



KCC Bylaws Stated Purpose: The primary purposes of the CLUB are educational and athletic. The Club shall strive to revive, develop, and perpetuate Hawaiian culture and traditions through instruction and training in outrigger paddling and related Hawaiian culture activities.

MINUTES: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: May 10th, 2024

PLACE: Teshima's Restaurant

BOARD MEMBERS: President Peter Lasich, Vice President Tom Campbell, Treasurer Vern Bieraugel, Membership Secretary Carolyn Carter, Recording Secretary Kat Wilson, Directors at Large: Bob Darling, Meredith Stapp-Ozbil, Jody Wheeler, Sherri Carney

Absent: Nue Youderian, Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh*

*Resignation from the board received on 05/10/2024 at 05:53am

Also in attendance: Amber Youderian, Bill Armer, Tom Walton, Jane Bockus, Lawrence Goff, Moke Hauanio

Note: The meeting has returned to Teshima's with the understanding the Board will vacate the room by no later than 11:00 am, no exceptions.

Members who were in attendance for the Board meeting were asked to wait outside until the conclusion of Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CALL TO ORDER: at 8:01am

BOARD MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 8:48 am

Summary of Executive Session:

Item#1: Board updated on an open personnel item and whether amendments needed to make to prior motions passed at 04/21/2024 meeting. The Board voted no amendments would be made; motion stands as passed:

- Expel Terry Trinidad for Life per section 3,3 of Keauhou Canoe Club Bylaws as amended 12/17/2023.
- Motion to file police report with Hawaii County Police Department
- Motion to communicate with membership will occur once all elements of HRS 414D-89 are complete.

Item #2: on 05/02/2024 Board members received an email from Bill Armer charging Kathleen (Kat) Wilson, Receiving Secretary (as noted in email) is in violation of ARTICLE 2 Section 2:5: Loyalty and

Authority and in violation of Keauhou Canoe Club's Code of Conduct. The lengthy letter highlighted five (5) alleged incidents, two (2) of which were redundant, one (1) an opinion regarding the basis of why members vacated their seats on the Board and two (2) purported incidents from unnamed individuals who had 'reported' information to Bill. All Board members acknowledged receipt of and read the allegation. The Board finds no merit to claims, noting here say, rumor, and inuendo. Motion passed that no action be taken toward Kat Wilson and letter dismissed as targeted and inappropriate.

Motion passed: Peter Lasich to have conversation with Bill Armer regarding the Board's decision and caution Bill that while a valued member of the Club, his role is not to take rumors and false statements to create a false narrative of situations he is not directly involved in and submit grievances on behalf of others.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

- Motion to approve 04/12/2024 Board Meeting Minutes passed.
- Motion to approve 04/21/2024 Special Board Meeting passed.

President Peter Lasich announced the agenda would be adjusted to accommodate members of the Club who were in attendance to discuss "Memorials at Sea" aka "Celebration of Life" before Committee reports were submitted to the Board.

Treasurer's REPORT:

The club incurred \$3,576.65 in canoe repairs in April, year to date we are at \$18,518.57 which does include the ~\$5,500 in repairs for Makani Kai. Canoe repair continues to be one of our largest expenditures. Scholarships are funded for the upcoming selection of student athletes. We did receive a \$2,500.00 check for Lavaman Registration and Aid Stations. Motion to split ½ for Men's Racing program and ½ to James Rogers Scholarship fund passed.

MOKU/HCRA:

- **HCRA State Championships:** Mokokai'i is host this year, races will be held at Kihei Lagoon on Oahu. Maui is tentatively scheduled to host 2026 State Championships.

KAILUA BAY:

The latest plan was not accepted due to a "Trunkline" design. Department of Aquatic Resources pulled back the proposal. A new plan must include a design of fifteen (15) separate flags and their moorings. Although this is a setback in the schedule, currently several members of the core team do not believe this delay proposes a threat to the goal of using the Pier for Youth Paddling or MOKU Regattas in 2025.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE:

President Peter Lasich asked the Board if the schedule could be moved to accommodate members in attendance who are in attendance specifically to address what is formerly known as Memorials at Sea. The Board voted to accommodate guests who wished to speak and share their opinions on the 2024 Special Committee's plans to revamp the program to focus on current and former members and family, defined as parents, spouse, siblings, and children. While protocols allow members to speak for a period of three (3) minutes to share their thoughts with the Board, a few members took more than three (3) minutes to communicate their feelings and spoke on multiple occasions.

