

## HSCA Sustainability Board Meeting 10/16/2014

Attendees: Graham, Dena, LJ, Tim, Yvette, Bob Petrucci, Robert Kent, Wade Carla, Shari, Cindy Prince, Catrina, Nico

Dena opened meeting @ 3:10pm, called for everyone to keep track of volunteer hours to collect data as a possible model for other groups or purposes.

Graham: Agenda

1. Minutes of last meeting
2. Election of Officers (postpone until later date)
3. Committee Leader Reports (cont. from last meeting, and updates)
4. Public Meeting Plans if time allowed
5. Phone conference call @ 4pm with Dept. of Health regarding air quality organized by Robt Kent

Minutes of last meeting (10/2):

- ~ R. Kent and Wade report on food committee
- ~ Shelter: not a big issue at present
- ~ Transportation: John Olsen gave report
- ~ Communication: Yvette “ “
- ~ Security and Safety: Tim “ “
- ~ Health Care: Kerri “ “
- ~ Air Quality: Robert Kent “ “

To be discussed this meeting: Social Services and Economy reports

Report on other meetings happening in the Lower Puna area:

?? in Leilani: Wade reports: Attendance ½ what it was last year, but still good. HSCA can help Renee beef it up – Wade will volunteer to coordinate that

Green Lake: Graham reports – well attended (50-60 ppl).

Speakers:

Smiley: She has lots of plans for growing food, connected to a lot of agencies, open to opening up G. L. for community sustainability purposes

DaeDae (sp?) Hopkins: Dept of Agriculture

Spoke of getting a plan together for grants; she can facilitate that. (Wade): Smiley needs a lot of help

Graham: Spoke, shared what HSCA is doing, pitched for coordinating between groups, sending reps form each group to other group meetings, etc. Didn't get much of a response. A lot of ppl signed up for HSCA's Yahoo email list. This was G.L.'s first meeting. They need to get organized.

(Cat): They represent a different demographic, might need a bigger jolt to get things happening ...Smiley...Farmers market...etc. (Yvette): Does that area need that kind of help? (Bob P.): ??

(Dena)Greg Owen was talking about a town center in Kapoho, with gas station, 7-11.

(Cat): that's b/c he is concerned about that happening. (Graham): Kapoho Village used to be there, the zoning is still in place, so it is a real concern. It would be to their advantage and ours to get together. G will try to build that relationship w Smiley.

?? mtg (with Guy): Graham reports:

Their mission is to promote sustainable living. There was good outreach happening at meeting. (Dena): He talked abt using the lake for fresh water; there's a radio tower there; livestock & dairy farm; reviving ulu forest; farmer's market; airstrip; Kahumana Sanctuary

Committee Reports:

Social Services Report: Graham reports – gather info on seniors, demographics of neighborhoods for Athena, coordinator of services for seniors. (?) G has heard that County Housing Authority is discontinuing housing vouchers for all ppl this side of flow due to safety issues. (Yvette): it's the state's responsibility to relocate ppl.

Someone should follow up and find out what's happening with that.

(Graham): Steven ? moving school before air quality gets bad. (570 kids ttl in school). 270 will be relocated. ½ are on the other side of the flow- looking for places on other side (homes, etc.) to accommodate those kids for schooling.

This side of the flow: At home online learning, classes @ SPACE, home kids will check in w/ teacher @ SPACE once a week.

Charter schools are working together to make the transition.

Montessori School closed down, all pre-schools closed. Auntie Dena (kindergarten) hopefully will expand to include preschoolers.

Economy Report: Yvette, Robt Kent, Graham, Daniel on committee

(LJ): Kalani studying their full economic impact on the community – all depends upon bringing ppl here, 8000 ppl come to Kalani per year. How will that impact the economics if they can't get here? Also impacts economy thru vendors

(Graham): how can you be supported?

