

EDB Committee

From: Kauwila Hanchett <kauwila3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 9:41 AM
To: EDB Committee
Cc: Keani N. Rawlins; Shane M. Sinenci
Subject: EDB-175 Informational Packet for Council Members
Attachments: EDB-175 Informational Packet.pdf

Welina me ke aloha,

Attached please find Kaupō Community Association's informational packet pertaining to EDB-175. Do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or concerns.

Mahalo nunui,
Kauwila

--

Kauwila Hanchett
kauwila3@gmail.com
kauwila@hanabuild.org
(808) 463-6259

A tropical landscape featuring several tall palm trees in the foreground and middle ground. In the background, a large mountain is visible under a clear blue sky. A school building with a light-colored roof is partially obscured by the trees. The overall scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a warm climate.

Kaupō

School Restoration Project

Kūpa 'a me ka Ikaika o ka Moa'ekū.

Standing firm with the strength of the Moa'ekū wind.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **Pg. 3**

PEOPLE & PLACE - An Introduction to our Community & 'Āina **Pg. 4**

KAUPŌ COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - An Overview of our Organization & Accomplishments **Pg. 5**

RESTORING STRUCTURES, BUILDING COMMUNITY - Restoration Project Overview **Pg. 6**

PERPETUATING A LEGACY - Cultural Importance of Project **Pg. 7**

HAZARDS AND VULNERABILITIES - Photos and Summary of Community Vulnerability **Pg. 8**

CURRENT STATUS & NEXT STEPS - Summary of the Project's Current Status & Next Steps **Pg. 9**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - An Introduction to our 7-Member Board of Directors **Pg. 10**

KAUPŌ SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS & SUPPORT HUB BUDGET - Breakdown for EDB-175 **Pg. 11**

TIMELINE & MILESTONES- Key Milestones Related to Our Restoration Project **Pg. 12**

KAUPŌ: A POEM - A Poem Written By Kaupō Community Members **Pg. 13**

Executive Summary

The Kaupō Community Association (KCA) seeks to restore the old Kaupō School and Teacher's Cottage to historic standards to be used as a community resource center and emergency shelter. KCA's mission is to preserve, perpetuate, and conserve the natural beauty, environmental resources, and rural lifestyle of the Kaupō community. Founded by a grassroots group of residents in 1996, KCA endeavors to address the unique needs of Kaupō's land and people, and to protect our precious environmental and cultural resources in perpetuity.

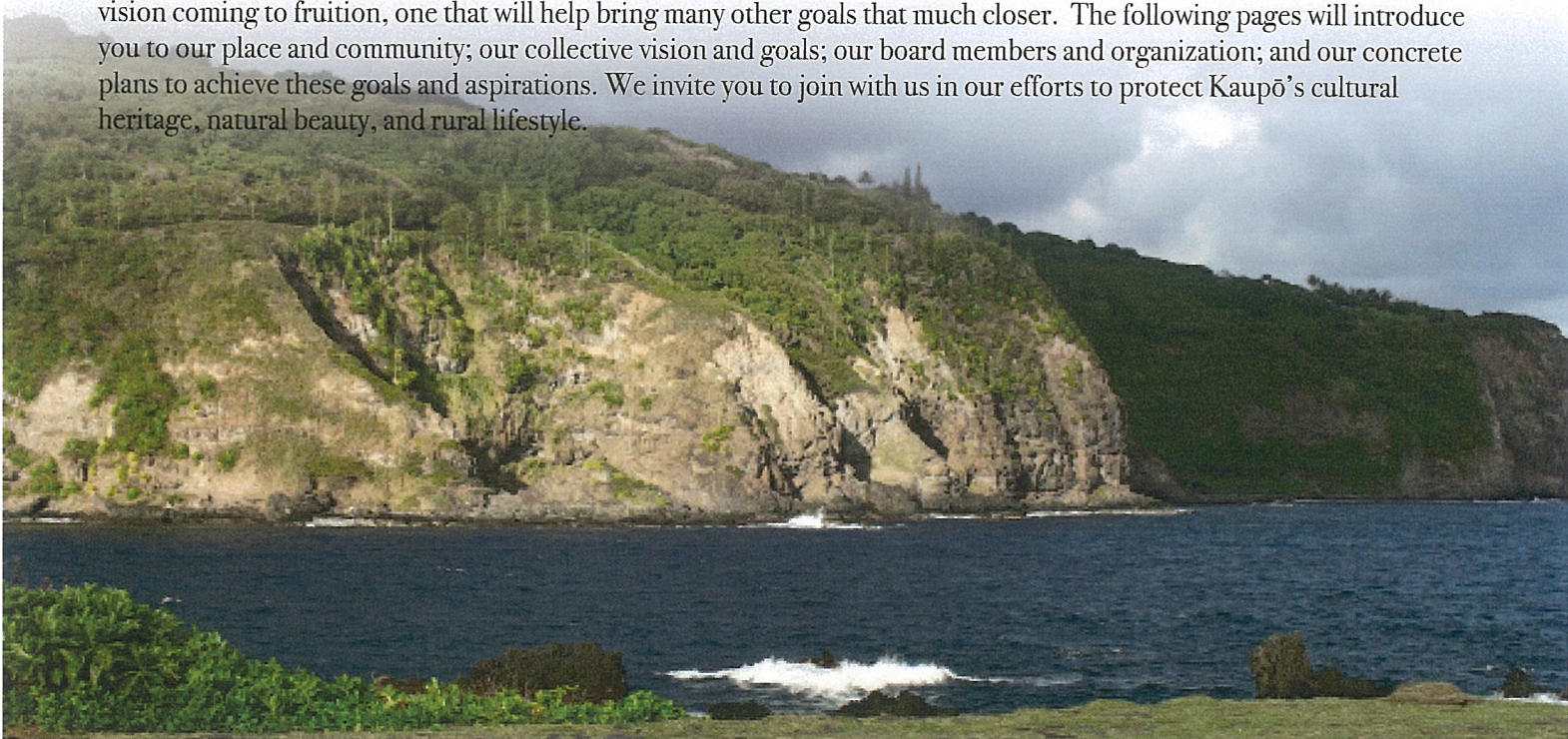
Kaupō is home to a small but vibrant community comprised mostly of the descendants of kānaka maoli (indigenous Hawaiian people) whose families have lived in this area for countless generations and of long-time residents. Kaupō's people embrace a rural "off-grid" lifestyle where modern conveniences have been exchanged for simplicity, silence, spectacular landscapes, and dark, starry nights far from city lights.

