HCP County Council Committee
Ref. PYCC Lease November 22, 2021

Aloha Committee Members;

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit these comments re: "Questions and Concerns" pertaining to PYCC expansion and extension being considered by your committee on 12/02/2021. Many of these "Questions and Concerns" are relevant to the lease acquisition...are good questions, which PYCC planning-staff have answered quite well in my opinion. I must question some other concerns:

* I do regard `building design approval by community prior to granting of lease' , to be an unreasonable requirement in this case. I am confident PYCC planning-staff will present design options at the appropriate time for Community review, and that they will be sensitive to visual impact upon passing traffic on Hana Hwy. PYCC I believe is aware of `design aesthetics' such as roofline-design employed by Polynesian Cultural Center, Laie, Oahu. It's a valid concern but we believe we should trust PYCC to deliver good design options for Community review. These things cost $ however, so they need a lease to move forward with funding.
* Existing parking lot was greatly improved a few years ago through Susun White's initiative and PYCC funding. Capacity was greatly increased, traffic flow enhanced, solar lighting installed. We should therefore trust PYCC parking-lot planning.
* A lease term of 30 years seems adequate, but this is truly a a non-profit Community facility with a long successful track record. Therefore we do not object to a 50 year term if it will help funding.
* We support the proposed new building location, relatively close to the existing PYCC beach house. We do not believe a `mauka' location will best serve the mission of PYCC and

would essentially `kill' this project.

* PYCC planners have revised the lease application 3 or 4 times already, demonstrating their intent to be guided by Community imput.
* Working closely with teenagers from 1993 to present; we've learned that about 10% - 15% don't handle authority very well, which can result in `sassy-mouth' attitude which can best be addressed by non-confrontational methods that engage the youth in positive activities. Most young people are cooperative and want to engage with positive learning experiences. PYCC has provided a range of positive activities throughout their many years of operation.
* With the past 2 years of Covid restrictions at school and cancellation of athletic and group gatherings, young people need more emotional support than ever. Students quietly confide to us various degrees of sadness and frustration at wearing masks and cancellation of many activities.

It seems now is the time we should really `get behind' PYCC because they have proven to be a long time resource for engaging young folks in safe and healthy activities.

Please do not further delay PYCC plans, which only benefit our Community. Susun White Exec. Director keeps PYCC staff and funding In `synch' with what is needed to survive and move forward. We don't want to lose Susun White. We pray to caution against "Analysis-to-Paralysis".

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. Imua PYCC!

Aloha & Thanksgiving Blessings,

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