

Kula Agricultural Park Committee Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2019

1:30PM

Mayor's Conference Room

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 1:35pm by Vice Chairperson Kylie Wong-Tavares.

B. Public Testimony

No public testimony presented, testimony closed.

C. Introduction of new & outgoing committee members - ITEM DEFERRED

D. The role and responsibilities of the Kula Agricultural Park Committee

- a. Presentation on the duties and responsibilities of the Kula Agricultural Park Committee by Mimi Desjardins.

Passed out Maui County Code 22.04A.084 covering Kula Agricultural Park. The two main roles and responsibilities are (1) give advice on reports and presentations from Office of Economic Development regarding Kula Agricultural Park, and (2) evaluate and score Kula Agricultural Park lease and sublease applicants.

Concern regarding broad criteria, Mimi said this is covered in scoring for farm plan.

Question asked if conventional farmers using sprays can have allocated lots in the park. This is amending an ordinance, so change will need to come from County Council.

Question asked if the new agricultural park can be strictly for organic farmers, Mimi said it would be a good future agenda item.

E. Terms for Committee Members, Tenure & Renewals

- a. Presentation on the length of tenure and renewal of terms for individual committee members by Gladys Baisa.

Explained representative descriptions for committee members.

James Jones - terming out, but has not served two years so is eligible for a new appointment and will stay on.

Trevor Tokishi - termed out, and his prospective replacement is in attendance.

Question asked if there is a prospective replacement for Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura. Council representative is approved by Council.

F. Election of a new Committee Chair (Postponed to March 2020)

G. New business

- a. Kula Agricultural Park Updates given by Patrick Ka'eo Ornellas.

The park has 31 lots, 19 current farm tenants, and 445 acres.

Since starting with Office of Economic Development, he has focused on five factors: lease agreement compliance, water and land rent compliance, liability

insurance compliance, wildlife control management, and communication between County and park tenants.

Question asked regarding wildlife management contract duration and permitted animals. It is an annual contract, specifically permitting deer and pigs.

- b. Upcountry Maui Agricultural Park (262 acres) Updates given by Kay Fukumoto.

The County closed on purchasing of the land in late December. The state allocated 3.5 million for water system improvements and infrastructure. Budget amendment to receive that money was approved after two Council meetings.

Question asked regarding estimated completion date. Pushing for earlier than three years.

H. Setting Next Meeting Date

Mid-April 2020

I. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:13pm by Vice Chairperson Kylie Wong-Tavares.

Record of Attendance

- Kylie Wong-Tavares, CTAHR, Vice Chair
- Jamie Davidson, AG Trade Organization
- Barbara Barry, General Public
- Patrick Ka'eo Ornellas, Agriculture Coordinator

Excused

- Yuki Lei Sugimura, Council Member
- Jimmy Jones, KAP Tenant
- Trevor Tokishi, AG Bank/Lending
- Isla-Leilani Young, General Public

Others

- Mimi Desjardins, Corporation Counsel
- Gladys Baisa, Community Liaison
- Kay Fukumoto, Economic Development Director

Respectfully Submitted



Kay Fukumoto, Office of Economic Development