

LU Committee

From: kltamari <kltamari61@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2017 4:32 PM
To: LU Committee
Subject: Lona Ridge: Tuesday, 7/18/17 Site Visit; Wednesday, 7/19/17 Meeting
Attachments: Land Use Committee.docx

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July 16, 2017

TO: Land Use Committee, Council of the County of Maui
Robert Carroll, Chair
Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair
Alika Atay
Elle Cochran
Stacy Crivello
Don S. Guzman
Kelly T. King
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura
Mike White

FR: Lorraine Sato Tamaribuchi
603 Imi Drive, Wailuku HI 96793
808 244-9863, kltamari61@gmail.com

RE: Land Use Committee Meetings:
Tuesday, July 18, 2017, Site Inspection; Wednesday, July 19, 2017, Meeting
Conditional Permit for Property Located at 588 Kulaiwi Drive, Wailuku
Leona Rocha Wilson, Manager, Lona Ridge, LLC

Dear Members of the Land Use Committee, Council of the County of Maui:

Thank you for your dedicated service in support of the people of Maui County. Please know that your diligence and thoughtful responses to our many challenges are greatly appreciated by the people of Maui County.

I am writing today in support of the Mission of Leona Rocha Wilson through her stewardship of Lona Ridge. Honestly, I have never asked her to articulate that Mission but it has unfolded for me through her actions over the 65 years that I have known her and her family. Although we have lived in different parts of the world during these years, Leona stayed in touch usually through gatherings with her family and friends during her frequent stays on Maui.

Through her parents, Leona learned the value of Hard Work, Responsibility, and a good Education. In later years, I often heard about how Leona encouraged the children of her friends to continue their learning and taught them how to access scholarships and other assistance. As she meets with school groups on Lona Ridge, she continues to encourage them to be their best selves and is often personally involved in helping them to find support for college.

With visitors to Lona Ridge, she often shares the story of her Dad with his kaukau tin in her hand. Her father worked in the sugar cane fields and during kaukau time, shared his lunch with his worker friends of different races – enjoying their different foods and gaining Respect and Compassion for people from diverse heritages. One of the most touching experiences of Lona Ridge's Monday lunches is the preciousness of being with a strong family surrounded by a diverse group of friends who truly Respect and Trust each other. (And all, eventually, becoming family!)

Lona Ridge is a learning and growing place for people. Through careful planning including the rescue of plants, Lona Ridge is also a place of protecting and propagating native Hawaiian plants, other plants of beauty and plants for healthy eating. Lona Ridge also helps to grow and protect honey bees!

And the placement of Lona Ridge offers one of the most beautiful views of our Valley Isle. I am thankful to Leona and her family and many dedicated friends who work hard to steward Lona Ridge. They increase our appreciation of our home island and the special people who live here. They provide authentic messages of aloha to share with our visitors.

Thank you again for your dedication and service.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive-like script that is difficult to decipher but appears to be a personal name.