Kaupō is an area of great natural beauty where rugged coastlines have been etched by the dual forces of the famed Pe'epāpōhaku rain and the powerful Moa'ekū winds, which is said by the people of old to age from its birthplace in Hāna, reaching full maturity, and strength, when it reaches Kaupō. Our landscape provides refuge for numerous native terrestrial and marine species; and the rich history of an ancient culture is evidenced in the many historic sites that are found in Kaupō.

Our remote location means that there are no civic facilities, schools, grocery stores, hospitals, fire stations, or police stations in our area; and very little local opportunities for paid employment. Most residents have jobs outside of Kaupō and are required to maintain a second residence nearer their places of employment. Furthermore, the single-lane road that provides our residents' only access to basic goods and services is subject to closures due to flash floods, rock falls, wild fires, and road work.

In late 2013, KCA was reinvigorated with new leadership that mobilized the community to achieve numerous significant milestones including securing the lease of the Historic Kaupō School property and raising more than 1 million dollars to restore the two 1923 structures on site to national historic standards. The restoration of these structures will preserve an important part of Kaupō's past, while providing much-needed facilities for our community's use. At the same time, we are empowering our community to be the caretakers of its natural and cultural inheritance.

Therefore, we are at an unprecedented juncture in our community's evolution and on the brink of a long-held collective vision coming to fruition, one that will help bring many other goals that much closer. The following pages will introduce you to our place and community; our collective vision and goals; our board members and organization; and our concrete plans to achieve these goals and aspirations. We invite you to join with us in our efforts to protect Kaupō's cultural heritage, natural beauty, and rural lifestyle.



People & Place

A CULTURAL OASIS

The district of Kaupō extends from Nu'u to Kalepa along Southeast Maui and is situated at the base of a dormant volcano named Haleakalā. On clear days, the island of Hawai'i is visible in the distance when looking makai or toward the sea, across the famed 'Alenuihāhā Channel. When looking mauka or toward the mountains, the view is dominated by sweeping slopes that rise to a cleft in Haleakalā crater called Kaupō Gap.

Kaupō is a Native Hawaiian place, replete with the ruins of ancient heiau or temples, the foundations of commoners' houses or kauhale, as well as numerous legends, songs, and stories. Its more recent history includes recollections of cattle ranches and cowboys, hog raisers, coffee planters, and taro and sweet potato farmers.

Kaupō is a kīpuka, or pristine environment, that provides refuge for many native flora and fauna species. The slopes of Haleakalā house a remarkably intact mesic forest that is home to numerous endangered endemic species such as the ko'oko'olau (*Biden micrantha*), and 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel, *Pterodroma sandwichensis*). Kaupō also harbors an abundance of marine and coastal resources that are threatened by

overharvesting from nonresidents who do not share our community's values of sustainability.

Though once a large bustling village, the Kaupō community today is comprised of approximately 100 residents, the majority of whom are Native Hawaiians with ties to the area that go many generations back. Unlike countless other Hawai'i communities, many 'ohana (families) of Kaupō have been able to keep their ancestral lands and still cling to a lifestyle reminiscent of old Hawaii. Residences are most often spread out over a wide area, with the majority of homes unseen from the single-lane road that provides our community's sole access to the outside world.

NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

Kaupō is two-hours away from the nearest urban facilities. Residents have limited access to basic utilities such as electricity and water, and thus rely on water catchment systems and alternative energy sources. Cell phone coverage is unreliable and internet access requires the installation of expensive satellite equipment that many 'ohana cannot afford. Most adopt a modest lifestyle where subsistence hunting and fishing, as well as gardening, supplement a fixed or modest income.

