STATE OF HAWAII
LAND USE COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

Kahului Library

Kahului, Maui

4:30 P.M. - June 17, 1966

Commissioners Present:	Charles S. Ota, Chairman Pro Tempore Jim Ferry Leslie Wung Shiro Nishimura
Commissioners Absent:	Myron B. Thompson Shelley Mark C. E. S. Burns, Jr. Robert Wenkam Goro Inaba
Staff Present:	George S. Moriguchi, Executive Officer Roy Takeyama, Legal Counsel Ah Sung Leong, Draftsman Dora Horikawa, Stenographer

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Ota. A brief review of the procedures to be followed during the hearings was outlined by Mr. Moriguchi. Mr. Takeyama, legal counsel, swore in members in the audience who would be testifying during today's hearing.

PETITION OF ESTATE OF SOPHIE JUDD COOKE (DEC'D) (A66-110) TO AMEND THE DISTRICT BOUNDARY FROM AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO AN URBAN DISTRICT AT KAHANUI, MOLOKAI, identifiable by Tax Map Key 6-2-13: 17

Staff recommendation on the above petition, presented by Mr. Moriguchi, was for denial of the request since the petitioner had not substantiated the need for additional urban lands in the area and since the present Kalae Urban District amply provides for urban expansion. (See copy of report on file.)

There was no discussion and since no representative of the petitioner was present, the hearing was closed.

PETITION OF FRANK & BESSIE MONIZ (A66-112) TO AMEND THE DISTRICT BOUNDARY FROM AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO A RURAL DISTRICT AT KAONOULU, KULA, MAUI, identifiable by Tax Map Key 2-2-06: 63

Mr. Moriguchi presented the staff report (copy on file) recommending denial of the petition in view of the fact that ample lands for expansion within the Rural District have been provided and the need for additional rural lands in the Kaonoulu area had not been substantiated.

Mr. Moriguchi elaborated on the significance of the various colored areas on the map and also pointed out the location of the Rice Memorial Park in relation to the petitioner's lands.

Mr. Douglas Sodetani, representing the petitioners, advised that Frank and Bessie Moniz were now the owners of the subject property. He also submitted that there was no access to the subject lands by the new Lower Kula Highway, as stated in the staff report--that the primary access was by the old Lower Kula Road.

Mr. Sodetani felt that the U. S. Census report of a 20 percent decline in the population of the Waiakoa area during the period 1950 to 1960 was a fallacy as evidenced by the tremendous upsurge of construction taking place in the Kula area.

Mr. Sodetani argued that there was a great need for rural development of one-half acre lots in Kula. He stated that there were many reasons why approximately 400 acres presently classified in the Rural District were not fully developed:

1. Ownership
2. Cost of developing these properties
3. Topography and inadequate water supply

Mr. Sodetani also referred to the special permit granted in March, 1963 for development of 14 acres for residential purposes. He commented that the owner had gone into a financial bind and had not been able to develop the lands for marketing.

Due to the limited amount of lands available in the County of Maui for development, Mr. Sodetani felt it was unjust to allow lands to lie idle merely on the premise that there were other ample lands provided for expansion. He felt that property owners were obliged to do one of four things: 1) sell the land, 2) develop the land, 3) lease it, or 4) find someone who can do something with it.

Mr. Sodetani added that as far back as the petitioners could remember, these lands were never used for agricultural purposes. He earnestly requested favorable consideration of the petition to help the petitioner and also the people living in the Kula area who would like to own property.

Commissioner Ferry explained that the prime consideration of the Land Use Commission was not merely to lend aid to petitioners but rather to determine whether or not the lands under consideration in the petition were suited for the classification being sought. However, he did agree somewhat with Mr. Sodetani's contention that the nearby vacant lands did not necessarily render subject lands unsuitable for a rural classification.

In reply to Commissioner Nishimura's statement that large areas zoned Urban and Rural had not yet been developed, Mr. Sodetani cited the rate of sales at Pukalani Terrace. He stated that following reclassification of the lands from Agricultural to Urban two years ago, 300 lots had been subdivided and they were presently in the third increment. Sixty-five of the lots in this third increment had already been committed, and 35 deposits had been made.

Mr. Sodetani informed that the petitioners had paid approximately $3,800 per acre for the subject parcel, which included surveyor's fees and other expenses.

Commissioner Ota clarified the matter of water availability in the area. With the approach of the Lower Kula transmission line, he felt that water would not pose a major problem. He added that other utilities, except sewer, were also available in the area.

Since there was no further discussion, the hearing was closed thereafter.

PETITION OF COUNTY OF MAUI (A66-113) TO AMEND THE DISTRICT BOUNDARY FROM A CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO A RURAL DISTRICT AT IAO VALLEY, MAUI, identifiable by Tax Map Key 3-3-03: portions of 1, 3, and 10.

