

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

94th MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, February 8, 2023 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

ATTENDANCE

Primary SAC council members present: Business/Commerce – Thorne Abbott, Ocean Recreation – Chad Wiggins, Conservation – Kawika Winter, Education – Maya Walton, Hawai'i Island – Jayne Lefors, Kaua'i Island – Maka'ala Ka'aumoana, Native Hawaiian – Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka, Research – Jens Currie, Whale Watching – James Coon, HSEO – Cameron Black, DLNR/DAR – Jeannine Rossa, NOAA NMFS – Jeff Walters, U.S. Navy – Emily Hauck, U.S. Navy – Nicole Olmsted, U.S. Coast Guard – Maile Norman, Office of Hawaiian Affairs – Kealoha Pisciotta, and HIHWNMS Superintendent – Kim Hum.

Alternate SAC council members present: Whale Watching – Sherry LeMaster, Ocean Recreation – Shoko Ogata, Kaua'i Island Representative – Nina Monasevitch, Education – Robyn Ehrlich

ONMS Staff: Catherine Takata, Cindy Among-Serrao, Michelle Graham, William Carrier, Marc Lammers, Maria Harvey, Ed Lyman, Alyssa Miller, Patty Miller, Jean Souza, Eden Zang, and Kevin Kinvig.

Members of the public: Cameron Dabney, Nicole Davis, Ed Enos, Robin Baird, Aude Pacini, Freedom Dennis, Wade Matsueda, Noelani Kalipi, Jennifer Tomko, James Hudnall, Pauline Oji, Pam Gooder, Jim Tolan, and Angus Bloomfield.

Welcome & Council Business

- Vice Chair Maka'ala Ka'aumoana stepped in as Chair for today's meeting and called the meeting to order.
- Roll call was done by the SAC coordinator.
- Review & approval of February 8, 2023 agenda
 - Motion to approve the agenda by council consensus was made by the Vice Chair Maka'ala Ka'aumoana. With no objections the agenda was approved.
 - Review & approval of October 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes
 - Motion: To approve meeting minutes
 - Motioned by: Whale Watching James Coon
 - Seconded by: Business/Commerce Thorne Abbott
 - Additional details: No objections by the council therefore the October 6 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Superintendent Update – Superintendent, Kim Him provided several updates to the council including:



- Presented on HIHWNMS 2022 accomplishments and goals moving forward.
- Shared mission statement and 2020-2025 goals per our management plan.
- Question:
 - Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: Where is the shifting from the previous state to a state where the sanctuary is taking in more cultural protocols and implementation into sanctuary programs?
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: This is something we want to start implementing into our work plan.
 - Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: Important like a guiding principles moving forward
 - Ocean Recreation Chad Wiggins: Is the whale fluke catalog publicly available? How can the public access this? And, is there a version to share?
 - Staff Ed Lyman: The fluke catalog is not available but <u>HappyWhale</u> has catalogs and they are hoping that they will make some of our sanctuary flukes available to the public.
 - Happywhale is a Pacific-wide digital (AI) catalog, that sanctuary and other are submitting OUR fluke IDs into. One big collaboration. We have asked that our the sanctuary's fluke IDs, between 2007 and 2014 be made public. We also share our IDs under a collaboration with other researchers listed under the North Pacific Humpback Whale Photo ID Study Group.
- Additional comment by Whale Watching Jim Coon: Sanctuary volunteers also participated in Lāna'i turkey give away. I've been participating for 25 years. Great impact on community and generational awareness on the sanctuary. Lāna'i is the only island surrounded by the sanctuary

State Co Manager Update – State Co Manager, Jeannine Rossa provided updates via email to the council including:

- Holomua Update
 - Background
 - Department of Aquatic Resources (DAR) will drop the 30% target and the words "30x30" since the fishers of Hawaii are in agreement that more than 30% of areas need protection
 - DAR is selecting members for their 20 person navigation team since the community nominated over 80 people on this team
 - People who were local to Maui and involved with fishing (nearshore, cultural, etc) were invited
 - DAR is looking for broad community involvement
- Comments:
 - Conservation Kawika Winter: We have quite a significant amount of Hawai'i delegation folks at IMPAC5. They are reporting that more and more people are embracing 30x30. However, Hawai'i folks are in the minority of moving away from it as the country moves forward.