Kaupō currently has no facilities to hold community events or to respond to an emergency and/or disaster. Kaupō has no fire, police, or EMT personnel stationed in our area, nor does it have hospitals, schools, grocery stores, gas stations or any other public facilities. Our limited access to emergency personnel and adequate facilities puts our community at increased risk to the negative impacts of crime, natural disasters, and other hazards.

This situation is exacerbated by the hazardous conditions of our only road— that experiences intermittent closures due to flash floods, rock slides, wild fires, and road work. Eleven areas along our road have been identified by government officials as high-risk areas of "imminent collapse." We foresee road closures of greater frequency and duration in the near future as these areas are stabilized and repaired.

Kaupō Ranch is one of the few employers in our area, and most residents must seek jobs outside of Kaupō. This usually entails maintaining a second residence nearer their places of employment or commuting an hour or more in each direction. These combined challenges would perhaps overwhelm a less hardy strain of people than those who have carved out a life along Kaupō's rugged and wind-swept coast.



Kaupō Community Association

BACKGROUND

The Kaupō Community Association's mission is to preserve, perpetuate, and conserve the natural beauty, environmental resources, and rural lifestyle of the Kaupō community. Founded by a grassroots group of residents in 1996 to help empower our community, the KCA endeavors to address the unique needs of Kaupō's land and people, and to protect our precious environmental and cultural resources for current and future generations.

KCA is a 501(c)3 membership nonprofit incorporated in the State of Hawaii. Over the past twenty years, KCA has gone through many changes. However, through the years, our community has remained committed to our shared vision of seeing the historic Kaupō School restored; providing our community a voice in the decision-making process, and protecting our rural lifestyle; and resources.

In late 2013, KCA was reinvigorated with new leadership that mobilized the community to achieve numerous significant milestones including

securing the lease of the Historic Kaupō School property and raising more than 1 million dollars toward the restoration of the two 1923 structures on site to national historic standards. The restoration of these historic buildings will preserve an important part of Kaupō's past, while simultaneously providing much-needed facilities for our community's use.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Over the past five years we have been able to accomplish the following:

- (1) secured a lease on the historic Kaupō School property which includes two 1923 structures in severe disrepair (a school building and a teacher's cottage);
- (2) secured the water meter on the property gaining us access to running water;
- (3) grew our membership to 75 members and hosted numerous community forums, meetings, and events;
- (4) elected a dedicated board with extensive nonprofit, community

building, and project management experience;

(5) raised over 1 million dollars to restore the Kaupō School and Teacher's Cottage to national historic restoration standards;

(6) enacted a community watch program;

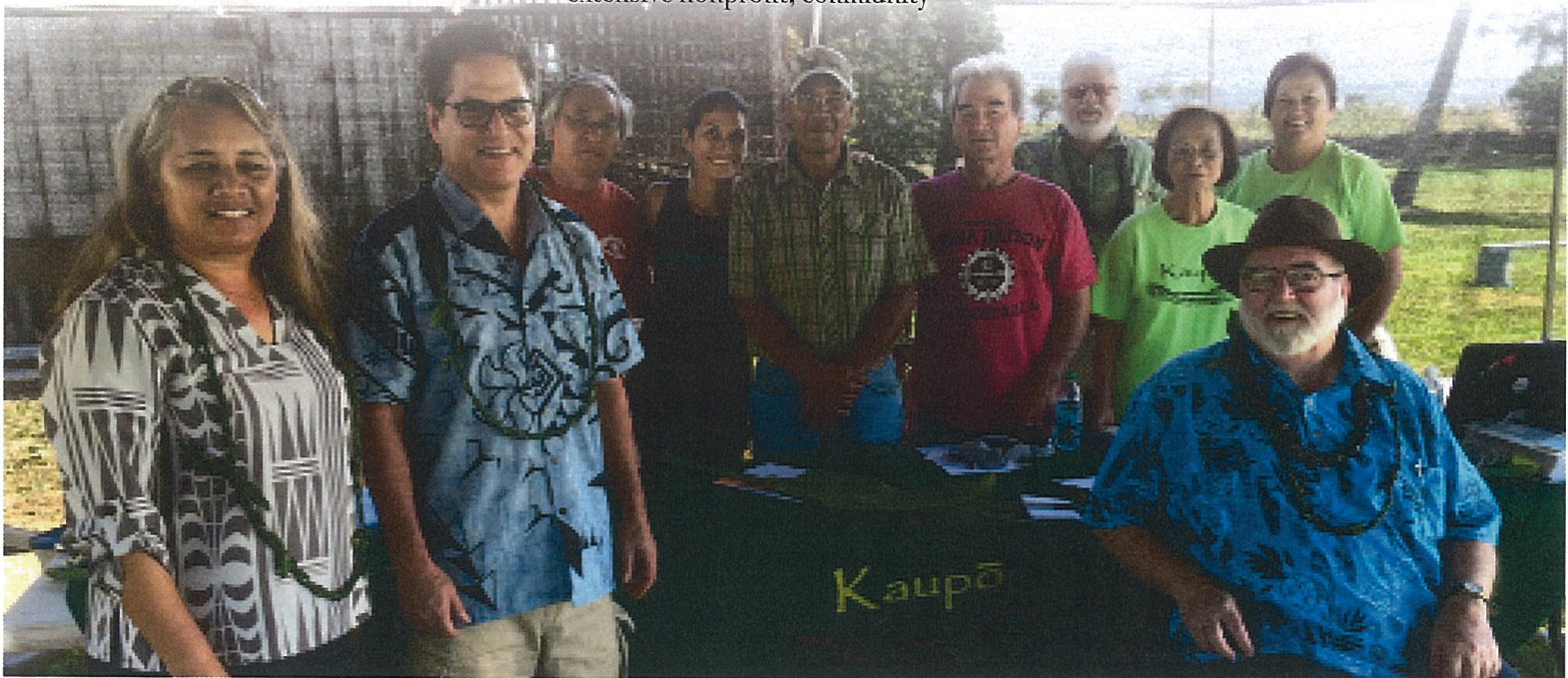
(7) implemented the Kaupō School History Project that is documenting the oral histories of local kūpuna (elders);

