

**STATE OF HAWAI‘I
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Ka‘ehu
600 Kukona Rd.
Wailuku, HI. 96793**

**Maui Site Visit Summary
of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Board of Trustees
Summary Report
May 25, 2022 – 11:45 AM**

ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Trustee Kaleihikina Akaka
Trustee Luana Alapa
Trustee B. Kalei‘āina Lee
Trustee Dan Ahuna
Trustee Keli‘i Akina
Trustee Mililani Trask

ADMINISTRATION STAFF:

Sylvia Hussey, Ka Pouhana / CEO
Lei-Ming
Joshua Koh

GUEST:

Kahulu Maluo-Pearson, Exec. Director
Ku‘ulei Maunupau, Dir. of Sustainable Planning
Polani Kahakalau Kalima
Hanoa Pua‘a-Freitas, Land Specialist/ KUPU Intern
Kauwela Kaia, Land Restoration Specialist
Roman Gaspar
Lohelani Furtado-Gaspar, KUPU Intern
Jesse Nathenson, Land Restoration Specialist
Kahealani Ferreira, Site Coordinator

BOT STAFF:

Lehua Itokazu
Kanani Iaea
Amber Kalua
Anuheha Diamond
Crayn Akina
Brandon Mitsuda
Evalani Canto

I. Call to Order

Site visit starts at 11:00 a.m.

II. Introduction

Ka'ehu staff greets the Trustees with an oli.

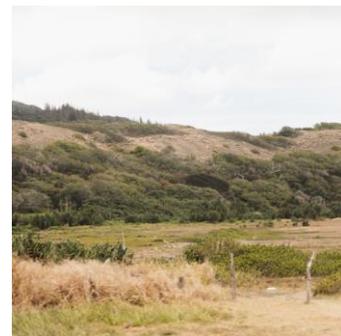
III. Site Visit

A. Ka'ahu

Kahulu Maluo-Pearson welcomes the Trustees and staff to Ka'ehu. She introduces the staff of Ka'ehu. Her hope is that they share a better understanding of Ka'ehu is and what they do. She turns the time over to Ku'ulei.

Ku'ulei Maunupau, Dir. Of Sustainable Planning She states Ka'ehu bay is 64 acres of coastal wetlands. On the property there is kuleana lands, shore lines, a birthing stone, 40 + archaeological sites, one river, two streams, many native flora and fauna, and nesting to for turtle and monk seals. She thanks Hōkūlani Holt and Ku Kahakala for their support from the beginning, if it were not for them they would not be here today. This area was kapu (sacred) and set aside for Ali'i and maka'aināna of this area that tended the lo'i. There are fresh water springs, a healing spring, sacred lauhala grove, and heiau's. Ka'ehu was known for the fresh underground water springs and the food supply for the warrior training grounds and this area. The property was purchased from the Wailuku Sugar Company in 2004 by a company called North Shore LLC and went into foreclosure in 2009. Neighbors and members of the community asked Maui County for help to preserve this land. Trust for Public Lands (TPL) purchased the land in 2012 then Maui County purchased the land, and finally, Ka'ehu secured the property in 2014 with right of entry until 2024.

Ka'ehu developed a planning consortium in 2017, working on a long-term plan. They are partnering with lineal families as of right now they have partnered with four.



Some of the programs offered are poi youth program, kalo family program under the Maui police department, community workdays, and we also use this place as an outdoor classroom. She shares that Ka'ehu is funded by the county of Maui, the land is owned by the County of Maui and Ka'ehu has a right of entry (ROI). The Alu Like program offers internship and three interns currently are at Ka'ehu. They have worked with different schools, one of them being Lahaina Intermediate. During Covid, Ka'ehu did food distribution working with Queen Lili'uokalani Trust and various farmers. Ka'ehu has hosted the Hawai'i Wildlife Fund and together can collect between 2,500 to 5,000 lbs of plastic marine debry per month.

They also offer archeological field training. Last year the program discovered an ancient wall. The more research was done they realized it was an acient 12 acre fish pond wall, which is very rare. We are hoping to restore the fishpond.

Polani Kahakalau Kalima Speaks on the the Kū-A-Kanaka program contracted by Ka‘ehu. They work hands-on with the community. Initially Kū-A-Kanaka was contracted using their kitchen, utilizing Hawaiian ingredients and making things like ulu crepes and ‘uala crepes. During Covid they wanted to figure out how to teach and enrich their students. So, during Covid they started in the kitchen virtually and eventually brought chefs in to film virtually but be in person at Ka‘ehu. They have also brought in professionals to teach lā‘au lapa‘au, lauhala weaving, and making hau cordage. Ka‘ehu has an abundant of hau and what better way to learn about hau and the different ways to use hau. Overall, they encourage the use of resources that surround Ka‘ehu and teach the students how to pick, clean, strip, prepare, and use the different food and plants that surround this area.



Hanoa Pua‘a-Freitas Shares that some of the work they are doing to restore Ka‘ehu are hosting community work days. Clearing out waterways, weeds, overgrowth, and rocks has really helped with keeping this area maintained. The idea is get rid of the invasive plants and help the native species thrive. He shares that he is a product of the program KUPU and acknowledges OHA as a funder for this program. He is working for Ka‘ehu for the rest of the year and then Ka’ehu will be picking him up as a full-time worker. He mahalos OHA for providing for KUPU who then provides for many youth.

The trustees take a walk along the shoreline to see the acient fish pond wall that has been discovered and has been uncovered for today’s site visit.

Inclosing Kahulu shares their partnership with Hawai‘i Visitors Bureau, the Mālama Hawai‘i program. Visitors come to Hawai‘i and give some of their vaction time to learn and give back to the area they are visiting. Ka‘ehu is working on funding for their workforce development program that will intergrate those skills where there is great need for and bigger interest, like archaeology, bookkeeping, landscaping, story telling, music, and video production. In the future they hope to incorporate ‘Ohana evenings in Ka‘ehu. Families can come and work on projects, share a meal, take a cultural workshop, and then enjoy music or a movie under the moon light. They feel this will foster community building and securing a sense of place.

IV. Public Testimony

None

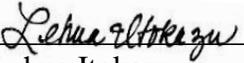
V. Announcements

None

VI. Adjournment

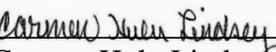
The site visit ended at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lehua Itokazu
Board Secretary

Site Visit Minutes Approved at Board of Trustees Meeting on August 18, 2021.



Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Attachments:

1. Excused Memo – Trustee Ahu Isa
2. Excused Memo – Trustee Waihe‘e