WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Aesthetics Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, September 18, 2015
10:30 am

Attendees: Paul Nash, Ellen Nagaue, Charles Whitten, Carol Cunha, Bonnie Beatson, Roy Fujimoto, Hannah Mullaney, Joe Ciotti, Floyd McCoy, Laura Sue

Guests: Kalawaia Moore, Todd Cullison

Meeting called to order at 10:35 am

I. Approval of minutes from 5/15/2015
   • Carol moved to approve, Bonnie seconded. Motion approved.
   • Correction – Remove “Straw House” from page 2.

II. Review Priority List
   1. Hale A’o repair
   2. Paliku Theater repair
   3. Campus signage
      • Chancellor will speak to neighborhood board to see if there is anything they can do about the signs.
   4. Trees on campus
      • Trees are coming down slowly so we’ll need to replace them.
      • Inge’s suggestion was to purchase older trees, instead of planting baby trees that would take time to grow.
      • We need to wait until the roots are removed before we can plant new trees (Paul to confirm with Doug)
   5. Beautification Day for campus
      • Staff Senate to meet on 10/16, and then will spend the rest of the day on Beautification Day. Not sure on timeframe yet.
      • Will focus on the front of the campus.
      • Want to clean up the dirty sign, scraggly plants, paint front of Alakai building banisters, paint front door the college color, refresh screening, do some planting of sturdy native plants.
   6. Moon sculpture doesn’t light up
III. Hawaiian Hale in front of campus (Kalawaia Moore)

- Kalawaia Moore came to discuss the hale with the committee.
- This structure is actually called a “hale halawai” or “meeting house”.
- Named “Hālau o Kahoe” after the farmer Kahoe who is said to have lived in the area long ago.
- The area from the hale to the park is the mala area (approved late 2012), a cultural garden to support the Hawaiian Studies curriculum.
  - Want to plant native plants.
  - Want to have kalo growing before bringing the Kalo Fest back.
- Kalawaia apologized for not passing the hale through the Aesthetics committee previously.
- The Hawaiian Studies faculty has been testing out what kinds of curriculum would work well for this campus, like hale building and woodcarving.
- Kalawaia offered to walk the committee through the hale structure.
- The poles have been cemented into the rock base, and they used parachute cord rather than traditional cord for stronger joints (550 psi), although traditional cord was used for decorative purposes.
- Will be building a wa‘a hale (about 30 feet x 60 feet) to house the canoes at Waikalua beach.
- Perhaps in the future also build Samoan fale, although it would require a lot of wood prep to make it curved.
- The hale is actually a classroom so you can book the space through the normal process of reserving rooms.
- Hale is waterproof so far, but they will watch the thatching, and will eventually need to change it out. The wetter the area, the shorter the lifetime for the thatching. The type of plant used for the thatching is the one growing in the median of Kahekili highway.
- This is the 14th hale that Kalawaia has built (and the master builder has built a couple hundred).
- Kalawaia can do tours or have people use the hale for Hoʻolaulea.
- Still having security issues (Jamie's shed has been broken into multiple times).
• While they were building the hale, they saw many people coming in and out of wooded area:
  o Saw someone steal a safety check sticker.
  o Someone came out with machete and started chopping stuff.
  o Lots of theft at district park too.

IV. Master Gardeners (Jayme Grzebik)
• Could ask them for suggestions of plants for the front of campus.
• Bonnie also offered to ask Rick Barboza of Hui Kū Maoli Ola (http://www.hawaiianativeplants.com), a native plant nursery in Kaneohe, for suggestions.

V. Mural Art on Construction Fence
• Emsy Takahashi is still interested in coordinating this project.
• Emsy and Bonnie have met and created flyers.
• Perhaps we can invite artists to come during Hoʻolauleʻa.

VI. Design for Transformers by Emily (Emsy) Takahashi
• Kevin said they have funds for a stone wall now.
• There’s a fire hydrant close to one of them, so perhaps need to check on regulations regarding distance.
• Paul to follow up with Kevin about funds and timeframe.

VII. Rain Garden (Todd Cullison)
• Todd Cullison from Hui o Koʻolaupoko (http://www.huihawaii.org) came to talk to the committee.
• Currently building three rain gardens by Windward Mall.
• Finished up rain garden in front of Imiloa around March/April 2014.
• Next rain garden at WCC will be in the Palanakila parking lot.
  o Today a survey crew is doing a topographic survey in the Palanakila parking lot.
  o Will be similar to the rain garden in front of Imiloa.
  o Next time they come they will have plans for how they will utilize the parking lot space.
  o Will utilize soil and storm drain, possibly use the space between parking stalls since there are wide aisles.
Surveyors are very expensive, budgeted $5,500, and got proposals locally of about $9k, $11k, $13k, so they ended up hiring a crew from Maui for less than their budget.

- **Value of a rain garden:**
  - When rain falls, it flows into storm drains, then carried to streams, no filtering
  - Some areas (like Portland, OR) have a combined sewer overflow system, where they take sewage and storm water and treat the combined water together. Then the water going back into the wetland is clean. They did a cost analysis in Portland and realized that it was more of a benefit to build rain gardens.
  - But on Oahu we have a disconnect - sewage gets treated but storm water does not. Hawaii regulations aren’t strong enough to necessitate rain gardens.
  - Rain gardens can intercept that water, reduce flood volumes, and reduce pollutants going back into streams.
  - The organization builds rain gardens on a large scale like at colleges and malls, but can also build them on a smaller scale for individual houses. Also built one in American Samoa to show an example of how rain gardens can be beneficial.
  - They have some money from Hawaiian Electric Industries for maintenance of public rain gardens.

- They hire engineers to build the rain gardens, but try to include community in their maintenance, and use that as an opportunity to educate people about native plants.
- Will design two signs for the two rain gardens on campus so that they will be consistent.
- Construction of Palanakila parking lot rain garden will be summer 2016 to minimize any inconveniences to the campus, and should take no more than 3 weeks to complete.
- Funding for the rain gardens are from outside sources so there is no out-of-pocket cost for WCC.
- Should have designs for the new rain garden at the start of 2016.
- **Hui o Koʻolaupoko fundraisers:**
  - 11/7/2015 – Ocean race fundraiser at Kailua Beach Park
  - 11/14/2015 – Dinner, silent auction, tour restoration project at Kualoa ranch
- They have a plant list they can share as suggestions for front of college, which they got from the Kaneohe plant nursery. It includes
all native Hawaiian plants, focusing on plants that grow best in the area and require less maintenance.

- At a future master planning meeting, it might be good to discuss the possibility of bringing the stream that runs under campus up to the surface.
  - Floyd brought it up to the consulting company, but nothing came of it.
  - Paul brought it up too.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am

Minutes: Laura Sue

Aesthetics Chair: Paul Nash