

HELEN NIELSEN BIO-SKETCH

A resident of Maui for over _____ years, Helen Nielsen has a passion for community service and environmental sustainability.

Helen is co-owner/manager of commercial properties in Wailuku, Maui and Waimea, Hawaii. She has worked as a reports analyst for WR Grace & Co. headquarters in NY City and as administrative manager for the Artkraft Strauss Group of communications, advertising and construction companies in New York. Currently, she is working on a new development on her commercial properties in Wailuku.

Helen is Regent Emeritus of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. Prior to serving as a Regent, she was employed by the United States Senate as a Field Representative for Hawaii's US Senator Brian Schatz.

Taking land conservation to a new level in Hawaii, in 2001 Helen was a founder of the Maui Coastal Land Trust (MCLT) and served on its board for 14 years. MCLT protected over 14,000 acres in Maui County and garnered nationwide recognition as a leader in land conservation. In its 10th year, MCLT merged with land trusts across the state, creating the Hawaii Islands Land Trust while Helen was serving as President of the Board.

Helen's exemplary work with land conservation, as well as her consensus-driven and inclusive leadership style, has been widely lauded and she has been honored by the Hawaii Legislature, the Maui County Council, the Rotary Club, and Maui County's Commission on the Status of Women. On her retirement from the HILT Board, Governor Neil Abercrombie proclaimed November 23rd, 2014 as Helen Nielsen Day throughout Hawaii, in recognition of her accomplishments through 14 years of effective service.

Helen is a long-time volunteer with several other local non-profits. She served on the board of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, working with diverse communities and professionals across the state collaborating on solutions for reef health and sustainability. She volunteers with the Kaupo Community Association in an historic restoration of the Kaupo School in East Maui, writing grants and creating partnerships, a \$1.5M project. In addition, she volunteers at the Schaeffer Gallery of the Maui Arts & Cultural Center. She has served as President of the Maui Japanese Chamber of Commerce, participating in collaborative projects in Fukuyama and also served on the Maui Japanese Cultural Society Board of Directors.

Helen is a _____-year member of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (Ham Radio Operator Extra Class license KH6T). She holds an FAA private pilot license. Helen has also served on the Maui County Salary Commission, the Maui advisory committee for

CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) and the Maui Economic Development Board's (MEDB) committee on Community Economic Development, and as communications and logistics officer on the Hawaii Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) HI-1.

She attended Kingsborough Community College and Pace University in New York City, studying business while working corporate administrative jobs to pay her tuition.

March 2018