(LJ): create the proper info, esp. Land & Use, for permits; get support to keep functioning (Tim) how to get vendors to market from the other side of flow

(Graham): Johnson Farms- most of their produce goes to Hilo. How to use more of it here. (Dena) talked to them re: CSA

(LJ) Sat. permaculture event, going to be talking about assessment of area, community resilience (NH, Maine). Kalani uses 14 farmers for their food, need more. They would like to buy only local, now they rely on Suissan (Kalani is the #1 purchaser of their food);

have encouraged transparency of products (where and how farmed), want to influence Suissan to buy more locally

(Dena): We could be writing a Lower Puna Sustainability ?? Plan. (Wade): has done some work toward that end; flow chart

Communications:

(Graham): anyone on Exceed Internet? \$115 per mo, more bandwidth than you ever would need. Satellite rather than Tower

Food Report: Robert Kent

Janice and Dawn conference call. Janice not returning calls, hoping to get them back on board. Introduced Shari; ran CSA, will be available in future to get involved in food culture; small plot farming (RK): have some grant possibilities

(Wade): info gathering stage (names of contacts)... Ken Love, Smiley, Food Basket (CSA – list of all produce, who provides, a lot are conventional, not organic, having discussion about that). Locavore keeps data on farms, produce (where/when ready, other produce data); focus on promoting farmers market survey for local residents, businesses, vendors – figure out where food is now; grant

(Dena): trying to avoid duplication of effort. Need to get together to create survey, gather info; go to Apua'a mtg.

(Graham): re: Food Basket- if they will buy from local growers, hook up with farmers market to buy out surplus at end of market; agro-forestry

(Tim): What kinds of food ppl eat can impact (processed diets, etc)

(Wade): That is the biggest hurdle, getting ppl to eat locally. Need to educate ppl, teach them how to prepare local foods, etc

(RK): Supper Club, can introduce education there

(Graham): There's a common theme running thru all committee discussions, education and dissemination of info

(Dena): requests some time @ next mtg to create a vision board; would like to do a Sustainability Expo – how to present our info to the rest of the world. Lower Puna Sustainability ? Plan

RK

(RK): shooting film, Lava Land, documenting sustainability will be included

(Carla): Johnson Farm starting CSA

(Dena): vision of visiting eco villages

(RK): suggested mtg at some of the farms, outreach; create a business plan

(Dena): got to HSCA website; needs to be moved to a diff hosting

(Cat): can we put a section on website for connecting ppl to services?

(Dena): getting monthly newsletter out is important

(Bob P): Geothermal has agreed to close plant during storms. Reopening permit to install monitoring – panel to discuss alternative energy - Helco re: solar

Conference Call (Health Dept, Robert Kent)

Discussion on air quality- Sen. Ruderman suggested contacting DOH, so RK set up this call. We want to find out how to get an air quality detection device in our community. There are various kits, one for \$10,000 which the fire dept uses. He wants the one for \$1000, asking the senator's office for help to raise the funding.

(Bob): Chris Biltkoff is an expert on this topic, will help when back on island.

Phone call w/ Dept of Health:

Discussion re: air quality, getting a monitor from the HD.

HD: We have one monitor at the Academy in Pahoa, are going to put another in at the Pahoa Elementary School.

Dena: why do you need 2 so close together? (No answer)

HD: can we get a map of affected area, showing how it is situated to the flow, to Pahoa?

RK: I can send you the website

HD: maybe we can get someone down there, no promises

RK: will follow up with email. We want data and maybe masks, air purifiers

HD: we do not provide air purifiers, but can connect you with another department for that

Dena: What systems are in place for Kona?

HD: none except fixed Air Quality Station

End call

Bob: suggested that RK contact USGS, may have better luck federally

Set next meeting:

Discussion about weekly vs bi-weekly. RK prefers weekly so as not to lose momentum. Perhaps one week can be business, another can be for other discussions. Dena suggested we do RK's idea, to take the meeting next week to his farm, and plan to visit other farms on alternating weeks. Meeting set for 4-6pm Thursday, Oct. 23 at Robert Kent's home in Seaview.

Meeting adjourned 5:10pm