

PSLU Committee

From: faith@planetserver.com
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 7:08 PM
To: PSLU Committee
Subject: PSLU 9.9.20 Mtg. Testimony - Faith Chase
Attachments: PSLU 9920 Testimony Faith Chase.pdf

Note: The attached file is a duplicate of this email message below.

~ • ~ • ~ • ~ •

Faith Chase
faith@planetserver.com

August 9, 2020

Maui County Council
Planning & Sustainable Land Use
Chair Tamara Paltin and Committee
pslu.committee@mauicounty.us

RE: PSLU-65 and PSLU-51

Aloha Chair Paltin & Committee,

While some have always understood ahupua'a concepts, when **Wailea 670, item PSLU-65** first started over 20 years ago the concept of Ahupua'a wasn't a widely used or understood land use planning. I would like to share a story that many might not be aware of that is relative to the area above Pai'ahu in the Honua'ula Ahupua'a.

In preparation for Keokea Hawaiian Homestead tenancy, a required preliminary and archaeological study was scheduled. Forgive me if my dates are not exact but in 2002 / 2003 the rainfall was so intense on Maui that the archaeological work that was tasked in Keokea was stunted by the archaeologists actually needing to spend 40% of their time just pulling off the overgrowth over the area of study. I mention this because if you consider these budget constraints, the archaeologists may have discovered more influencing evidence of the clearly profound findings.

In 2004 while working at The Maui News with Kekoa Enomoto I had just finished Akaku producer classes at Akaku and Mrs. Enomoto asked me to accompany her to her homestead area to video early archaeological findings.

To my surprise I was witness to what has since been defined as 'the most in-tact Hawaiian village living ever seen on Maui'. It was so intense by all who rediscovered the area that the Maui Burial Council was asked to make the trek. Uncle Charlie Maxwell couldn't do the

climb due to his health at the time but Dana Hall hiked up to the undeveloped Keokea Hawaiian Homestead area over rough, steep and precarious rocky areas to tour the findings. She is quoted in saying, "Even with the extensive work I have done in Waiehu and other areas, I have never seen such a large in tact Hawaiian village during my time."

At the time I was instructed to pull the film from Akaku programming because there was only one homesteader in Keokea and there was concern of looting. I did however join Mrs. Enomoto at an important meeting with the Department of Hawaiian Homestead and the Japanese developers wherein the film tour of the majestic Keokea archaeological finds were shared. The mood after sharing the film was somber and it was unanimously decided that the 40 acre area would cease bulldozing plans and the homestead lot awardees would be offered alternatives.

I share this now because the Keokea Homestead Farm Lots Association has many homesteaders living there now and the subject is not as precarious to share. I understand that the long range plans include using this area as a cultural learning space in the fashion of a classroom without walls.

As a county, we have grown beautifully in applying traditional host cultural concepts. In seeing the overwhelming understanding of land use ahupu'a planning, I am in agreement with previous testifier Mr. Daniel Kanahale, **an updated Archaeological Environmental Study ought to be considered.**

In regards to **item PSLU-51, CC 20-420 I have great concern with the Planning Departments process with issuing permits and particularly concerned with ones that are "after-the-fact" Special Management Area permits.** I have been in communication with the Planning Department Zoning regarding an "after-the-fact" permit in the Waikamoi watershed area. The subject area is in the exacting area called Wahinepe'e (across Garden of Eden) and there has been petro chemical dumping by Hawaiian Dredging consequently in dealing with Hana Highway road repair debris. The Department of Planning is aware of this and has sent an inspector to the area It appears to be leading down a litigious path which is unfortunate because the area is in dire need of remediation before the winter months.

The full Council has been included in correspondence relating to this specific issue. I mention here now because it is opportune and relative to agenda item. Noting that this said permit was not included in today's PSLU Committee listing provided by Planning Department.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide thoughts on this sensitive matters today.

Sincerely,

Faith Chase