

**Arborist Committee  
Minutes  
March 12, 2008**

Those present: Bob Hobdy, Chair; William Jacintho, Jordan Hart, Richard Kempf, Harlan Hughes, Jeannie Pezzoli, and Terry Nutt, members of the committee; Sue Kiang, staff support to the committee; Glenn Shishido, state forester, ex-officio member of the committee; Jeffrey Ueoka, Corporation Counsel; Ernie Rezens, volunteer to the committee; Tui Anderson, and Ellen Kraftsow, Department of Water Supply. Sue Lipp, excused.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by Chair Bob Hobdy when it was determined that a quorum was present.

A draft of the response to Michelle Anderson regarding her proposed water conservation legislation was reviewed. The consensus appeared to be that rather than creating Maui County Code that would address all concerns such as hand watering with a hose, it would be best to establish basic principles and accomplish those through education and administrative rules. The key concern was enforcement. Pricing as a means to encourage conservation would provide a quantifiable measure; however, this may not deter the high-end users whom cost is of no concern. Most properties have a history of use, so when there is a dramatic increase, it would pose a red flag. Ellen shared information from a national water expert that saw great savings in water when irrigation was restricted to twice a week. She felt that even hot locations like Kihei could still have green landscapes. The state Department of Health is revising their water codes in the use of gray water. Pricing measures would have a lifeline rate that was very cheap. The second tier would provide revenue to maintain the system and a third tier would be the most expensive. Again, Ellen said some jurisdictions have as many as six tiers. For those that conserve, there is always a concern on how to reduce more when cutbacks are called for by the county. The lack of staffing in the Water Department had been identified in a recent editorial in the newspaper. Audits of major users such as parks and resorts might be one way to identify ways to conserve. Richard Kempf moved and Terry Nutt seconded a motion that directed Bob Hobdy as chair and Sue to review, revise, and finalize the letter and forward it to Council Services. The motion passed unanimously.

Richard asked that the statement about cool season grasses reflects that bluegrass is an example. Jeannie Pezzoli moved and it was seconded by Terry Nutt to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Terry circulated information on palms which are not in this version of the plan and will be a section onto itself in the revision of the planting plan. The seeds and fronds are the defining characteristics of palms. Some that are used currently in landscapes are invasive. All will be reviewed using the Week Risk Assessment. Some grow in clusters and when this is the case, the measurement is by the diameter of the cluster. The mature height varies by growing environment. Some are quite thirsty and the landscape plan should take this into account. Acceptance of the information was deferred until the appropriate chapter is completed.

**Arborist Minutes**  
**page 2**

In discussing Chapter 4, Ernie explained how the numbering has to conform to the county's style. Information to owners should clarify their obligation when an exceptional tree is on their land. It should include the Maui County Code and HRS law. Members advised to add language that explains only the Council can remove a tree from the list.

Subcommittees that have been in the past include tree concerns, exceptional trees, parking lot trees, commemorative trees, arbor week, and education. 12:24A mentions tree concerns and exceptional trees. Arbor Week activities allow Maui County to be designated as TreeCity USA. Corporation Counsel stated the meetings would not have to be posted with an agenda if there were as many as four members. It would be classified like an investigative committee. As long as the number of members does not constitute a quorum, meetings can be held without public notice. Membership on various subcommittees will be finalized at the next meeting.

Other agenda items for the next meeting will include a review of poor pruning practices at the homeless shelter and election of new chair and vice-chair. Bob was thanked for his past service and given a certificate from the Mayor.

Under announcements, the next meeting will be April 9, 2008. Terry Nutt passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to assist MALP in caring for the trees along Hana Highway on April 5.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Sue Kiang 3/28/08