The following is a paraphrased synopsis by bullet points covered in conversation to the Board

- Keauhou should offer memorials at sea and the spreading of ashes as a Community Service, it's our charter to offer the community a service
- Other clubs and businesses spread ashes, we should as well
- Other 'kumus' have commented that spreading of ashes in Keauhou Bay is pono, why is the Board ignoring other 'kumu'?

- We (Keauhou Canoe Club) have been offering memorials at sea to the community for over 40 years, why is suddenly, it's a big deal?
- Family members are distraught after the death of a loved one, Keauhou should be the place they can go where someone can say 'we'll take care of everything' and help the family during a time of grief
- A Memorial at Sea is filled with compassion; to take away the spreading of ashes is to take away compassion, this Board just doesn't get it
- So, this Board thinks that Federal Law is three miles out to sea to spread ashes is a big deal; it doesn't seem to matter to other canoe clubs or organizations, "everyone does it".
- All I want to see is something that my family can read about, like a checklist, so they'll understand the process and what needs to be done after I'm gone
- There's no reason to change the way we've been doing it, many of you on the Board have never participated in a Memorial at Sea so you don't understand how grateful the families are for our willingness to help them in time of need

As commentary started to degrade toward the Committee and Board members, Chair Moke Hauanio and Peter Lasich clearly stated that Keauhou is not getting rid of celebrating the life of fellow paddlers by honoring their memories in a Celebration of Life. Keauhou will continue to honor members and immediate family, and the focus should not be solely on the spreading of ashes or having people from the mainland join the Club just to have a family member's ashes spread at sea.

All Board members had received a copy of the proposed policy prior to the Board meeting. Peter and Moke read through the proposed policy which clearly states that all members must be made aware of Federal Regulations (EPA) that prohibit the spreading of human cremains (ashes) less than three (3) nautical miles from the shoreline. Additionally, a Celebration of Life is offered to current or former members (5 years+) of the Club. Special exceptions can be submitted to the Committee for review.

The proposed plan is as follows:

- Keauhou remains strong in its commitment to honor fellow (and former) members who wish to have a paddle out and Celebration of Life at Keauhou
- Prohibits use of Keauhou assets (canoes) for spreading of ashes (even beyond 3 miles at sea)
- Members are fully aware a Celebration of Life does not include the spreading of ashes and any celebration must be coordinated with the Committee.
- Individuals who are not members nor have ever been a member of Keauhou are ineligible if the sole purpose of membership is for a Celebration of Life
- Prior to scheduling a Celebration of Life, an application must be filled out (online) and submitted to the Committee for review. The application will be made available online via the Keauhou website and used for planning purposes.
- Keauhou Canoe Club is more than willing to host a 'paddle out' with the spreading of loose flowers to celebrate the life of a loved one. In the event a member's family wishes to go out to sea to spread ashes in their private canoes, we will be more than happy to greet the family upon their return with a paddle out at sea.
- Keauhou remains true to its Mission to educate our youth, membership and the community at large about Hawaiian culture, values and traditions to promote competitive and recreational outrigger paddling in historic Keauhou Bay. If the family wishes to hold a "Celebration of Life" gathering at the Club after a paddle out, the Committee will work with the family to their best of our abilities.

Some Club members in attendance at the meeting disagreed with the proposed plan, stating elimination of the spreading of ashes shows no compassion, and limiting a celebration of life to only members of Keauhou canoe Club and not making a Memorial at Sea available to the public shows lack of community support.

The Board voted to adopt the Special Committee's proposed policy, noting the Celebration of Life policy returns the focus to honoring a fellow member and/or their family member. Keauhou is a racing canoe

club, not a business enterprise whose charter is to spread ashes. There are companies who specialize in that arena and can file proper permits or, if a member of the club wishes to paddle their own canoes and hold a private ceremony and Club members greet them in the water upon their return, they are more than welcome to do so. An easy-to-understand online form will be created and posted on the website and a brief overview of the plan will be communicated in an upcoming News article.

