because there's a lot of overhead to do on our own. I think that Castle foundation will continue to be supportive of the council. DAR use to do the minutes before Marni.
- Donna – can we meet at the NELHA? Isn't it free?
 - Dale - No there is a fee, it's not free
- Tina – Sarah originally applied for the grant
- Recruitment
 - Donna – I tried.
 - Dale – newspapers to advice
 - Kim – what is our next project? If there is a project or area of focus people will come.
 - Tina – We don't want swamp of one group; we need to target certain groups
 - Barbara – have you met leaders of the Marshallese community?
 - Key user conflict; Rebecca is with family support, call her. Great PR move for this group.
 - Tina – Do we need to have a meeting in like Waimea, Kawaihae or Waikoloa and invite community members? What about South Kona, maybe Kealahou?
 - JR – a lot of Japanese fisherman there; they kind of close off on him when he talks to them
 - David – any shoreline fisherman clubs/groups in south kona
 - JR – Yes mostly ulua fisherman clubs

- Barbara – Jim Reduzo; have events at protected areas, invite the community and do demos and talk about the history. We have an event for the governor Chinese New Year.
- Pat – are we able to get commercial fisherman contacts?
 - Bill – maybe names but no contact information can be released
 - JR – put application in regulation books and boat registration forms.
 - Kim – put it at tackle box stores
 - Dale – I did that and got zero response
- Bill – when forming the original council Sarah and I made a list of people and sent invitations to individuals to be invited to the table. Just need someone doing the administrative part.
- Tina –
 - We do need
 - commercial dive boat representative on the council
 - several more fisherman
 - more representative from different districts
- Sub-committees
 - Tina – how useful are they and do you think we need them?
 - Kim – I don't think that they are that effective.
 - JR – The last five years we were bombarded with a lot of projects. We should work on projects entirely together
 - Dale – if sub committees are not effective then we can get rid of it.
 - Tina & Dale – this will draw a lot of attention bringing up 4th mandate in act 306 on FRA permanent closures. We have a total of 9 FRA's (no take zone).
 - Donna – correction 10 FRA's
 - Pat –definition of No Take?
 - Kim – what if we posted in the front page of the newspaper "Turning FRA's into MLCD's" may draw a lot of attention and people may become interested. Hot Topic they would come to us, not necessarily going to them.
 - Tina & Dale – can't be an arbitrary decision. it's because it's the law; that is how Hot Topics will be selected to draw interest for people to join council.
 - Tina – I think that if someone has something to say then they should share it and add it to the agenda instead of having the subcommittees and going down the line up for updates. I would

like to have more presentations from graduate students, educational topics.

- Dale – I don't agree with presentations, we have a job to do things we shouldn't be having presentations
- David – I think that Bill Walsh's presentations are informative and good.

○ Marine Reserve

- Tina – Kaupulehu, Milolii, Ho'okena are examples of communities that wants to have marine protected areas.
- Barbara – need to get buy in from localities (Milolii); there is a lot of angry people about the rule package
- Dale – get support from low lying folks example Mauna Lani folks.
- Kim – do we need to pass all one time or can it be incremental?
- Tina – It is not law that every FRA needs a marine protected area. Strongly suggest doing a package, do them all one time. Limited entry issue.
- Kim – statewide limited aquarium fishing
 - Dale – companion bills that may stop it?
 - Barbara – do you know if it's a house or senate bill?
 - Kim – I'm not sure
 - Tina – Malama Solomon wanted to repeal act 306

○ Announcements

- Pat - our nonprofit is close to partnering with HCC for a \$200,000 grant; looking at building a marine facility at Palamanui Campus. Working together in establishing an environmental educational program together.
- Barbara – Chinese New Years celebration; will be here for the Martin Luther King Day celebration at the old airport; also campaigning

○ Kim – made a motion to adjourn meeting; everyone agreed

Next Steps:

- We will find more information on costs of website and information on funding
- We need to focus on Marine Reserves.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM