Kalaupapa Memorial NEPA Public Scoping Meeting Notes Notes by Cari Kreshak and Paul Hosten

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 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.