

**Hawaiian Paradise Park Owners Association  
CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2024 (Corrected 10.15.24)**

**ATTENDEES:**

Members present: Lanell Lua (Chair), Liz Amaral, Kathy Hollingsworth, Sandee Maeda, Danee McFarr (Secretary), Brian Ogawa, Julie Rice, Michael Schiszler, Jan Emerson-Sheldon (quorum met)

Members absent: Christine Harker, Ho`oululahu Perry, Nainoa Rosehill

Guests: Keoni Alvarez, Spencer Willis

Call to order: Lanell Lua, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Meeting agenda approval: Maeda made a motion to approve the agenda; Amaral seconded; approved unanimously.

Previous meeting minutes approval: Maeda made a motion to approve the August 10, 2024 meeting minutes; McFarr seconded; approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>GUEST PRESENTATION: Keoni Alvarez, independent film producer, director, and author, Keoni Alvarez Productions:</p> <p>Burial cave on HPPOA property at 16<sup>th</sup> and Makuu</p>	<p>Keoni Alvarez gave a presentation about the burial cave on HPPOA property at 16<sup>th</sup> and Maku`u. The following summary of events is excerpted from the documentation that Keoni provided, from SHPD, DLNR, and HPD police.</p> <p>The cave entrance, in the wooded area bordering the activity center playing field approximately 213 feet from the current mailbox site, was reported to the police by Kaynan Kaku on October 9, 2023 when he saw the mailbox site being cleared. He was one of the children who discovered it about 30 years ago; at the time Kaku told a family member that there were human remains in the cave and was told not to tell anyone about it, so it was not reported to the authorities. On October 16, 2023, Burial Site Specialists, SHPD ethnographers, and DOCARE (DLNR police) inspected the site and a SHPD archaeologist inspected a portion of the cave, confirming that human bones of at least four persons were present. The group was told by Larry Torres, General Manager of HPPOA (according to Larry, he is incorrectly identified in the report as “Larry Kawaauhau from the Homeowners Association”) that “the location of human skeletal remains would not be impacted by the current development” and “that the extent of the</p>	<p>For information. Update and action items to be discussed at the next meeting.</p>

Cultural Preservation Committee Meeting – September 14, 2024

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<p>Burial cave on HPPOA property at 16<sup>th</sup> and Makuu (cont'd)</p>	<p>work was complete and only mulching was left....SHPD was informed that the location of human skeletal remains would not be impacted from the machinery as it was a safe distance from the current work." It was given a State Inventory of Historic Places (SIHP) number and documented as a burial registration.</p> <p>In spite of the previous reassurance that the work was complete (except for mulching) and wouldn't impact the cave, nine months later, on July 15, 2024, DOCARE Offices informed SHPD that they received a call regarding a newly exposed large opening in a lava tube. "During construction activities for the new mail box project, the bulldozer operators hit an area that opened to a lava tube." DOCARE and SHPD staff met on the property the same day. They determined that the opening was of the same cave, approximately 197 feet away. The state archaeologist also identified human remains near this opening. "SHPD advised HPPOA to stop construction activities in the area of the exposed lava tube and requested a buffer of 10 feet from the exposed lava tube. Everyone present agreed to the 10 foot buffer."</p> <p>Keoni met with the HPPOA board members and they approved of his plan to protect and preserve the burial cave site with a 10-foot buffer. Large boulders were dropped at the opening to immediately protect it. Keoni will meet with the board members again on September 18 to present his treatment plan, which he shared with the committee today. Mulch and dirt will completely cover the area, native plants will be planted, and it will be surrounded by a short dry stack wall. There will be a commemorative plaque indicating its inclusion on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places, as well as a sign warning of the law prohibiting any disturbance of the caves. The original cave opening will be capped after a state surveyor maps the cave.</p> <p>Keoni will present his treatment plan to the Hawaii Island Burial Council on September 19 starting at 9:30 a.m. The public can attend on Zoom. The link was shared with the committee.</p>	

Cultural Preservation Committee Meeting – September 14, 2024

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Burial cave on HPPOA property at 16 <sup>th</sup> and Makuu (cont'd)	<p>Suggestions to involve the community in the process of constructing the rock wall and planting included contacting UH for plants and canoe clubs and halau for the ceremonial passing of the pohaku. A sign-up list can be made available for those interested in participating so that they can be contacted by email when needed. Uncle Keone Kalawe can supervise the building of the rock wall.</p> <p>Keoni can produce a video for public access TV, radio, and social media to publicize an event for the community in order to inform and involve the public.</p> <p>After final approval of Keoni's treatment plan for the site, he will let us know what can be posted on the CPC website.</p> <p>Keoni invited committee members to join him after the meeting to view the burial cave site.</p>	
Keoni Alvarez: Collaboration with community groups in Puna	Keoni proposed that this committee collaborate with him and others interested in Puna district burial preservation efforts to share information and offer advice. The meetings, to be held every three or four months, would be open to community groups, individuals, and families. Keoni will update us at a future meeting.	Keoni will provide an update at a future meeting.
<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</b>		
Archaeological study – final report update: Lanell Lua	Due to lack of time, tabled to next meeting.	Update at next meeting.
Ko`olauo Instagram page and website updates: Lanell Lua and Spencer Willis	<p>Lanell Lua said that the Instagram page is inactive and she has no plans to post. (Waikahekahe_nui_iki)</p> <p>Due to lack of time, update on the website (Koolauo.com) is tabled to next meeting.</p>	<p>Instagram page inactive.</p> <p>Update on website at next meeting.</p>

Cultural Preservation Committee Meeting – September 14, 2024

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Consideration of nonprofit organization for stewardship of Ko`olauo	Discussion tabled until after the final archaeological report is reviewed.	For information. To discuss after final report is reviewed.
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>		
Archaeological study draft report discussion.	Due to lack of time, tabled to next meeting.	Discussion to resume at next meeting.
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	None	For information.
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be held October 12 at 10 a.m. in the HPPOA library.	For information.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Secretary to Chair on October 6, 2024. (corrected minutes submitted October 18, 2024)

Approved:

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Lanell Lua, Chair

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Date