At this juncture, the Board had less than one hour to complete the Board meeting. Committees submitted reports to Board members prior to the meeting for review; this saves time leaving Committee representatives open to answer questions and propose recommendations for new or improved policies and procedures.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Information provided in Treasurer's report.

Membership:

Membership continues to grow in our youth paddling community. We are still receiving a lot of new members who are here on vacation and can easily sign up online as a cheaper alternative to booking an excursion. New members are not attending New Member Orientation.

The membership committee is going to review the current configuration of the website and meet as a team to see how other canoe clubs approach the membership process.

Race Committee:

The Club is hosting a Long-Distance Race on Saturday May 25th, 2024, at the Pier. Keauhou will not charge a fee to enter the race and will not offer food for sale. The Race Committee is actively working a task list, including coordination of moving canoes to/from the Pier, MOKU official stands, medals, chase boats, buoys, and other items associated with hosting a race. Mahalo to Carolyn Carter for securing necessary permits.

The MOKU 'O HAWAII Calendar is posted on the Keauhou Canoe Club Website Master Calendar. All races, hosts and locations can be found online.

Three (3) teams qualified at IVF World Sprints in Hilo: Women's 70's, Men's 70's, and Men's 75's. We also have several OC-1 paddlers representing Keauhou Canoe Club that qualified for World Sprints to be held in August at Hilo Bay Park.

Fund Raising: all racers are expected to actively participate in two (2) Fund Raisers; notably Honu on 06/01/2024 and Ironman 10/26/2024.

Public Relations and Communications:

Using various WHATSAPP for paddling teams, coaches have communicated the Keauhou Canoe Club Facebook page is noted as THE location to post photos of race events and crews. Additionally, the Facebook team welcomes ALL members to post photos of outrigger related activities at Keauhou Canoe Club. The page is designed for use by the Club and its success is based upon member engagement.

Our stock of regular Logo Wear is very low; a new order will be placed within the next week.

We've received word several members of Keauhou Canoe Club will be participating in the AWESOME ATHLETES RACE for developmentally challenged paddlers on June 2nd at Hilo Bay Park. Members of our FIRST THURSDAY group in collaboration with Full Life Hawaii will be participating in the event.

Youth and Cultural Awareness:

1. Budget as reported by the treasurer as of May 10: \$8383.57
2. Culture Committee donated 175 pairs of kāla'au sticks (instruments) to the the Hawaiian Studies Program at Kealakehe Elementary. The haumana previously had been using old drumsticks. They have been gratefully practicing and will be using the kāla'au at their end of the school year hō'ike performance which is open to the public.
3. Culture Committee has concluded their cultural enrichment series in Ōlelo Hawai'i. Congratulations for a tremendous effort as beginners in Hawaiian language and applying it in useful applications in daily conversation.
4. Keiki/Youth Program Cultural Enrichment continues with Kumu Noelani and all preparations have been made for the piko protocols commencing at the season's first regatta on May 18.
5. New Keiki and Youth Piko/Protocols Leadership for this season are: Youth members Slayde Thompson and Ku'umanu Breithaupt. Keiki members are Kahiwa Lightfoot and Hilina'i Mendiola. Each paddler was selected to lead the protocol for their skill in Hawaiian language, chant and oli, and leadership qualities of teamwork, respect, dedication, and commitment.
6. On May 4th, keiki and youth, along with their parents, attended a lei lā'ī kaula making workshop. They were supported by KCC's lei hui with 40 people in attendance. Many lei were made and will be joined together as one for the adornment of Makani Kai on May 18. The day continued with a pā'ina provided by the parents. Everyone got to swim and enjoyed the rest of the day at leisure. Parents have expressed how much their children have enjoyed all aspects of paddling with strong coaching crews, dedicated support volunteers, and an engaging cultural program.
7. Athletic Director Nue Youderian has brought an incredible opportunity to the youth paddling program. It is a two-week summer workshop offered by Kaulana Nā Pua Inc., a non-profit corporation established to serve the youth in our community through the arts of hula, chant, and teaching Hawaiian/Polynesian culture. Held from July 15 to July 26, this program offers lunch, 4 workshops a day, snacks, and (2) t-shirt uniforms. There is a fee of \$100.00 (grant subsidized). The KCC's youth program will kōkua (pay for) this fee. This is offered to paddlers aged 12-17.