• State Co Manager – Jeannine Rossa: The idea is to do more than protect 30%. The intent is to expand and improve.

Agency Updates and Questions

- PMNM Sanctuary Designation Update provided by PMNM staff Alyssa Miller.
 - Sanctuary Assumptions
 - Monument remains in place. Sanctuary designation is an 'underlay'.
 - Co-management structure and joint permitting process remain
 - Management planning and sanctuary designation processes are collaborative.
 - Boundary options will include monument waters, not terrestrial areas
 - Sanctuary designation builds on the Monument's resource protection framework as specified in the Presidential Proclamations
 - Existing regulatory framework is basis for sanctuary regs
 - Sanctuary Designation Components
 - There are three designation components:
 - Sanctuary Regulations
 - Environmental Impact Statement
 - Joint state and federal document
 - Management Plan
 - Additionally, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) component
 - Section 106 involves consultation with the Native Hawaiian community and properties of cultural historic values to be included in the sanctuary process
 - Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC) Fishing Regs
 - Requirement of establishing proclamation of expansion and National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA) as it promulgate rules of the area
 - Sanctuary Designation Phases
 - Scoping Phase 1: Completed in 2020
 - Notice of intent
 - Consultations
 - Public comments
 - Initiation
 - Draft Phase 2: Summer 2023
 - Management Plan
 - Regulations
 - Environmental Impact Statement
 - Section 106
 - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
 - A joint collaboration with USFWS, Hawaii DLNR, and NOAA
 - Incorporates state requirements including Hawaii Cultural Impact
 - Incorporates the SAC Management Plan
 - Informed by SAC Regulations



- NHPA Section 106 Consultations
 - Process initiated, so far no new historic properties identified
 - Continued consultation on any adverse effects and potential mitigation measures
 - Summary report will be included in the EIS
 - 30 people agreed to be included in the consultation process
- Sanctuary Regulations
 - Non fishing regulations
 - Office of National Marine Sanctuary (ONMS) process, in coordination with monument co-managers and ONMS HQ
 - Received input from Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council (RAC)
 - Presidential Proclamation 8031, 8112 and codifying regulations in 50 CFR Part 404, and Presidential Proclamation 9478 will serve as the backbone for these regulations
 - Fishing Regulations
 - MSA 304(a)(5) provides WPRFMC its first opportunity to develop draft fishing regulations.
 - WPRFMC draft regs have been released
 - NOAA anticipates receiving final draft fishing regulations in March 2023

• Questions:

- Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: Interesting that there are 30 consulting parties, is that part of 106?
 - PMNM staff Alyssa Miller: It is part of 106 Process after invitations sent to over 500 individuals and groups as assisted by the State
- Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: Is there a draft map with new boundaries? I'd be interested to see that.
 - PMNM staff Alyssa Miller: I'm not sure if we can share anything ahead of the release of EIS and management plan.
 - RAC had discussions of the boundaries which are public.
- Conservation Kawika Winter: How much of the glider report might be an issue of sampling or sampling design of the experiment?
 - o Staff Eden Zang: The sampling was from January to early March
 - I think this is a question of, are there two distinct populations and is Gardener a breakpoint?
 - Offered to share images with the council of the glider path and a 5-minute talk of data and results to share with SAC
 - o Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana
 - Thankful to Alyssa Miller and Reserve Advisory Council for updating us and the SAC is happy to help where necessary.
- Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka put in chat the following onlines resources:



- Building relationships with Papahānaumokuākea through Kānaka 'Ōiwi Oral Traditions - https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/teachers/building-relationships-to-papahanaumokuakea.html
- o Mai ka pō mai Guidance Document for mgt https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/MaiKaPoMai FINAL-web.pdf

