



Camp Mekoiko

A United Methodist Conference
Retreat and Campground

LAND USE COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII

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March 1, 2014

Mr. Orlando Davidson, Executive Officer
Land Use Commission
State of Hawaii, Department of Business,
Economic Development & Tourism
PO Box 2359
Honolulu HI 96804-2359

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LAND USE COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII

Subject: Annual Report for LUC Docket SP02-397, Special Use Permit for an Educational Retreat Center at Hamakua, Hawaii, TMK 4-4-11:015

Dear Mr. Davidson:

In accordance with Condition No. 9 of the above referenced Special Use Permit (SUP), Hawaii United Methodist Union is required to submit an annual progress report to the State Land Use Commission (LUC). As required this report has been prepared to: 1) outline the status of the subject development; and 2) reference compliance with the ten conditions of the SUP approval.

Project Status for year 2013

We have been able to continue complete this year construction on all camping pavilions! We will be completing the BBQs that accompany each pavilion in 2014.

Demolition on our final outstanding demolition permit has begun in preparation for a planned ground breaking in 2014 of the first of our two bunk houses, which remains somewhat dependent on funding. Nevertheless, we are working to clear the area in hopes of having the necessary funding to begin.

The central construction of 2013 was the Ethnic Cultural Exhibit which was completed, and for which we were granted an occupancy permit.

This means that all sleeping facilities have been permitted leaving only a recreational pavilion and one more cultural pavilion to still be permitted and built in addition to a conference center, construction of which is still some time away.

While we feel this is terrific progress for us, we are still way behind in raising funds to complete construction. Your letter of May 25, 2011 advised us to therefore write you and request an administrative time extension for Condition No. 4 based on Condition No. 10.

Fund raising is always difficult for brick-and-mortar projects but we have had very good success even though the time line continues to expand. We have no employees, and all funds received are used for either maintenance or construction. Construction proceeds at the rate of funds received. Thus the Camp progresses nicely using all funds for construction, and sees increased usage and activity, but it will not be built out for years at the current rate of donations. While we submitted our request for a generous or open-ended extension of time to complete construction in 2013, we have not received word for you. Thus we mention it again, but continue our project in the full faith of the Commission's support.

Sincerely,



**Reverend Dr. Theodore Lesnett, for
The Hawaii United Methodist Union**

**Cc: Planning Director, County of Hawaii
Hawaii United Methodist Union**

Conditions of Approval

Condition No. 1

**That the Applicant, successors or assigns shall be responsible for complying with all of the stated conditions of approval.
Response: The Hawaii United Methodist Union (HUMU) acknowledges and will adhere to the terms of this condition.**

Condition No. 2

That the Applicant shall complete the development in keeping with substantial representations made in the Application and to the Land Use Commission. These representations include, but are not limited to: i) limiting the operation of the Project to a non-profit organization; ii) constructing no more than four 1,200 square-foot, single-story dormitories and no more than six 600-square foot, single-story cottages; and iii) limiting the maximum number of beds to 40 exclusive of staff quarters.

Response: HUMU's Master Plan submitted to the County of Hawaii Planning Director portrays four bunkhouses and six cottages within the prescribed size limits.

Condition No. 3

That an archaeological letter of clearance be secured from the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) – Historic Preservation Division with a copy submitted to the Planning Director prior to any land clearing activities.

Response: An archaeological letter of clearance, dated July 5, 2005, has been received, as previously reported.

Condition No. 4

That all construction for the proposed expanded retreat shall be completed in ten (10) years from the effective date of this permit. Prior to the start of any new construction, Final Plan Approval shall be secured from the Planning Director. Plans shall identify all proposed structures, parking area(s), access driveway(s) and landscaping associated with the proposed use.

Response: Final Plan Approval has been secured. Presently HUMU plans to construct the retreat within the ten-year period allotted is being challenged by necessary funds. It is likely that a time extension for construction will be necessary.

