

Meeting Minutes
Kekaha Host Community Benefits Fund
Meeting No. 37
Kekaha Neighborhood Center, Kauai, Kauai, Hawaii
February 4, 2013
Meeting Time: 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

CAC Attendees: Bruce Pleas, Jose Bulatao, Jr., Robert Jackson, Glenn Molander, Thomas Nizo, Evelyn Olores, Al "Big Boy" Kupo

Absent: Myra Elliott

Non-voting members: Beth Tokioka

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm. Six members were present.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Glenn moved and Jose seconded that the agenda be approved. The motion passed unanimously.
- III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY: There was no public testimony submitted.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Big Boy moved to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2013 meeting. Thomas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- V. FINANCIAL REPORT
 - a. Treasurer Robert Jackson reviewed the financial report. Jose expressed that he would prefer a format that is easier to understand and provided an accounting for the interest accrued from month to month. Beth suggested that Robert work with the Finance Department and suggest a format that would be preferred.
- VI. BUSINESS
 - a. Discuss and agree on a process for choosing a facilitator: Bruce opened by suggesting that a preliminary vote be taken, and if all are in agreement, the selection could be made. If not, more discussion could be had, and then another vote taken. Thomas suggested a two part process, whereby the CAC members could vote via "dots" on a flipchart sheet. Then the top three choices could be discussed among the members and a second vote could then be taken to decide. He suggested this process so that CAC members could share their thoughts and know what others are thinking. There was discussion about the two choices and it was agreed that whatever process is followed the CAC needs to assured that the best candidate is chosen. Bruce stated he could support the voting by dots proposal. There was discussion of "weighting" of the dots if that method is used. After some discussion on the pros and cons of weighting, it was decided that the dots would be weighted as follows: #1 choice = 5 points; #2 choice = 3 points; #3 choice = 1 point. Each member would receive three dots, labeled #1, #2 and #3. Then each would place the dots next to the name of their respective choices.
 - b. Selection of a facilitator: After the first round of dot voting, the tally was as follows: Michael, 2 points (#3 x 2); Yvonne, 26 points (#1 x 5 and #3 x 1); Jonathan, 13 points (#2 x 4 and #3 x 1); Luis, 0 points; Joy, 8 points (#2 x 2 and #2 x 3); Dirk, 14 points (#1 x 2, #2 x 1 and #3 x 1); Scott Cabral, 0 points. Bruce stated that Yvonne was the clear favorite and suggested she be appointed. It was discussed that the facilitator can decide to retain additional team members if that is what is required to do the work. Evelyn

moved a Big Boy second that Yvonne be selected as facilitator. The motion passed unanimously. Glenn thanked all candidates for applying.

- c. Introduction with facilitator to include clarification on scope of work: CAC members took turns expressing what is most important to them in this process. Bruce: Transparency, timeliness and keeping the website updated with all current information. Also, being a conduit between the CAC and the community and supporting applicants with grant writing. Jose: Encouraging the community to be engaged and empowering the community through the HCB program. Feels we haven't been successful enough to date. Robert: Wants to "fill the seats" at the CAC meetings and have good attendance from the community. Hopes the facilitator can come up with new ideas to energize the community about the program. Evelyn: It's good that Yvonne is rooted in the community. Like other parents, we all want our kids to come back to Kekaha. Need to take care of our keiki and young people. Glenn: Feels confident Yvonne can handle the challenge. Needs to understand the work of the CAC. We have an effective chairperson, but welcome the support and new ideas. Need to be mindful of the Sunshine Law and keep everything open. Need to take good minutes and do some homework regarding the history of the CAC. Thomas: Should be the liaison between the County and the CAC and bring appropriate personnel to the meetings. Need to look at the grant process again and make necessary changes. The grant process is very important. Yvonne stated that she will be meeting with Beth and others at the County, and would also like to meet individually with each CAC member. She will also work with Mauna Kea Trask to get a good feel for the Sunshine Law and how it applies to her discussions with CAC members during meetings and outside of meetings. It was noted that not all CAC members have email, so Yvonne will use phone and email to communicate. A member of the public, Mary Jean Buza Sims, noted that the facilitator will need support and cautioned the CAC to have realistic expectations for what can be accomplished in the next few months. Yvonne stated that she understands that the two major priorities are to engage the community and facilitate a productive grant process. Big Boy suggested that Yvonne take the scope of work and place the various tasks in priority order.
- d. Update on Kekaha PV project: Dennis Eguchi stated that his committee of four (a.k.a. "the uncles") wanted to update the CAC on all that has transpired since the project was recommended last year. They are considering several options at the present time and would like the CAC's input on the various options. He asked Robin Danner from the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) and Ben Sullivan from the County's Office of Economic Development, to lead the presentation of options. Robin outlined five options to consider: 1) Solar leasing option (original proposal) that could retrofit approximately 118 homes; 2) A flat solar subsidy, which could provide a subsidy of \$2,000 for 390 households or \$1,000 for 780 households; 3) A flat solar subsidy with bulk purchase, which is similar to #2 but may provide better pricing; 4) Revolving loan fund where additional monies could be leveraged and all homes could potentially be addressed; 5) Revolving loan fund with bulk purchase, which would potentially bring down the price of the systems and stretch the monies further. They noted that with a revolving loan fund concept, all homeowners could benefit and monies would be available again after all of the PV retrofits are completed. A copy of the PPT is attached. Robin explained that CNHA would be involved as a contractor to the County (using County funds, not HCB funds), and would be the administrator of the project. Robin's time would all be donated pro-bono. Some of her staff would be compensated for administrative duties. The County would ask for CNHA to develop the project so that it would be a template for other communities to follow. The County feels this is a good investment and, with the type of administrative support CNHA can provide, the project can succeed. Jose asked that E Ola Mau as the fiscal sponsor be involved every step of