(8) strengthened relationships with elected officials, government entities, community organizations, and individuals that overlap with our mission;

(9) secured unanimous approval from Maui County Council for Resolution 17-21 urging transfer of management of the Kaupo School property to Maui County;

(10) secured Executive Order 4544 transferring control and management of the property to the County of Maui;

(11) secured a 55-year lease on the property from the County of Maui



Restoring Structures, Building Community

OUR SHARED VISION

Residents of Kaupō have been gathering for many years, to discuss our community's needs and to work together to find a way to utilize and restore the Old Kaupō School Property as the great asset it once was for the betterment of the Kaupō community.

The project is located on just over two acres of land, which the Kaupō Community Association leases from the County of Maui. There are two historic structures on the property, the old Kaupō School and the Teacher's Cottage, that have not been used for a number of decades. They have weathered and fallen into severe disrepair, so serious that they were beginning to collapse.

Kaupō Community Association's (KCA's) intent is to stabilize and restore the structures on the property to historical standards, and then to utilize them as a community center and gathering place.

The restoration of these two structures will mean that once again our community will have facilities to hold community meetings and events, ho'olaulea celebrations, graduation parties, baby luau, cultural events, and educational programs.

We will store emergency supplies, support a post-disaster staging area, and create water storage and filtration systems.

Residents and visitors to our area can breathe easier knowing that there is a local refuge should our area be impacted by natural disasters, road closures, or other emergencies. Emergency personnel can feel confident that they will have an area to stage their rescue and relief efforts. Community leaders and government officials will have a place to hold their meetings—bringing important information to our community, and ensuring that Kaupō's voices are heard in the decision-making process.



Perpetuating a Legacy

PURPOSE

As an integral part of meeting the rigorous historic restoration standards required of our building project, we have simultaneously implemented the Kaupō School History Project (KSHP) that endeavors to record the oral histories of Kaupō's remaining kūpuna, as well as gather important historical and cultural information about the school and the Kaupō area.

Kaupō School is one of two rural two-room schoolhouses that are known to exist in Maui County. Designed in the County engineer's office and built in 1923, Kaupō School served the children of ranchers, cowboys, and farmers (most of whom were Native Hawaiians) for grades 1-6. A furnished teacher's cottage, two privies, two water tanks, a flagpole and a rock wall were also erected on the grounds, as well as a community garden. Kaupō School is inextricably tied to the ranching and agricultural culture of Kaupō and our community history project is focused on: recording the memories of former students; producing an accurate history of the school and Kaupō; and an providing an update to the 1996

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination.

There are few remaining former students of Kaupō School and the eldest is 93 years of age. Preliminary research was conducted in city directories from 1901-25 to identify former Kaupō residents and increase the potential for additional kūpuna.

