

CAVE CONSERVANCY OF HAWAI'I ANNUAL MEETING

February 1, 2015

11:00 am

Kea'au Community Center

DRAFT MINUTES

Call meeting to order at 11:15 am

Quorum established.

Attending: Fred Stone and Debbie Ward , Don and Barb Coons, Mark Aeder, Steve Smith, James Head, Asa Aue, Kenneth Ingham and Diana Northup, Rachel Myron, Steve Lewis, Iolani Kauhane, Mike Warner, Emily Davis, Ric Elhard, Anna Lejeda,

Treasurers report:

Don gave an oral accounting of a spread sheet provided by treasurer Barb Coons. Full report attached to hard copy of the minutes which is available by request.

Our bank account currently contains: \$3,041.05

\$3,000.00 is slated for reserve to pay road and association maintenance fees leaving a small amount to seed future projects. Don reports that the organization has generated an average of 24K a year for land purchase since inception. 90% of donations and dues have gone for land purchase with 10% being spent to maintain the responsibility of road dues and association fees.

The last land purchase at a cost of 56K was facilitated by funds derived from dues and loans from CCH members. All loans have been reimbursed with some of the loans partially donated back to the organization. It was noted that any money lent to the organization by board members or officers are and have been interest free loans.

Director Elections.

The annual election was held with current officers reinstated and addition of Asa Aue to replace a position vacated by Rose Herrera.

The Board stands: Steve Smith, Kenneth Ingham, Steve Lewis Fred Stone, Tomislav Gracinin, Peter Bosted and Asa Aue.

Elect officers for 2015.

The board motioned and approved to retain the current officers.

Officers: President Don Coons, Vice president Mike Warner, Treasurer Barbara Coons, Recording secretary Ric Elhard.

Review and approve minutes from 2014.

The minutes of the 2014 meeting were approved with a few typo corrections.

Motion to approve Ric Elhard Proxy for KKVECA Annual Meeting approved.

Ric Elhard was assigned proxy vote for the Kula Kai View annual meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Review of the Bigelow purchase in Keones:

This is a 21 acre lot that was purchased by the Cave Conservancy of Hawai'i in December of 2012. Purchase price was \$50K. This parcel lies immediately adjacent to two additional 21 acre parcels already owned by the CCH. This combined area of 63 acres now protects at least 20 entrances to the system and several miles of underlying passage. The County of Hawaii has purchased a 3,000 acre plot immediately makai of our holdings, basically from the lower end of the subdivision to the coast. This huge area also contains many miles of underlying lava tube and is now dedicated as Open Lands.

Funding to support this project (our largest to date) were procured through loans from two of our current board members, and one long time member. They all agreed to loan the money to the conservancy interest free for the duration of the project. All loans are now paid in full, after just 25 months. Many thanks to Thom Engel, Steve Smith, and especially Tomislav and Veda Hackel.

Suggestion to compile a "Complied Acts of the Board" for the conservancy. Basically a history of the organization and to compile a list of existing committees, define their projects, and review members and chair persons.

A committee chaired by Ric Elhard to include Don Coons and Mike Warner was established to this task.

Additional Old Business:

Don reports that the CCH has 63 contiguous acres overlying the Kanohina Cave with approximately 8 miles of cave under these acres. There are about 20 entrances associated with these acres. There are 15 lots owned privately connected CCH holdings or related to the Kanohina Cave System with conservation agreements in place. A total of 77 acres are held directly by CCH.

Steve Lewis ask to review the status of the Manu Nui Cave:

It was noted that the bid for the Legacy Land Grant to purchase this cave was denied. The new owner of the property is open to the CCH to remain involved with the cave and wishes to be further educated regarding this unique cave environment on the Hualalai. This means a positive relationship with the owner of this beautiful cave.

Membership chair Emily Davis reports:

Currently there are 40 active dues paying members in the CCH. She will send 20 notices to members needing to pay dues to remain current on the roster. Approximately \$700.00 was garnered at the meeting.

Web site manager Mike Warner reports:

Dave Bunnell has agreed to work on the CCH website to spruce it up a bit. Mike will work with him in this process. Mike has been maintaining a Facebook page for the CCH. He reports there are 69 friends and about 50 people visit the site regularly.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss an invitation for the Legacy Lands Conservation Fund to present a report to their board of directors with an overall view of accomplishments by our organization over the past decade. This is NOT a request for money. Simply an opportunity to better inform them on who we are and what we have done.

A committee of two persons was established to present a report the LLG in Honolulu in late Feb. Several persons agreed to donate directly to this project. The CCH will add funding if necessary. No limit was set by the board. Discuss potential new purchases for the CCH during calendar year 2015.

Currently there are no properties slated for purchase by the organization.

HOVE possibilities:

Two adjacent one acre parcels near corner of King Kam and Outrigger – two entrances to two parallel tubes, nice native vegetation and nesting Apapanes in at least one entrance. J. J. Paul is the realtor and owner.

Two adjacent one acre parcels near the corner of Mahi Mahi and Plumeria. One entrance and one skylight to a nice segment of the Kanohina main line flow. Several hundred feet of cave. Nice native vegetation, but much closer to the tree line than the previous property.

Large sky light entrance to Lost Brother Cave on the corner of Lehua and Kona. One of our members owns two lots in the same block that help to protect this beautiful piece of the Kanohina main line. One acre corner lot. No buildings.

KULA KAI possibilities.

Several entrances to the system are currently owned either by our members, or other individuals. None are currently offered for sale, but most understand that the conservancy would be interested in buying if the decision is ever made to sell.

KEONES possibilities.

At least four more of the 21 acre parcels in this undeveloped subdivision are known to have many miles of lava tube developed beneath the surface. \$\$\$ per acre prices and amount of cave per project have made this area our most productive target in the past. No additional lots are currently offered for sale, but we should be prepared to move when any do come onto the market.

Additional new business:

It was discussed that the evidence observed in the Kanohina Cave System lend to the belief that the caves were used mainly for shelter and water collection. A recent finding indicates that one shelter cave may have been used for Kapa production. A site visit by Aunte Sabra_____ indicates that this apparently is the case with observation of remnants of the kapa making process in situ in one of the shelters on CCH property.

Steve Smith suggests that monitoring for fire ants would be prudent as they are a particularly nasty invasive to the island. None have been observed to date in the Kanohina holdings.

The Rod Frost cave house property in Kula Kai View was recently sold. CCH members have introduced Steve Henderson to the Kanohina Project and he is eager to learn about the caves and open to visitation of his section of the system.

The 2016 meeting for the CCH is slated for Sunday Jan. 31 next year.
Motion to adjourn at 1:30 pm.

Respectively submitted by Ric Elhard for the CCH

Committee appointments:

Document review and compilation of motions. Ric Elhard to chair, Don and Mike to review.

Committee to present CCH to Legacy Land Commission. Asa Aue and Io Kauhane

Standing committees :

Ole's Puka: Peter Bosted Ric Elhard Kenneth Ingham

Cave route on CCH property: Peter Bosted, Merideth Tanguay

Kenneth Ingham Sign review and suggestion for new language or pictures / signage.

Invasive species control: Don Coons Pat Zura

Membership: Emily Davis

Motions by the board:

Motion to appoint Ric Elhard to proxy vote at the KKVECA meeting.