the way and that any potential liability for E Ola Mau be considered. Mary Buza Sims confirmed that E Ola Mau has been meeting with the committee and is considering all aspects of the project. Jose asked about the idea of putting the PV on public lands. Dennis said they explored that option with KIUC and they confirmed KIUC could not issue any additional permits for public solar farm projects. Jose mentioned that if a disaster holding area for Kekaha is established, some type of PV could be installed. He suggested looking at the Kekaha Mill site, which is 23 acres. Questions were posed about the loan program, and whether or not residents could afford a loan. It was explained that the loans would be structured so that the homeowner would actually save money on a monthly basis based on lowered electricity costs. It was noted that much education would need to be done with residents so that they could fully understand the various options presented. Jose suggested that the group meet with the County Planning and Building Departments to insure that these processes won't cause delays. Buddie Ayudon, one of the committee members, stated that the PV company takes care of the permitting and it is a simple process. Dennis stated that the committee prefers the revolving loan proposal because it would include everyone and would leave money in the future for other projects. The fund will never deplete and will serve the community for many years. Now, they will present to Kekaha residents, but would be interested in knowing if the HCB fund will continue to contribute to this project, as Bruce had earlier suggested. It was decided that this question must be answered soon by the CAC. Thomas asked if KIUC had any restrictions to consider and Ben stated that KIUC must be involved in the discussions if the project is to be successful. Thomas stated he was very impressed with the proposal and suggested "branding" the HCB program so that there would be visibility for what they are doing. Thomas also suggested there might be a "hybrid" option that could be offered (some subsidy/some loan). A community member asked each of the four "uncles" who are coordinating the project to identify himself and state where they work. Pat Perreira stated that they all represent the community and not any individual company. Pat has lived in Kekaha since 1972 and spent 32 years working at Waimea High School (15 teaching, 17 coaching and 17 as an administrator). He is now retired and does community work. Buddie Ayudon stated he retired from Hawaiian Telcom a number of years ago and is an electrician. He also formerly worked for NASA. Garrett Agena is retired from the County of Kaua'i and is now coaching. He has no connection to the solar or electrical industry. Dennis Eguchi is retired from Hawaiian Telcom, and works part-time at PMRF as an electrician. Jose stated that he taught all four men in school and has no question about their integrity and motivation except to help the community. Jose pointed out that this is the first time he is seeing these options, and the community may need some time to discuss them and come to the best decision.

- e. Jose moved that items e. – h. be deferred to the next meeting, in the interest of time. The CAC unanimously agreed.

VII. FINAL ROLL CALL: Seven members were present

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Drafted by:

Beth Tokioka, County of Kaua'i

Submitted by:

Evelyn Olores, Secretary

Reviewed and Approved by: _____
Bruce Pleas, Chair

() Approved as is. () Approved with amendments. See minutes of _____ meeting.