



KULI'OU'OU-KALANI IKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 2

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017 `AINA HAINA PUBLIC LIBRARY

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Heather Lum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **A quorum was established with 15 members present.** Note – This 16-member Board requires nine (9) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Bernie Boltz, Paula S. Carrol, Ried Fisher, Joshua D. Greig, Kathryn T. Higa, Jeannine Johnson, Heather Lum, Martin Mori, Kevin Mulkern, Jessica Stamm, Linda W.L. Starr, William Stiles, Melvyn M.L. Yap, Davin Aoyagi and Sheridan R. Spangler

Board Members Absent: Kamaka Parker

Guests: Captain Maurer (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane and Sergeant C. Higa (Honolulu Police Department); Scot Muraoka (Board of Water Supply); Deputy Director Jon Nouchi (Department of Transportation Service (DTS); Ryker Wada (Governor David Ige's representative); Senator Stanley Chang and Cameron Sato; Michael Leong (Representative of Mark Hashem); Kenny Amazaki (Councilmember Trevor Ozawa's Representative); David Hioki; Antonio (videographer/DVDmodo); Susan Johnson, and Felipe M. Pacquing II (Neighborhood Commission Office).

CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS — Chair Lum announced the following:

- **28th Annual Food Drive:** The Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO) is participating in the said Food Drive with the Hawaiian Food Bank until April 15, 2017. Those interested to donate canned or boxed foods or monetary donations may bring them in the next meeting. There will be a box for food donations or donations may be brought at the NCO office at 925 Dillingham Boulevard, Suite 160, Honolulu.
- **5th Annual Relay Run:** The relay run will held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at 5:30 a.m. starting at Kapiolani Park with around 2,000 expected participants. The Police will be around to secure the route and man the traffic.
- **Hawaii Kai Planning and Zoning Environmental Committee Meeting:** The meeting will be held at Hawaii Kai Library on Monday, April 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. and will discuss the Oahu General Plan and an employee of Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) will give a short orientation of the General Plan.

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD): Captain Tim Turgeon reported the following:

- **Safety Tip: Home Fire Sprinklers:**
 - Fire Sprinklers respond quickly and effectively to fire, often extinguishing the fire prior to the department's arrival.
 - Fire sprinklers can save lives and property from fire.
 - Some Fire Myths: All fire sprinklers will go off at once – systems are so designed that the closest sprinkler head to the fire is activated. They cause a lot of water damage – Typically, sprinklers utilize 13 to 18 gallons of water per minute. On the other hand, firefighting hoses flow, at least, ten (10) times that of a sprinkler.
 - Having fire sprinkler in your home is like having a fire fighter in your home 24 hours a day, ready to extinguish a fire.
 - Note: There is a Bill being pushed in the Legislature seeking to eliminate or delay the requirement to install a fire sprinkler in brand new two (2) story house

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. **Damage in Fire Sprinklers:** Mulkern inquired and Captain Maurer replied that while there is water damage in fire sprinklers it causes less damage than using firefighting hoses flow. The HFD supports installation of

fire sprinklers in houses.

2. Heat Sensitive Fire Sprinklers: Greig inquired and Captain Maurer replied that fire sprinklers are activated by heat nearest the sprinkler and to the other sprinklers around.
3. Fire Resistant Construction Materials: Fisher asked and Captain Maurer replied that while synthetic construction materials now are less combustible, they are, however hazardous causing a lot more heat.
4. Volunteer Groups: Mulkern inquired and Captain Maurer replied that while some volunteer rescue groups in mountain trails are well intended they make wrong decisions.
5. Overloaded Mountain Trails: Spangler commented and Captain Maurer agreed that overcrowded mountain hikers destroy nature and landowners' property. Captain Maurer further added that overcrowding in one (1) trail is due to the closure of other mountain trail.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) — Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane circulated handouts and reported the following:

- January 2017 Statistics: There were six (6) burglaries, three (3) motor vehicle thefts, five (5) thefts, and eight (8) unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV). There were 6,512 total calls for service.
- Tsunami Preparedness: In the event a Distant Tsunami Warning is issued, evacuation sirens will sound three (3) hours before wave arrival time. Disaster supplies kit should be enough to last for seven (7) days. For more information check on the website at www.oahuDEM.org.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Security from Theft: Greig asked and Lieutenant Sukakene replied that all kinds of gadgets to deter theft have their own advantages, but it is best to have one than nothing at all.
2. Paiko Road Parking Issue: A resident suggested that if somebody keeps on complaining about a legally parked vehicle, that person should be lectured about the law, and if he or she is an anonymous caller, he/she should be identified; otherwise, the cycle keeps on going on and on. Lieutenant Sukakene replied that the Police have no choice except to respond to the call.
3. Calls for Service: Johnson noted that there is an increase of around 400 calls for service, and in response, Lieutenant Sukakene said that number of calls go up and down.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY (BWS) — Scot Muraoka made the following announcements:

