

Date: Tue, 18 Jul 2006 16:58:15 -1000 (HST)
From: Alan Lennard <alan@aloha.com>
To: Mayor Mufi Hannemann <mayor@honolulu.gov>
Cc: John P Craven PhD JD <craven@aloha.com>, Lester Chang
<lchang@honolulu.gov>, Miles Hazama <mhazama@honolulu.gov>
Subject: Regarding Parks Surfing Contest Permit Denial ; North Shore

Alan Lennard
North Shore Bodysurfing Club
P.O. Box 818
Haleiwa, HI 96712
808-638-8825
alan@aloha.com

Mayor Mufi Hannemann
Honolulu Hale 530 S. King St.
Honolulu, HI 96813
mayor@honolulu.gov
523-4141

7/18/06

Regarding the denial of a surf contest permit application

Dear Mayor Hannemann,

I am writing you concerning the denial letter and current internal parks procedure and policy regarding the contest permits process.

I have replied to the parks department letter in writing with several letters requesting information and an administrative appeal process.

The liaison that Mr. Lester Chang has asked me to communicate with has been friendly and professional, however it is obvious that the process that has been constructively created by the city as a result of the judicial opinion from Sabrina S. McKenna on September 13, 2001 is extremely flawed.

Under the previous administration, the mayor (Jeremy Harris) appointed Manny Menendez (director of Economic Development) to attempt to resolve the problems in the contest permit process. The actual reason given at the time of the appointment was a protest occurring at city hall due to the Pipeline World Championships of Bodyboarding being denied a park contest permit. (In retrospect, I was the contest director who remedied

that problem by allowing Bob Thomas to share my permit, not Mr. Menendez).

The collaborative effort of 11 + meetings between the majority of the surf contest applicants with Mr. Menendez was the product of this 18 month process was a document referred to as the Mayors Blue Ribbon Panel report.

However, the outcome of this process left virtually all of the surf contest applicants wondering what had really occurred besides educating Mr. Menendez on the complexity of the current rules, their interpretation by the city and the future issues that the city would be addressing.

It has been two years "plus" since that process ended and we find that nothing has changed. In fact, it appears that the process has actually worsened. In the past years as director of the Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic, I have shared our permit with the Women's Bodyboarding Championship (9 times), The Hui Back Door Shootout (once), Pipeline World Championships of Bodyboarding (once), and the Monster Energy Pro Surfing event (once). All of these events were denied permits and I shared the permit that was granted to our event (the Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic) to allow those contests to co-exist.

However, it appears that the Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic may not find a contest director to rescue it. This is very unfortunate.

Here is some Background on the North Shore Body Surfing Club and the Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic:

The North Shore Body Surfing Club was formed in 1988 to help promote the sport of Body Surfing in Hawaii, with specific emphasis on creating and perpetuating recognition of the sport and art of bodysurfing on the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii.

The main focus of the Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic is to foster and perpetuate the bodysurfing contest venue on the North shore. Since the North shore Expressive / Paipo bodysurfing event venue was first officially evolved in 1971 by the Honolulu City Parks Department as a multi-division bodysurfing, handboard and skegless Paipo board competition open to both men and women. This is the historical precedent that this event is based on. The goals for the Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic are based on the original concept of the North Shore Expressive event.

Currently, the Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic is an event open to all bodysurfers to compete in a world class, judged competition specific to

Body Surfing. This event uses established judging standards at the internationally recognized Banzai Pipeline surf Break; Pro-Am format bodysurfing, both genders welcome, any and all participants accepted into competition.

When the North Shore Expressive / Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic was originated by the city (circa February 1971) it was described as an important resource for the community. It was in the city budget and received Sea-grant funds because it would promote water safety, proficiency with surf conditions, produce experts in bodysurfing who would become the focus of young people new to watersports and increase awareness of the ocean environment regarding water safety (Chuck Shipman, C&C Parks 1971)

These factors are of great importance and are the basis of this event. This event provides for the local bodysurfing population to have access to pipeline without intervention. The event allows exposure for the sport of bodysurfing in Hawaii and has become a pinnacle of bodysurfing competition worldwide.

Furthermore, this event is based on a mandate of low impact (visual, audio, traffic, litter) on park users and nearby residents as well as maintaining a perfect record in its history of site maintenance and community relations. Since we have allowed higher visibility events to share our holding period, we have made every effort to mitigate any impact from these shared events.

At this point, we are asking for several immediate items to be satisfied:

- 1) A method for resolution in the form of appeal or contested case hearing (this has been requested by certified mail on 6/29/06)
- 2) An expeditious release of all documentation from the parks department related to policy and procedures regarding the current and past conflict resolution process (this has been requested by certified mail on both 6/29/06 and 7/10/06)
- 3) An expeditious response from the city on issues related to available competition days at Ehukai beach for the 2006 - 2007 events calendar.

Thank you for your attention,

Sincerely,

Alan Lennard
Director, Pipeline Bodysurfing Classic