FY23-25 SAC Work Plan

- Full council discussion needed on updating SAC work plan. Remove or keep the SAC overview of general. The plan should be how to implement the HIHWNMS management plan.
- Questions/Comments:
 - Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: Where do the tabs come from? Are there statements from the management or interpretations of the management plan?
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: My understanding is that the goals come from the management plan.
 - Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: That's my recollection these general topics came from a framework of the management plan. This was broken up into breakout rooms with more or less information and details.
 - Staff Cindy Among-Serrao: I was not involved in the forming of this, but when I joined the sanctuary, SAC members were asked to join the subcommittees based on general and primary topics. The goals were determined by the council members.
 - Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: I was trying to cross reference these with what the 2020 management plan has but not seeing a real close match.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: There was not a lot of action taken on this work plan. What I'm proposing is that we can consolidate a similar work plan with specific goals and actions for 2023 2025.
 - Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: Where does our Charter fall into all this work?
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: This work plan was developed on the previous management plan so there may not be a close correlation between the 2020 management plan. Would it be worth bringing the charter into this discussion in May?
 - Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: Can we pull the topics out of the charter language? And have them alongside the management plan in the workplan? If we get everything in place, we can determine if these should still be our priorities?
 - Staff Cindy Among-Serrao added resource links in the chat:
 - Sanctuary 2020 management plan: https://nmshawaiihumpbackwhale.blob.core.windows.net/hawaiihumpbackwhale-prod/media/docs/2020-hihwnms-management-plan.pdf
 - Council charter: https://nmshawaiihumpbackwhale.blob.core.windows.net/hawaiihumpbackwhale.prod/media/docs/20220421-hihwnms-charter.pdf



- Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka commented in the chat: Mahalo
 for this clarification because this work plan being just a reference example was not
 how this agenda item looked.
- Superintendent Kim Hum: We can create a visual workflow combining the charter, management plan, and old work plan together to discuss and brainstorm in May.
- There was council agreement that the new 2023-2025 workplan could be a living document that the council could revisit and edit as needed. There was also agreement that the new work plan would look different in terms of the Native Hawaiian Culture section.
- Questions/Comments continued:
 - Research Jens Currie: How do we implement this or hold space within our meeting format to act on the work plan? Is there a mechanism or way to execute this? And or, can we talk about a way to shift meetings to develop this plan to hold people accountable? It looks like there are a couple people who have to report out or update and we would need to allocate time for that in the meetings.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: Meetings are focused on progress on the work plan and implementation. I'm not interested in a plan to look at. The focus is on implementation. That's why I don't think we want 8 ideas under each tab, there should be some top priorities.
 - Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: We are specifically looking for SAC members to take action on and impart wisdom on and accomplish.
- The council agreed upon a full discussion and management plan walk through:
 - A spreadsheet with the site 2020 management plan objectives was shared to full SAC
 - WR 1.6: Local Knowledge to be a potential strategy to add to SAC workplan in May.
 - Comments:
 - Conservation Kawika Winter suggested to include the <u>Biden Administration</u> <u>Guidance document</u> as a priority where appropriate.
 - Whale watching Jim Coon commented a survey done with the water community about whales that popped up. Good subset of documents for one whale season, PWF and Trilogy were involved. Sub-statistics on encounters, close encounters etc. Might be a good way to get the on-water community to re-engage and provide this info.
 - Staff Ed Lyman: Whale contact paper they did years ago. Continue to monitor all reports of whale vessel interactions. Not only life-threatening ones but all incidental reports. Mugging where calf is rubbing against the boat. All incidents for a broad overview.
 - Whale watching Jim Coon: Added it gave operators the feel for what are the odds you are going to run into a circumstance of a close whale vessel interaction on the water.
 - Staff Ed Lyman: Could pursue this type of effort.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: Hoping this is the type of discussions that folks will pursue in May.
 - Research Jens supports this for future discussion.