- Environmental Expo: In celebration of Earth Month, The BWS will have an educational, interactive booth at the 10th Annual Mauka to Makai Environmental Expo on Saturday, April 22, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Waikiki Aquarium.
- Fire Hydrants: There will be water line works in the Neighborhood Board District, adding three (3) fire hydrants.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: Jon Nouchi, Deputy Director for the Department of Transportation Services (DTS), introduced himself, circulated a newsletter, and reported the following:

- Kuliouou Trail: As to the presence of chain blocks in the area denies access of residents to the beach and mountain trail, this has to be addressed to the State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources, which has jurisdiction over the hiking trail.
- Kuliouou Trail Parking Restrictions: The Department of Transportation Services will evaluate the feasibility of parking restrictions near the trail head and will inform the Board of the findings by July 2017.
- Dead End Sign: The relocation of the "Dead End" sign nearer to Kalniana'ole Highway will be done by the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM).
- Street Improvements: The process of the installation of concrete sidewalks and curbing starts with resolution by the Board.
- Sewer Fees: Sewer fees have increased over the last six (6) years to fund sewer repair and rehabilitation projects and improve operation and maintenance to prevent wastewater spills into the environment, as required in a consent decree entered into by the State Department of Health and the Federal Environment Protection Agency.
- Guardrails at Laukahi Street: Additional Funding has been allotted for the consultant to proceed with the guardrail design.
- Wailupe Stream: The cleaning of weeds out of Wailupe stream channel near East Hind and West Hind is scheduled to start before summer.

- Removal of Bus Stops: The DTS is awaiting the proposal of the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) as to whether the bus stops from Kalaniaole Highway at Waa and Analii Streets be removed or not.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Removal of Bus Stops: A resident asked and Nouchi replied that the removal of the Bus Stops at Kalaniaole Highway depends on the proposal of the HDOT.
2. Traffic Study: Mori requested a traffic study for the Longs Drug Store in Aina Haina, which he has been requesting for two (2) years, to which Nouchi replied that it is still under study with the developer. Mori countered that he has contacted the developer and he was told that the preliminary study has been submitted to the City awaiting for approval, after which the study will be released to the Board.
3. East Hind Drive Repair: Greig reported and Nouchi replied that he will check on the portion of East Hind Drive that needs to be repaired.

Councilmember Trevor Ozawa — Kenny Amazaki circulated a newsletter and reported the following:

- Homelessness: Mr. Amazaki reported that homelessness is still one of the big issues especially with the introduction of a bill prohibiting sitting and lying on sidewalks.
- Budget Measures: Mr. Amazaki reported that Councilmember Ozawa supports identifying areas for cost savings and cutting unessential expenditures before supporting additional revenue-generating measures like raising taxes.
- Parking Issues: Councilmember Ozawa is considering passing a bill allowing to park on unimproved sidewalks.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- Trash Collection Fee: Greig inquired and Mr. Amazaki replied that Councilmember Ozawa is not in favor of increasing tax collection fees.
- Homeless Trash: Spangler noted the presence of homeless people under the freeway viaduct, and their trash is constantly increasing. In reply, Mr. Amazaki replied that they will look into it and will coordinate with the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT).
- Restrictive Parking Zone: Johnson suggested and Mr. Amazaki replied that they will look at the Paiko Street problem on the possibility of adopting the Kalihi Valley Restrictive Parking on certain hours.
- Paiko Parking Problem: A resident suggested and Mr. Amazaki noted that parking should be allowed in between the encumbrances on the sidewalk along Paiko Road. Spangler also suggested that residents should be allowed to park in front of their houses.
- Recycling Trash Program: Mulkern suggested that those unloading their trash for recycling should be charged on a per pound basis, not per truckload. The weighing scale should be put back to weigh the trash. Mr. Amazaki suggested that a request for a study on the basis of charging the volume of trash unloaded should be made.
- Reclassification of Tax on Properties: Greig inquired and Mr. Amazaki replied the reclassification of properties into purely residential houses and those for investment purposes is being made to raise revenues by increasing percentage of tax on properties for investment purpose.