It was recommended in the staff report (copy on file), presented by Mr. Moriguchi, that pending further clarification of the matter under consideration, the staff be permitted to withhold its recommendation.

Mr. Moriguchi further elaborated that it had not been apparent to him that the County of Maui would enjoy any advantages in the land exchange. He thought perhaps a representative of the County might be able to point this out.

Mr. Kase Higa, Attorney for the County of Maui, cleared several issues relating to this petition. He submitted that the discrepancy between the Parks Committee Report and the reasons given in the application by the County was due to a typographical error--that "expansion of <u>parking</u> area" should have read "expansion of <u>park</u> area." He argued that the advantages or disadvantages to the County as a result of the land exchange were matters of concern to the County. In any event, Mr. Higa continued, he had been informed that this exchange would be advantageous to the County for several reasons; one reason being that it would be better to apply this piece of property and then move the caretaker's cottage to the green area belonging to the Duartes. Referring to the fact that extensive vacant rural lands occur within the vicinity, Mr. Higa pointed out that the County was not interested in acquiring additional rural lands to add to existing rural areas, but merely to proceed with the full development of

Kepaniwai Park. Finally, both the Board of Supervisors and the County Planning Commission had gone on record as approving this exchange.

In reply to Commissioner Ferry's query as to whether both parcels were in the Conservation District, Mr. Higa advised that Mr. Duarte's property was classified Rural and that only the red portion belonging to the County of Maui was in the Conservation District.

Commissioner Ferry then asked what Mr. Duarte intended to do with the presently County-owned parcel. Mr. Duarte replied that he was going to append it to his property which was separated only by a roadway belonging to him, and incorporate the whole thing into one parcel.

Mr. Higa explained that reclassification was being sought for technical reasons. Presently, due to its size, 15,300 square feet, the County-owned parcel did not qualify as rural lands, but by incorporating it with Mr. Duarte's property, it would have the necessary land area to so qualify.

With respect to the necessity of filling Mr. Duarte's property, Mr. Higa assured that adequate fill material was available from Iao and that this was not going to cost the County any additional expense.

Mr. Moriguchi pointed to the fact that the County property offered a tremendous view of the park, was situated right next to the park, and was a more desirable location for the caretaker's home.

Mr. Duarte countered with the statement that he owned the right of way to the County parcel and that it would not be accessible unless the County built another roadway.

Mr. Moriguchi commented that according to the County map, the road to Mr. Duarte's property actually cuts through County park lands and wondered why this same road could not be used to make the County property accessible. Mr. Sone, Maui County Engineer, replied that the matter was not that simple and that there was also some danger involved due to landslides, etc.

Mr. Duarte pointed out that the subject parcel had a 20' drop and it was continuously eroding to the area below. He added that the land was not usable for anything and that not even a house could be built on it.

Mr. Takeyama advised that the advantages or disadvantages of the land exchange were matters for the County to decide and that the discussion should be confined purely to the uses, in reply to Commissioner Nishimura's question.

On the basis of the foregoing opinion expressed by Mr. Takeyama, Mr. Moriguchi submitted that the staff recommendation would have to be for denial according to the Land Use Regulations.

The hearing was closed thereafter.

PETITION OF EDWIN & ELSIE IGE (A66-120) TO AMEND THE DISTRICT BOUNDARY FROM AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO A RURAL DISTRICT AT WAIAKOA, MAUI, identifiable by Tax Map Key 2-2-11: 1

Denial of the petition was recommended by the staff (see copy on file) based on the following findings:

1. Population growth for the Kula area was not optimistic.
2. There are extensive areas for rural expansion yet to be developed in the Rural District.
3. Rural subdivisions in the area are faced with considerable vacancies.
4. More suitable rural lands for development occur within the Rural District.

Acting Chairman Ota commented that the population of 416 for 1960 in the Waiakoa area mentioned in the staff report was somewhat misleading, in that at one time Kula was mentioned and Waiakoa at another. Mr. Moriguchi replied that that was the reason he had used the Makawao District population estimate since Makawao is more encompassing. He continued that the population projection for the Makawao District in 1970 shows a 6 to 7 percent decline.

As a point of clarification and also for the Commissioner's information, Acting Chairman Ota offered that generally the term Kula was confined to that area along the fringes of the outlying Lower Kula Road, stopping several miles from the junction at Pukalani, nearly all the way out to the sanatorium area. The term Makawao District included all the areas from East to West.

Mr. Charles C. Young, part-time Star Bulletin reporter, commented that all except one or two of the C. V. Land Co. lots had already been sold. He added that since 1960 Maui has had a tremendous growth.

Mr. Ige stated that all lands adjacent to his property were zoned Rural.

Mr. Moriguchi commented there was considerable pasture lands throughout the area marked in red, and the general use in this whole area was more agricultural than urban.

The hearing was closed thereafter.