- Whale watching Jim: Industry whale impact or encounter event that educated the boating community on whale vessel collisions and how they can mitigate and avoid that. Continue this conversation at the May meeting.
- Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: I would expect that even though we are breaking out to work through the different sections, we would be having a good chunk of time for whole group discussion & input from the entire SAC.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: Yes we will break out in groups then come back together for full council discussion.
- Research Jens Currie: What is the timeline of this? Is this just a 5-year plan? Or are these the general goals beyond that?
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: The initial management plan was to expand from the early 2000's and the addition of Native Hawaiian culture in 2020. We are supposed to develop a new plan every 5 years, and now I want to be as close as 5 years as possible. A lot of this 2020 management plan is still relevant and will be updated, but largely stay the same (around 2025).
 - Jeannine: The last management plan was in 2002.
- Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: I don't want to lose Kawika's point of the Biden Memo as an overview or shift categories and reflect the importance of the Biden Memo. I also want to stay aware of the changing environment around us, like if Papahānaumokuākea becomes a sanctuary. How will that change things? Additionally, if we lose a critter, we have to go about the process of learning about their loss. They are contributing to us in one way or another. I want to highlight or prioritize a sense of urgency on some of these things or things of the heart. Where science and heart combine, that's where our power lies. The world is shuffling and might as well shuffle for good.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: There are multiple executive orders in addition to the Biden Memo so I'm trying to find someone who can bring all those together for our planning and implementation.
- HSEO Cameron Black: Are we looking at immediate and long term impacts? We have two working groups: Offshore Wind and Climate Change that look ahead.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: Let's not let the work plan limit how we think and work but reflect what we can do together.
- Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: In terms of the Biden memo, the same should be done for Native Hawaiian law as these things come through. So people are aware of implementing culture as not an optional kind of thing and what it calls for.
- Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: May I humbly request that you contact CEQ and how the Biden Memo is incorporated.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: I agree, how can we bring all these pieces together to take advantage of this point of time and this Admin that is prioritizing indigenous knowledge and traditional communities. What are the legal parameters and opportunities through the executive orders and memos?



- OHA Kealoha Pisciotta: I just want to highlight what Roxy is saying. The EOs are changing the dynamics of this. I'm okay to share with you Kim and the SAC how OHA has to address these changes. There are a number of EOs that are coming down and OHA has to protect the interests of Native Hawaiians since they are the state agency tasked to do that. We can help understand on the state and federal level. Roxy is saying not only are these things optional but they are required.
- Education and Outreach
 - Staff Cat walked through education and outreach management plan objectives
 - No questions or comments
- Living Cultural Traditions
 - Staff Cindy Among-Serrao walked through the Living and Native Culture tabs
 - Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: So this is a place for Hawaiian Law and Biden memos and EO's?
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: Just an example for the management plan we added a new panel at the Kīhei Visitors Center about the Kumulipo and our volunteers are not comfortable with talking about it.
 - Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: There was a need for cultural training. That's what I see as a big theme. We're saying things and then we do not follow through on implementing. Why is there an exhibit on the Kumulipo if people are not aware of the meaning? It impedes the education of the people who come to the visitors center.
 - Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: What does that look like for you Roxy? Would you fly to Kīhei to train the individuals? That way you could get inperson feedback and collaboration.
- Management Effectiveness
 - Superintendent Kim Hum walked through the management effective section to highlight anything in case someone had a comment.
 - Staff trainings could include cultural trainings in addition to our normal NOAA federal trainings
 - Not having funds is not a reason to not get things done we need to find money to accomplish our goals.
 - Business Commerce Thorne Abbott: Thank you for that presentation. Wanted to comment on the maintenance of the Kīhei facility (ME 3.2 and 3.5). The sanctuary was able to obtain a permit to take out the sand accumulating on or near the building to take that sand and restore the dune on the northside. I invite you to work with Wesley Crile with Sea Grant that does restoration throughout Kīhei.
 - Superintendent Kim Hum: I'm in talks with Sea Grant now since we've seen the effects of the sand buildup and storms in the past. Let's be proactive this time.
 - Business Commerce Thorne Abbott: Important to include the Hawaiian practitioners in the restoration efforts. Vernon Kalanikau has been involved.
 - Ocean Recreation Chad Wiggins: Typically when looking at threats, we look at a 10 year timeframe and a 100 year timeframe for an ocean climate increase. We can