Governor David Ige's Representative — Ryker Wada, the representative of Governor Ige gave the following updates:

- Caretaker Home: The issue on the Caretaker Home along Kalaniana'olaha Highway is under the jurisdiction of DOE, and is under further investigation. Mulkern reported that the caretaker home is to be demolished.
- Flashing Light: The flashing light along the highway is due to the low voltage, and this may be reported at the HDOT.
- Homeless Trash: As to the trash done by the homeless under the freeway viaduct, this has been reported to the HDOT.
- Signage on Trails: DLNR is undergoing a comprehensive study on the old signage on the trails and adding new ones across Hawaii.
- Collection of Trash: DLNR has no resources to collect trash in state lands, and it is usually the City who does the collection of trash.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Flashing Lights: Greig suggested and Mr. Wada noted that instead of the motorists do the reporting of flashing lights, it should be the State that should go around and check on the so many flashing lights at the freeway.

2. Closing of Trails: Greig commented that trails should not be closed just because of a problem that occurred at the trail, to which Mr. Wada replied that he will take that up with the Governor's office.
3. Commercialization of Trails: Spangler commented that, in view of the rise of social media, there is a big influx of hikers and the trails has been commercialized to the detriment of nearby residential areas, to which Mr. Wada replied that he will take that up with the Governor's office.
4. Right of Easement: Johnson asked for the update on the removal of sign which denies access to the beach, to which Mr. Wada replied that there is an ongoing negotiation between the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and the particular homeowner concerned.

Senator Stanley Chang — Senator Chang circulated a newsletter, and reported the following:

- Car Damages: Car damages due to a pothole can be reported to the City or the State for reimbursement after completing the claim form and other requirements, like photos, invoices, copy of registration and insurance card, and police report.
- Imported Construction Materials: The Senator has coordinated with the one in charge of the importation of the construction material which costs more than the locally made counterpart, and will check on the circumstances surrounding it.
- Damages along Ahuwale Street: A survey was made along Ahuwale Street and damages were already repaired
- Honolulu 311: The Honolulu 311 smartphone allows the user to report potholes, blinking lights, and other similar complaints to the City, and the City can keep track of the details of the issue. This is available on iPhone and android and downloadable free from Google play or Apple App Store.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Honolulu 311: Mulkern attested to the easy reporting, prompt action on the issue raised, and reporting back of the accomplishment by using Honolulu 311.
2. Homes for the Homeless: Greig commented that giving homes to the homeless will not solve the problem because they do not want to be in their confines nor will they do well in their homes because they live on trash, and they are the number one (1) polluters, to which the Senator replied that he will look on into it.
3. Ban on Styrofoam: Greig signified his opposition to the ban, and the Senator explained that while Styrofoam blocks are used in the ocean, they eventually break into small pieces, and the fish eats the Styrofoam bits, which we eat eventually. Styrofoam is also detrimental to the environment.
4. HRS 521: Starr asked for a review on the Landlord-Tenant Code (HRS 521) because while there is a recourse to the court of evicting the tenant for non-payment of rentals, there is no recourse to collection of rentals due. The Senator replied that he will make a study to pass a bill to address the issue.
5. Rats as Health Hazard: Spangler inquired if a house with rats can be considered as public health hazard, to which the Senator replied that he will look on into that concern.
6. Service to the Homeless: Johnson reported their offer of services to the homeless and those in need and improving their health, and appreciated Senator Chang's similar concern.
7. House Bill (HB) 83: Aoyagi inquired and the Senator replied that HB 83 which is about the creation of special zones is still under consideration

Representative Mark Hashem: Michael Leong circulated a newsletter, materials regarding the legislature, and reported the following:

- Bills under consideration: Several measures (House Bills 1294, 419, 141, and House Resolutions 9, 170 and 92) are still on consideration.
- Pigs: 1100 block of Hind luka Drive has three small and one large wild pig roaming on/off the sidewalk. Request has been sent to Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) to inspect nearby property for any presence of farm animal enclosure, but found none. There will be a will follow up to either educate alleged owner or make arrangements with pig hunter to remove pigs if wild.
- Renovation without Permit: The homeowner at 1100 block of Hind luka Drive was cited for bathroom renovation without permits. Notice of violation was issued by the City's DPP.
- No Outlet Sign: A request to check on the disappearance of the No Outlet sign on Kiholo St dead end was sent to the Department of the Department of Transportation Services (DTS).
- 500 Block of Kiholo Street: A request was sent to the DPP to investigate the blighted property with cars, junk, and renting to unrelated tenants using common entrance.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Kalani High School: Chair Lum asked and Mr. Leong replied that he has not yet received any response from Kalani High School about the update being requested.