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHY

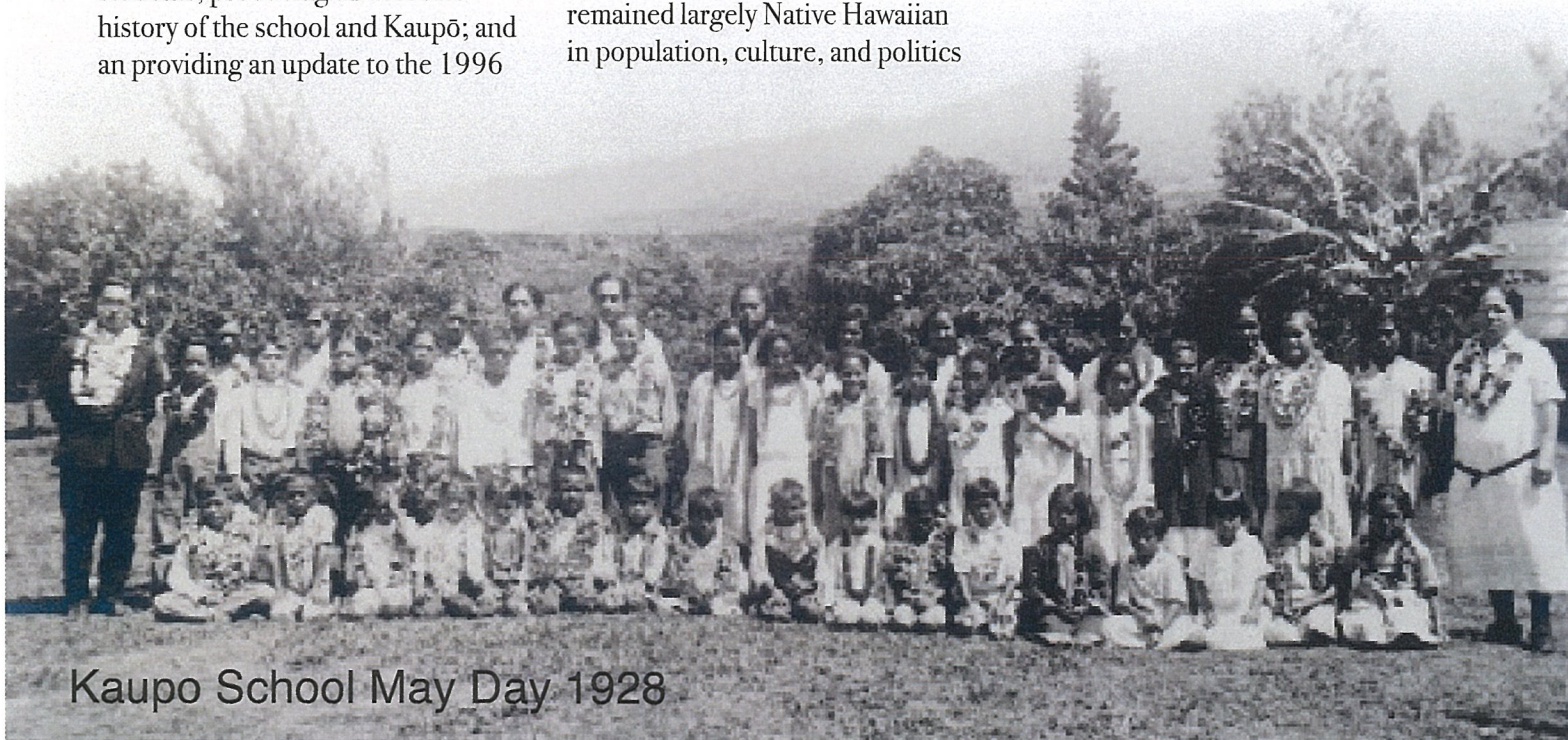
Unlike many Maui communities, Kaupō is well documented by a large number of extant period photographs that were taken by Nicholas Soon, then owner of Kaupō Store, or assembled by him. His collection is in the possession of his daughter, Rose Soon, a KCA board member. The KSCHP will record Ms. Soon's Kaupō photographs per NPS standards for archival storage and retrieval. Other photographs in the collections of Kaupō residents and/or kūpuna will also be recorded per NPS standards.

RESEARCH

Given its geographic isolation, Kaupō remained largely Native Hawaiian in population, culture, and politics

throughout much of its history. Period descriptions from as late as the 1940s by former Kaupō residents indicate that lauhala mats were still in use in many Native Hawaiian houses and that the Hawaiian language was still spoken. Consequently, research will be conducted to document this aspect of Kaupō as well as produce an accurate historic context for the area that is augmented with information provided by census and other records.

Kaupō School appears to have been established in 1887 with Charles Lake as its first teacher. The current edifice (1923) is the second known classroom building to be erected on the site and it replaced a more substantial building that may have been built as early as 1891. A recently discovered photograph of the earlier building in the collection of Rose Soon suggests that further research should be conducted in Ministry and Board of Education as well as Department of Public Instruction records to determine the dates for the acquisition of the school site and a building chronology.



Kaupō School May Day 1928

Hazards & Vulnerabilities

Due to geographic isolation and aging infrastructure, the Kaupō community remains vulnerable to numerous hazards including rock and land slides, flash flooding, wild fires, road collapse, hurricanes, tsunamis, and other extreme weather events. It is essential that our community have access to emergency supplies, including water, and a safe place to gather.



Current Status & Next Steps

We've secured 70% (\$1,105,500) of the total funding needed for the project and the \$475,000 being requested from Maui County's OED represents the remaining 30%. Permits are ready to be picked up and we are currently receiving bids for construction work. We anticipate selecting our general contractor by the first week of June and breaking ground in the summer of 2019

As we restore the Old Kaupō School and Teacher's Cottage, we are simultaneously empowering a vibrant community to be the caretakers of its natural and cultural inheritance. We are indeed at an unprecedented juncture in our community's evolution and on the brink of a long-held collective vision coming to fruition, that will bring so many other aspirations that much nearer.

We'd like to invite you to be a part of our mo'olelo—to be a part of a story that will be told to our grandchildren: the story of a unique Hawaiian place where cultural traditions and family values still reside, where community members care for one another, and where the striking beauty of a rugged and wind-swept landscape remains untouched by time.

If you haven't already visited Kaupō, we'd like to invite you for a tour of our restoration project site and our area. For more information please contact our president, Linda Clark, at (808) 268-9844 or kaupocommunityassociation2015@gmail.com.