- continue with our work plan on a shorter time frame but it can be helpful to frame out our actions and priorities.
- Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: This might be a good time to shift the categories or think about overall priorities in how this work plan looks. Do we want to move things around? We have community interest in helicopter monitoring in historical sites, near homes, near ecosystems. For the sanctuary community role, what does somebody who is on the land do? If they live in a sanctuary, you have access to talk or discuss the sanctuary. But that awareness, that connection in the community, whether we live there or not, will be lost with our constituency.
- Superintendent Kim Hum: staff capacity is limited but through partnerships, collaboration we can still
- Research Jens Currie: Thinking of formats, since the SAC informs and takebacks. There is a lot of "being informed" versus incorporating constituent concern. Maybe we should incorporate this during our building of the work plan.

Public Comment was held at 12:30 pm

- Verbal comment from Captain Ed Enos:
 - Not speaking on behalf of the industry, just as a member of the public
 - Offshore wind
 - Invited someone who is more knowledgeable about energy projects; Sat on a meeting years ago. The public and media are thinking way down the line for when we would have the wind energy projects. Not for or against it. As a harbor pilot captain going in and out of the harbor. Challenges of the assemblage and towing of these structures for offshore wind. Significant challenges to that concept. Plus 15-20 of these things are monumental efforts. Comment is to be cautious in this. Fundamental challenges for these projects, where, what resources available in Hawai'i to do the work and how is that going to happen. Huge ask to support this project.
 - Vessel speeds in sanctuary waters
 - Since 2000 NOAA has had modest rules and regulations for vessels. over years modified those proposals. Last year significant changes. Speed regulations and where they would be. Despite the number of public comments against those rules they are still being promoted on the west coast? Consequences to this type of implementation. Encourage rules and vessel speeds. Come to industry early to discuss impacts of new vessel speeds/regulations in the Hawaiian Islands. Rule changes could increase costs. He is not supporting nor going against it but cautioning folks to thinking about it and to engage in this with the industry
 - Whale watching Jim Coon mentioned that Senate companion <u>Bill 894</u> would regulate vessel traffic 400 yd range of any whales to slow their speeds to 6 knots



- Staff Ed Lyman added Kahului harbors is the worst harbor. Hard to manage.
- Verbal comment from James Hudnall:
 - o 1970's came to Hawai'i from ocean subculture during its infancy. Came to Maui and folks didn't know what type of whales they were seeing from shore. There were popular Lahaina shirts of a whaler plunging a spear into a sperm whale.
 - Mentioned he is one of the folks who originally proposed the sanctuary back in the 1970's. Heartfelt thanks on the continued recommendations and protections of humpback whales with the sanctuary.
 - o Ma'alaea bay was a nursery area, folks to avoid nursing area
 - Started a hydrofoil slowdown operation to protect whales
 - National Geographic Society
 - Footage from their work made the Hawaiian Island humpback whales famous
 - o Proposal was a long uphill battle
 - o Jane King Lt Governor helped to push for the sanctuary designation
 - Drones at sea and cameras at advantageous points could be great resources for the sanctuary

Subcommittee Updates

- Huhuli update provided by Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka
- Huhuli Purpose Statement: Utilizing Hawaiian worldview, knowledge & practices & experiences to inform adaptive co-management in the sanctuary
- Ensure Hawaiian cultural views, knowledge and etc are not compartmentalized but interwoven into all the different sanctuary programs
- 2 years since the NOAA NMFS presentation. It was just an informational presentation. No actions or developments showing collaboration since then.
 - Kaua'i stranding was not perceived as good from the community.
 - Recommendation: create a working group that addresses marine mammal stranding in the sanctuary. Would not be exclusive to SAC members but allows other perspectives from different external
 - Adaptive co-management
- Huhuli to keep meeting regularly and tackle a few topics including ITK memo
- Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island Maka'ala Ka'aumoana: Open invitation to Kim and Jeannine to bring people or organizations who think could be helpful for the working group
- Staff Cindy Among-Serrao provided clarification on SAC working groups.

