

Kalaupapa Memorial
NEPA Public Scoping Meeting Notes
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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 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.