Board of Directors

KCA is governed by a member-elected board of seven directors who serve staggered terms of two years. Board members are KCA members and meet membership criteria. Membership is limited to those who are one or more of the following: (1) resident, (2) landowner, or (3) descendant of kānaka maoli (Native Hawaiians) from Kaupō. Membership is renewed annually and KCA has approximately 70 members in any given year. We hold membership meetings quarterly and regularly conduct outreach activities to recruit new members.

Our current member-elected board is comprised of seven dedicated individuals who possess decades of combined experience in nonprofit management and community building. Board members also collectively possess extensive experience in project management, grant/fiscal management, cultural practices, community mobilization, and outreach/communication.

Linda Ha‘i Clark – President

Linda Clark was raised on Kahua Ranch on the island of Oahu and has ancestral ties to the Kaupō area. Her tutu, Scott Ha‘i, composed the beloved island classic ‘Ahulili and other Hawaiian language songs about Kaupō. Returning to Maui, Linda has worked in the domestic violence field advocating for the safety of women and children, and as an outreach counselor for Ke Ola Pono Nō Nā Kūpuna, a program for local elders with Alu Like. More recently, Linda has provided office coordination and administrative support for local businesses, and currently serves as a 4-H leader. Linda dedicates her time to the needs and goals of the Kaupō Community Association where she volunteers countless hours to organizing events, building partnerships, conducting outreach activities, and keeping KCA organized and moving forward.

Bob Murakami – Vice President

Bob Murakami has generational ties to Kaupō through the Murakami and Marciel families. He is retired from more than three decades with the Maui County Fire Department where he served his last 16 years as a Fire Captain. Bob remains dedicated to the community serving in various capacities which include being the vice president of the Kaupō Community Association and the custodian of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church. Bob enjoys hunting, fishing, farming, and growing food at his residence on his family land in Kaupō.

Kauwila Hanchett – Treasurer

Kauwila Hanchett grew up in Kaupō and has ancestral ties to the Kaupō area through her great-grandmother. She is the Executive Director of Hōlani Hāna, a

501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to revitalizing traditional cultural practices. Kauwila has nearly a decade of nonprofit management experience and successfully oversees 1.5 million dollars of grant funding annually, including large multi-year grants from both federal entities and private foundations. Kauwila also serves as the Development Director for Ma Ka Hana ‘Ike—an award winning nonprofit in Hāna, Maui,

Elise Moniz - Secretary

Elise Moniz was born and raised on Maui and is the granddaughter of famed Kaupō entrepreneur Nick Soon. Her childhood memories include learning how to work in her grandfather’s store, Kaupō Store, and carefully packing merchandise to make the rugged 3 ½ hour journey. She has more than a decade of accounting and contract management experience and is currently a contract specialist for the Department of Water Supply. She has been an active USTA tennis player and member for 25 years. She has also been a volunteer at the Wailuku Junior Tennis Club for 15 years.

Samuel Aina – Sgt. At Arms

Sam Aina has strong family ties to Kaupō and his ancestors were among those who built the original school and church building at Mokulau, Kaupō. Sam was born in 1950 on Oahu, baptized at Hui Aloha Church, and raised in Kaupō. Sam attended Kamehameha Boys School and Kaupō School, and also attended Leeward Community College where he majored in business law. Sam is retired from the Hāna Post Office and resides in Kaupō where he is known for his efforts to protect our precious marine resources, and for his role as caretaker of the historic Hui Aloha Church.

Rose Soon

Rose Soon is the daughter of Nick Soon, Kaupō’s most notable entrepreneur in pre-statehood times, who constructed the Kaupō General Store in 1925 and built Kaupō’s first Model-T car—even before there was a road to drive it on! Aunt Rose, now in her 90’s, fondly recalls growing up in Kaupō and attending the Kaupō School. She is retired after more than 30 years as a customs officer on the mainland and now serves as our board’s historian. She has spent many years gathering old photographs, family histories, and traditional stories about Kaupō.

Jonathan Starr

Jonathan Starr is a long-time Kaupō resident who has extensive experience in business, political advocacy, civic engagement, and community service. He has served Maui County in various capacities through the years including: Boys and Girls Club of Maui, Chairman; Maui Planning Commission, Commissioner, Chair (2 years); Maui Board of Water Supply, Member; Hawaii State Commission on Water Resource Management, Member (4 years); Maui Democratic Century Club, President; Maui Democratic Party, Chairman; Maui Redevelopment Agency, Member; Hana District Advisory Committee, Chair. Jonathan chairs KCA’s restoration committee which is leading the historic restoration of the 1923 Kaupō School and Teacher’s Cottage. In addition to his civic engagement, Jonathan enjoys an off-grid life at his residence in Kaupō where he pursues the quieter pleasures of farming, beekeeping, and playing music.

