

GM 745

Support

LATE

18 of April, 2016

Aloha mai kakou! My name is Kahiau Wallace, a resident of ke ahupua'a o Kahana, and kumu of Punana Leo o Ko'olauloa, aloha! As a resident, and a participating member of the Kahana Valley Living Park, I hope to serve as a member of this council because I believe my experiences as a student, a kumu/teacher, a mahi'ai kalo/taro farmer, a kia'i loko/fishpond caretaker, and as a holomoana/sailing canoe crew member has allowed me to cultivate skills that would be beneficial in planning for our future as kupa'aina of the valley.

The role and responsibility of a member of this council is to take into consideration our kuleana as residents of this valley. Our kuleana is first and foremost to this 'aina, whom without we would not be. The 'aina does not need kanaka to flourish, but we need this 'aina to survive. As a member of the planning council our perspective as to why and how we are blessed to be in this space named Kahana needs to be remembered so we actively plan an efficient today and tomorrow. We plan not based on individual interest, but collectively as 'ohana.

I have been very blessed in my life to learn from many kumu whether they are 'ohana or not. One common lesson that I have learned in all my practices is the importance to kahu or tend to pilina/relationships. As a kumu Punana Leo my kuleana/responsibility is to be observant to the relationships that develop among children, keiki to keiki, keiki to kumu, keiki to 'ohana, keiki to 'aina, and recognizing that my kuleana to these keiki is not to make them think like me or do what I do, or to take care of their relationships to one another as I do but it is to help them recognize that there is pilina everywhere and it is up to them how they will tend to these pilina, and to recognize that all action has a reaction. I believe that my practice as a kumu has helped me become a better observer to the needs of people, and I have a genuine interest in strengthening our pilina as a community, and as stewards of Kahana.

I hope that during my term of service on the Planning Council that we will build a strong network of people who have a genuine interest in aloha 'aina Kahana, and that we will be sit and talk and create together a sustainable plan that promotes 'aina momona, the concept of "fat lands" so that the valley and all the people that experience her will flourish. Three values guide me and will guide me while on the Planning Council is aloha/malama 'aina, laulima, and pu'uhonua. I will actively love and care (aloha/malama 'aina) for Kahana, and I recognize that it takes many hands (laulima) to do so, and will always know that this place is a place of refuge (pu'uhonua) for the people who reside here, and for those who visit. These three values give me quality as a kanaka.

Being a member of the Hui Malama Loko I'a network, a network of fishpond practitioners, has been a blessing for us who love and care for Huilua. It is a confirmation that importance of 'aina momona, and that the relationship between uka and kai needs to always be maintained for a functioning ahupua'a. The 'ike I learn during our conferences and workdays will also help guide me as we plan so we will have Kahana 'aina momona. As we plan conflicts may arise but recognition of the goal, and recognition of our kuleana to Kahana both spiritual and physical, will give us the na'au check we need, when need, to guide us mentally that we may 'auamo/carry our kuleana, and ho'oko/do and complete the task at hana. Mahalo, mahalo, mahalo!