Working Group Updates

- Offshore Energy working group update provided by HSEO Cameron Black
 - Thanked Captain Enos and Captain Dennis
 - Shared link in the chat buoy data https://a2e.energy.gov/data#AreaFilter=%2224.80564415976207%2C-



166.88896134495735%20to%2018.68679630270583%2C-151.99150040745738%22&ProjectFilter=%5B%22buoy%22%5D

- BOEM modernization rules are changing
 - Active public comment period is open until March
- Our office has a new head (Chief Energy Officer), Mark Glick. He replaces Scott Glenn who now heads the state Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. Mark was previously working on policy at the Hawai'i Natural Energy institute at UH and before that was heading HSEO about 5-6 years ago so he's back for a second term.
- BOEM lidar buoy was deployed in December. BOEM is working on a 2022 status update report with graphs of the data collected in December; may be available for the 2/8 meeting.
- HSEO continues to monitor the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) that might help inform offshore wind in Hawai'i. Some we've found so far are:
 - USDOE plans to release a FOA to address key deployment challenges for offshore, land-based, and distributed wind (<u>DOE-FOE-0002840</u>, details TBD).
 - <u>Marine Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration</u> Program (details TBD).
- Recent news from the East Coast regarding offshore wind:
 - Whale deaths spark questions about New Jersey wind farm development (fox29.com)
 - Do offshore wind turbines kill whales? N.J. protest claims they do, but marine scientist says that's 'unlikely' | PhillyVoice
 - Jersey shore whales and wind farms: 'Unusual' humpback deaths have been flagged by NOAA scientists since 2016 | PhillyVoice
 - Feds: Offshore wind not to blame for East Coast whale deaths, including one off Assateague Island in Maryland Baltimore Sun
- Question, do you know how the location of the lidar buoy was picked?
 - BOEM decided its location off of 5-6 criteria, vessel traffic, windspeed, depth, out of restricted areas
- Climate Change
 - State Co Manager Jeannine Rossa reaching out to members to have a second person to help lead. Kim and Jeannine meeting with ONMS national Climate Team on how to move forward with climate planning for the Sanctuary. Guidelines are so broad, we haven't had a chance to reach out to SAC.
 - A regional draft climate change report with American Samoa, Papahānaumokuākea, and HIHW.
- Resolution in Support of Papahānaumokuākea Sanctuary Designation
 - Before summer would be ideal; vote at the May meeting.

SAC Recruitment Update



- Superintendent Kim Hum provided an update on recruitment. Has gone through preliminary review but proposing to fill Maui primary and alternate seat, Business commerce alternate seat, Native Hawaiian seat, Oʻahu island primary seat, and Research alternate seat
 - Orientation will be held prior to the May meeting for new members. Current SAC members are welcome to join.
 - Will be doing another recruitment in the summer
 - Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: If review time periods are almost done but hold up at HQ with background checks does that mean the seat becomes vacant? Or does it mean we stay on.
 - Automatically those members are extended until we are able to fill the termed out seat only if they are okay doing so.
 - Will heavily rely on SAC to spread the word for next recruitment
 - Officer Election expected in May 2023.
- Question, can you remind us of the term limits if the member is going to expire but you want to stay on the SAC?
 - Terms are based on the seat not the role. You can serve three terms in the same seat and then apply to a new seat. Feel free to reapply.

Next Meeting Discussion

- Proposed in-person and hybrid meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2023
 - When determining a meeting time we need to take into account the two flights from Kaua'i.
 - Question by Native Hawaiian Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka: Funding for inperson meetings were cut. Did this occur due to covid? Looking forward will there be more in person meetings budget?
 - Budget constraints occurred prior to covid. Moving forward we look to having 2 in-person and 2 virtual meetings. Which is what the majority of SACs and RACs seem to be implementing.
 - Staff Jean Souza added that pre-COVID, the in-person meetings were infrequent because of the cost.
 - Next meeting focus: FY23-25 Draft SAC Work Plan

Vice Chair/Kaua'i Island – Maka'ala Ka'aumoana adjourned meeting at 1:45 pm.