Kaupō School Infrastructure Systems & Support Hub Structure Budget

OED FY2019 Budget Reequst	units	\$ per unit	item cost	subtotals	grant request
ENVIRONMENTAL: Construct new Septic System					
Septic System per R.Taylor 3x1.2k tanks, 3x1000' leach fld	1	\$85,000	\$85,000		
ENVIRONMENTAL:				\$85,000	\$85,000
DESIGN & PERMITTING: Mgmt, Arch Monitoring					
Hub design drawings, Architectural, bid specs, permits	1	\$15,000	\$15,000		
Power & water system design drawings, permits, docs.	1	\$15,000	\$15,000		
Grant, Construction Management	1	\$10,000	\$10,000		
Archaeological Assessment	1	\$5,000	\$5,000		
DESIGN & PERMITTING:				\$45,000	\$45,000
FOUNDATION & SITE: Concrete Slabs, Ramps, Trenching					
Infrastructure Hub concrete floor slab, 50' x 70', 50 cu yds	50	\$320	\$16,000		
2 Ring foundations for 15,000 gal water tanks 10 cubic yds	10	\$320	\$3,200		
Power, water, septic runs, excavation, trenching, linear ft.	1500	\$10	\$15,000		
Concrete walkways between structures	1	\$5,800	\$5,800		
FOUNDATION & SITE:				\$40,000	\$40,000
INFRASTRUCTURE: Hub Roof Structure					
Hub Shed Roof & framing, 30' x 50; 1500 sq ft	1200	\$22	\$26,400		
Utility Rooms, 2 rooms each 8' x 10'	160	\$60	\$9,600		
2 Lav/wc & shower rooms, each 8' x 8' inc. plumbing	130	\$100	\$13,000		
Second Storage Container 20', one-trip, painting, trucking	1	\$6,000	\$6,000		
INFRASTRUCTURE: Hub Roof Structure				\$55,000	\$55,000
WATER SYSTEM: Storage Tanks, Filtration, Solar Heating					
Water Tanks, 15k gal, galv w/liner & mesh cvr, installed	2	\$30,000	\$60,000		
Plumbing, filter bank, uv, pressure pump & tank, standpipe	1	\$30,000	\$30,000		
Hot water panels, 2x 120 gal tanks, delta-t, circ. pump	1	\$10,000	\$10,000		
Plumbing, Fixtures Lav/wc/showers	2	\$10,000	\$20,000		
WATER SYSTEM:				\$120,000	\$120,000
POWER SYSTEM: PV Panels, Batteries, Controls					
PV Panels, 300w monocrystalline	40	\$300	\$12,000		
Panel racking, SnapNrack, Hardware	1	\$10,000	\$10,000		
Inverters, chg controllers, metering, Outback Flexpower 4	1	\$38,000	\$38,000		
Wiring, equipment instal & shipping & electrical materials	1	\$30,000	\$30,000		
Batteries 2000ah 48v lead acid mat	1	\$40,000	\$40,000		
POWER SYSTEM:				\$130,000	\$130,000
Subtotal Labor & Materials				\$475,000	\$475,000
Total			\$475,000		\$475,000

Key Milestones & Timeline

1887

Kaupo School Established

1922-1923

Original School Building Replaced, Teacher's Cottage constructed

1964-early 1980s

Kaupō School closes but facility still used informally as a gathering place for community

1996

Kaupō Community Association formed by grassroots group of kūpuna and residents, formed original 501(c)3
Kaupō School listed on the National Register of Historic Places

2013-15

KCA reorganizes under new leadership, secures right-of-entry to Kaupō School property, reestablishes 501(c)3 status

2016

Legislative Session – \$975,000 Capital Improvement Project Grant In Aid funding approved for KCA's restoration project

March 10, 2017

Resolution No. 17-21 unanimously approved by Maui County Council urging the Governor of the State of Hawaii to transfer control and management of the Kaupō School property to the County of Maui;

September 1, 2017

KCA awarded \$975,000 grant from State of Hawai'i Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Grant-in-Aid (GIA)

January 29, 2018

Executive Order (EO) 4544 approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources transferring control and management of the Kaupō School Property to the County of Maui.

April 14, 2018

Kaupo Community Visioning Session engages more than 50 community members in identifying shared goals and concerns

May 3, 2018

Hawaii Historic Foundation Grant of \$70,000 awarded for windows and doors

August 2, 2018

The County of Maui executes a 55-year lease agreement with the Kaupō Community Association

March 9, 2019

KCA Board of Directors meet with Hawaii Community Foundation representatives to explore the feasibility of creating a designated fund to cover ongoing maintenance costs for the Kaupō School facilities and property

May 14, 2019

Permits ready to be picked up. KCA currently receiving bids for construction.

Summer 2019

Construction projected to begin!

Kaupō: A Poem

Written on February 11, 2017 by Kaupō community members. Each person wrote one line and folded the paper down so no one knew what was written until the whole poem was read.