Safety:

The committee received its first Incident Report related to a huli at a Saturday morning Recreational Paddling Session. The committee engaged and interviewed all identified on the Incident Report. Corrective actions were discussed at a Safety Committee meeting; cycle time 3-4 days.

Steering:

A steering workshop is scheduled for June 12th. Facilitators: Brian Wilson, Sherri Carney, Baili Cosdon.

Canoes and Equipment:

A complaint was filed with Kamehameha Schools regarding the inflatable parked behind the Club. A site visit was held, and Kamehameha Schools did not find the situation to be as dire as described. We do have to decide on what to do with the boat.

Inflatable: We need to find a place to store the canoe, Vern will contact Cliff Ahrens:

There seems to be confusion on who to contact regarding canoe repairs and canoes are getting rigged and unrigged without knowledge of the Committee. Nue asks that ANY ITEM related to a canoe be texted to himself and Vern Bieraugel. Please do not take it upon yourself to unrig a canoe or rig a canoe without clearing it with the team. Additionally, please use the white board to report any repairs and include the date the item was added to the White Board.

Halau and Grounds:

- Kamehameha Schools clearing the back area of dense brush seems to have helped with a quasi-homeless encampment.

- Kamehameha Schools is hosting a meeting to update 'stakeholders' on the proposed revitalization of Keauhou Bay. Each stakeholder in the area will be provided a date and time to meet at their offices where the team will share updates on the project. Details to follow.
- We need signage in the area in the back parking lot to indicate the area is not for public parking. Vern will check into getting signs for the area.

Racks:

- Working on the rollout of the newly approved Canoe Rack Policy and Procedure document.
- Withing the last month the committee has offered several relinquished racks to the move up list and wait list members. We anticipate another three (3) racks will be ready for reassignment by next week.
- The number of members of the wait list has decreased to thirteen (13) and the number of members on the move-up list is now at twenty-six (26) members. Both lists are now more manageable.
- Bob Darling is diligently identifying some of the boats in the boneyard and contacting members to clear them out. There is now only one (1) OC-2 that is unaccounted for.
- Nue's V1 needs a space, Bob Darling will try to figure out where the canoe can be stored

Scholarships:

We are on target with our schedule and materials have been distributed to other West Hawai'i Canoe Clubs. The team will work with the Social Events Committee to devote a Potluck to showcase and celebrate scholarship recipients. Fern will engage local media.

Social Events:

Jody will work with Carolyn and Scholarship committee,

Bylaws:

Nothing to report (due to time constraints)

Elections:

Nothing to report (due to time constraints)

OLD BUSINESS:

Open Director at Large Position:

The Board has an open position for Director at Large to fill the position vacated by Felicia Graham who resigned due to family obligations.

Leslie Crawford is the last candidate who ran for Director at Large and, as in previous motions, a motion was passed to contact Leslie to see if she is still interested in the position. There is one caveat, Keauhou's Bylaws state you cannot race for another Canoe Club during the timeline of January through August (HCRA race season) and be a member of the Board of Directors. The Bylaws do not specify HCRA only, rather 'race for another club'. Leslie would have to forfeit her seat as a racer with Kai 'Ethiu's World Sprint team to become a member of the Board. Motion passed for Peter to ask Leslie if she is interested in accepting the position with full knowledge, she would have to forfeit racing for another Club to accept the role.

Nabil Abu-Ghalzaleh sent an email to the Board announcing his resignation with no reason just before 7:00 am this morning with no reason for his resignation.

Other planned agenda items were not addressed due to the 11:00 am deadline to leave the facility. Previous agenda items not covered in this Board meeting will be added to the upcoming agenda for the June 14th Board of Directors meeting.

Board Meeting Adjourned.