

**Kalaupapa Memorial  
NEPA Public Scoping Meeting Notes  
Notes by Cari Kreshak, Paul Hosten, and Ka`ohulani McGuire**

**October 2009**

The following are notes taken at the Kalaupapa Memorial NEPA public scoping meetings. The notes capture comments that were related to the location and design of the memorial. Some public comments reflect incorrect statements regarding the NEPA process or NPS requirements, however the comments were not changed for the purpose of recording the notes.

---

**September 18, 2009**

**Kaumakapili Church, Honolulu, Oahu**

---

Approximately 80 people in attendance.

Cumulative impacts may become a reality if more visitors are allowed.

Suggested that a duplicate of the Kalaupapa memorial be established near the capitol, Hale Mahalu or elsewhere on Oahu.

The memorial should be located on the peninsula in an area that is accessible.

The public should not share or comment if they have not been to Kalaupapa. Should listen to the patients – the patients' ideas should be more important than non-patients' ideas.

Consider the patients' wishes heavily.

The design of the memorial should be 1. Hawaiian, 2. Green, 3. Built to last.

The patients should make the decision regarding the monument, and the National Park Service should accommodate the patient wishes.

The NPS should not "tell" people what to do.

Mark Ellis – Kuulei Bell is aunt. Several years before passing away Kuulei expressed to Mark that she wanted the memorial to be located at the first Baldwin Home.

Listen to the Ohana and the patients.

"I just want to touch her [mom] name on the memorial".

Want memorial to be outside instead of inside.

Want Kalaupapa to stay the same.

Listen closely to the patients and Ohana. Make sure that the right decision is made.

Support building memorial at Kalawao.

Everybody is already going to Kalawao to visit Father Damien – the memorial will not result in additional visitor impact.

---

**September 19, 2009**

**Hale Kupuna O Lanai – Hale Mahaulo Senior Complex, Lanai City, Lanai**

---

Approximately 10 people in attendance.

The patients should be involved in the location and construction of the monument.

Ask what the patients want.

Doesn't have to be one wall.

Do what the patients want – the vision of the patients.

The choice should come from the residents – they walked the land.

Have the memorial at multiple sites. Add history to the names – 1. When they arrived, 2. How long they were there, 3. Include names of people that also have marked graves.

Patients currently with grave markers should also be on the memorial.

Patients who are living should also be remembered.

Design should coincide and be in-line with location. Be part of the location. The feel.

Honor whatever the patients request.

Put a memorial at both Kalawao and Kalaupapa.

Wants one memorial where all patients can be together.

---

**September 21, 2009**

**Paukukalo Hawaiian Homes Community Center, Waikulu, Maui**

---

Approximately 23 people in attendance.

Family must be part of the decision-making process for locating/constructing the memorial.

Kalawao is a good location [for the memorial] because it is the beginning. Want what the patients want.

Create a memorial that represents the tragedy of the location.

Afraid that most people are coming to Kalaupapa for Damien and not coming to reflect on the families and the tragedy.

Would like NPS to consider a day each month that would be for special family tours.

Don't refer to KALA as a "park" as this presents a different connotation than the events that occurred there. Use a word that is more sensitive to the tragic events of Kalaupapa.

Honor the surviving patients and their wishes. If patients want the memorial at Kalawao than I support it.

Father Damien should not overshadow memorial and history of Kalaupapa.

Would like to see an ahu instead of a memorial. Not interested in an "American" memorial, but something that is culturally sensitive [Hawaiian].

The criteria for the design should include representation of what the patients and Native Hawaiians want. The designer must know about Kalaupapa.

Edward Halealoha Ayau volunteered to build the memorial in the traditional stone mason manner. A stone ahu using Native Hawaiian stone masons.

The people that are hired to construct the memorial should be Native Hawaiian.

Suggestion that the care of the memorial be turned over the "friends" group or be a collaboration with the NPS.

---

**September 23, 2009**

**Kalana O'iwi Conference Center, Kaunakakai, Molokai**

---

Approximately 23 people in attendance.

There is a good chance of uncovering graves in the process of constructing the memorial – there needs to be a plan to deal with this eventuality.

A question was asked whether it would be possible to relocate graves (answer by NPS and ohana was "NO").

There is a need to minimize ground-disturbance.

Memorial construction needs to go with what is wanted by the patients.

The construction should be comprised of a platform, with vertical structures on which the names could be arranged around on all sides.

The names should be arranged by year – this could give a sense of "walking through history".

All should provide a voice for the patients.

The memorial could be placed on an existing “footprint” [of a historic structure].

---

**September 26, 2009**

**McVeigh Hall, Kalaupapa, Molokai**

---

Approximately 40 people in attendance.

Wants to add “manna” of the location as a criteria for locating the memorial.

Could the location at Kalawao with the standing chimney be added as a site?

Could the NPS make all the comments available to the public.

Want the comments to be made available to the public before November. There is a need for a timetable for the whole NEPA process. How long will it take? 2 months, 4 months, 4 years?

KALA is not a community of tombstones. We are a living community. Our major, primary concern is to take care of the kahunas here now.

The task to build the monument is on the Ohana. It's important to narrow time frame to figure legislative funding and grant monies. We need to raise millions of dollars—we only have \$100,000. We are the responsible entity. Please understand our urgency.

Legislation gives Ohana power to choose the site—if Ohana chooses Old Baldwin, the Park then provides the EA at the chosen site—not others?

The patients are supposed to decide—we live here!

Where the patients want it comes first. Let the voices of those without tombstones have one.

Most here are representing past patients, Ohana. I believe many of the past would support the idea of memorial. It feels like doing the preliminary work on all sites, seems like waste of time. Ohana favors Old Baldwin. Would it be possible, with the approval of everyone here, to do the EA on just the Old Baldwin site? And if it does not meet criteria—then move to the other sites? Narrow it [site of the monument] down to Kalawao, sooner than later.

I will go along with whatever the patients decide. Ohana was formed to help the patients. I'm always between the Federal and State. I speak my mind. We'd like to enjoy the monument while we're still living. If it's possible, make it faster. I'd like to read my name on the monument.

The last thing we wanted was for the memorial to divide people. Old Baldwin site has been discussed for years, by many (patients now deceased). How do their voices get remembered.

I remember Paul Harada, in 1985, when memorial idea first came up. Ohana was Bernard's idea. We've lost 5 or 6 in the last years. So we're remembering them and what they wanted.

It's a reminder to the future, it's from our past our past where we learn what our future can be. We're ready to go, ready to raise funds. We want the green light. Focus the EA on old Baldwin with archeology.

—which has been coming to light—when they were building the federal hospital, for example, 10 houses were torn down to do that. You may be making decisions without that information. Ohana should help with the EA.

Let's all be clear; we selected Old Baldwin as preferred site.

Memorial Committee met a year ago. We are not doing a "Vietnam Wall" but maybe in sections. Maybe by years of arrival in sections we can move around in case human remains or rare plants are found.