Voices of the past echo
I went to Kaupō School in 1957
I attended Kaupō School in 1930
I remember my Mom saying she belonged to the Bee Club
Kaupō stories and memories mix with our life here in Kaupō
The past, today, and future are one
It's our kuleana to mālama this wahi pana

School of the past, school of the future
Vibrating the mana of laughter and play
Raw, washed, weathered, distressed
Gentle rainy days
The gleam of waterfalls

I love this place
It fills me up with life
The Heart of Maui
And new buildings for the voices of yesterday and tomorrow

Gentle rain, planting seeds, connecting the past and the future
Great yard for joyful children
Kaupō i ka mālie
Kaupō the beauty of the mountains
The Big Island looming in the distance

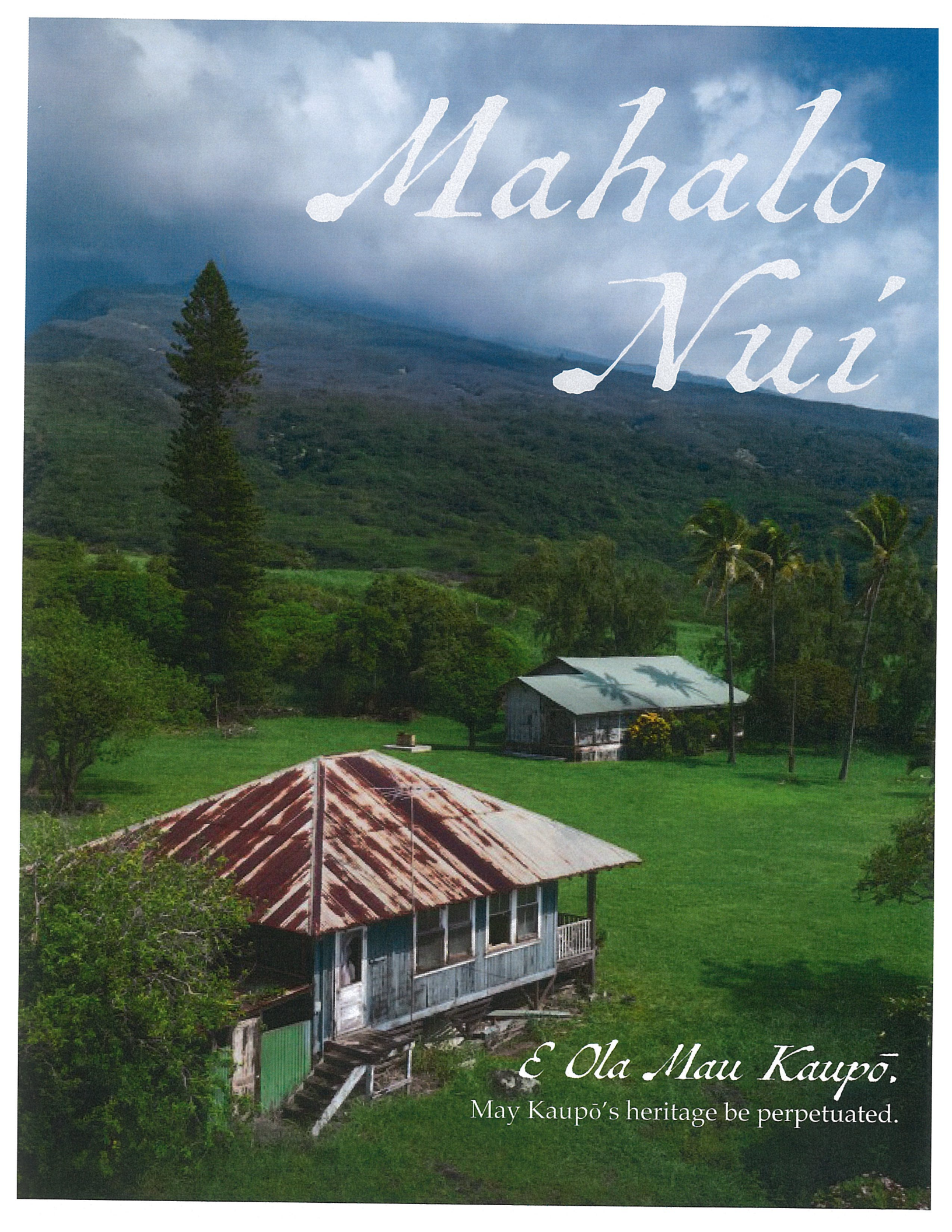
Pu'uhonua (Safe Haven)
Kupuna keeping watch
On gray green walls
Your beauty moves me
The history written in your walls
Tells a story that moves us all

The mana of the 'āina is u'i nani
Kaupō—a place well deserved to be preserved
Riding horses bareback on the gravel road
Early morning bees buzzing, shoreline crashing
Breaking the silence of everlasting calm

Relic of the past, guide to the future
Planted in time, colored by history
The gifts from the past guide us into the present
And the beauty and wonder of Kaupō blesses us
Maua Valley at the foothills of Kaupō Gap
Smiles and seats its aloha to the people of its community

A happy teacher we need the most
I hear the sounds of children at recess
I can't wait to return to a restored school and cottage
Location, location, location
What will the layers of habitation reveal

We the people of Kaupō are ready to pour our hearts and souls into this endeavor
With aloha we greet the sun and the rain
Kaupō mahalo
Remember the water, Remember the trees



Mahalo Nui

ʻE Ola Mau Kaupō.
May Kaupō's heritage be perpetuated.