2. Shortage of Doctors: Greig noted and Mr. Leong agreed that Hawaii has shortage of doctors due to very low reimbursement and the only way to attract doctors is to give them a fair share.
3. Business in Residential Area: A resident reported about a neighbor who seems to be doing business in the residential area, and to which Mr. Leong replied that this can be reported to the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) and make a "Request for Information and Service Report (RISR).

NEW BUSINESS - The discussions and concerns raised are the following:

- Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) Presentation and Resolution: The reporter presented a resolution urging support for a Senate Bill seeking public education funding through property tax by establishing a surcharge on residential investment property and visitor accommodations.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Copy of the Resolution: The Chair noted no resolution, as proposed by the presenter to be adopted by the Board, has been furnished to Board. The presenter will see to it that copies of the resolution will be furnished to the Board for consideration in the next board meeting.
 2. Property Tax: Greig raised his opposition to the Proposal to increase tax on other properties or third properties because it becomes burdensome, and he further noted that the education funds mostly go to administrative expenses, not to teachers.
 3. Hawaii Teachers' Salary: Mulkern asked and the presenter replied that compared to other States, Hawaii has low salaries for teachers.
 4. Need of Teachers: Johnson commented that public schools need more teachers with more pays.
 5. Public Education Problem: Spangler commented that the problem in public education is how the Department of Education, the administration, and the principal run the schools, and which affects the teachers. The HSTA should focus more on what they can do to improve the system.
 6. Constitutional Amendment: Aoyagi commented that it would be a bad precedent to seek additional funding through a constitutional amendment considering that the Constitution deals with fundamental laws of the land.
 7. Property Tax: Dr. Greig commented that the notion that Hawaii is less taxed just because Hawaii is the only State not taxed on properties for education purposes does not hold true because Hawaii is one of the highest taxed States. The HSTA should look more and study on where the big budget of education goes before asking for increase of salaries.
- Resolution on Transient Vacation Rentals: Johnson made a brief presentation on her proposed resolution, and why she strongly objects to any proposed revisions in the O'ahu General plan.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Tax on Vacation Houses: Greig commented that vacation houses are being rented out to pay taxes on the property, and to impose more taxes is not fair.
2. Multiple Houses: Stamm and Johnson agree that people with multiple houses who usually do it for business is just fair for them to be taxed.
3. Commercialization of the neighborhood: Spangler and Mori gave her support to the Resolution if only to preserve the residential areas from being commercialized.

At this point, the Resolution objecting to any proposed revisions in the O'ahu General Plan was voted upon after proper motion and which was duly seconded. The **Resolution was adopted with 12-2-1 votes.**

(**Ayes:** Boltz, Carroll, Higa, Lum, Mori, Spangler, Stamm, Yap, Stiles, Fisher, Johnson, Aoyagi; **No:** Greig, Mulkern; **Abs:** Starr)

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- Unsignalized Crosswalks on Kalaniana'ole Highway: Spangler inquired and Chair Lum replied that that the State Department of Transportation (DOT) has not yet furnished the Board on their final study.
- West Hind Drive Traffic Circle and Other Traffic Issues Pertaining to Aina Haina Longs: The Chair reported that this is still under study.
- Kalani High School Girls Locker Room Construction Traffic Flow Plan: Chair Lum reported that Construction

has been inactive for eight (8) days, since the contractor has been waiting for the issuance of the grading permit.

- Concerns with Hikers at Kuliouou Trail: Chair Lum reported that there is still no residential update.
- Parking along Paiko Drive. Chair Lum commented that parking on the road is not the solution and there has yet to be a more sensible solution to the problem.

BOARD BUSINESS

- Approval of December 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes: Correction was made by Johnson on the last page on the word "boarders" which should be "vacation rentals", after which, upon proper motion which was duly seconded, The Motion to approve the March 2017 regular meeting minutes, as corrected, was **adopted with a unanimous vote** without objection.
- Filling of Board Vacancies: Chair Lum asked if anyone was interested in filling the Subdistrict 2 vacancy. There were no interested individuals
- Treasurer's Report: Spangler reported a remaining balance of \$ 147.26 for the month of March 2017. The report was filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Chair Lum announced the following:

- Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Kuli'ou'ou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board No. 2 is scheduled for Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Submitted by: Felipe M. Pacquing II, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by Dylan Whitsell, Neighborhood Assistant