DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2009
HAHAIONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Pro Tem Greg Knudsen called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum of nine (9) members present. (Note - This 15-member Board requires eight (8) members for a quorum and to take official Board action.) Chair Pro Tem Knudsen explained that under the 2008 Neighborhood Plan (NP), the longest-serving Board member, Robert Clark, would be the Chair Pro Tem with 16 years of service. Clark was traveling out-of-State, so Knudsen, as the second longest-serving member, became the Chair Pro Tem.


MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Clark (notified absence) and Jeanette Hanson (notified absence).

VACANCIES: One in Subdistrict 4 (Hahaione High Rise) and one in Subdistrict 8 (Lunalilo Park, Mauka), due to insufficient number of candidates in the Neighborhood Board Elections.

GUESTS: Russ Saito (Gov. Linda Lingle’s Office, State Dept. of Accounting and General Services, Comptroller), Senator Sam Slom, Gordon Bruce (Mayor Mufi Hannemann’s Office, Dept. of Information Technology, Director), Kenny Amazaki (Councillmember Charles Djou’s Office), Toni Robinson (Department of Parks and Recreation, Gerald Hamada (Department of Design and Construction), Capt. Todd Hugo (Honolulu Fire Department), Maj. Robert Green, Lt. Gary Lum-Lee and Sgt. Maurice Asato (Honolulu Police Department); Rachel M. Glanstein, Darren Pai (Hawaiian Electric), Don Huff, Bob Kern, Ron Rutkowski, Maxine Rutkowski, Rich Smylie, Yoshi and Jim Tanabe, Natalie Iwasa, Bruce Robin, Steve Geshar, Stanley Chang, Michael Bass, Mardi LaPrade, Bob Farrell and Ivonne Cardenas (Videographers, Makakilo.com), and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office).

Wayne Levy and David Tanabe entered the meeting at 7:07 p.m., 11 members present.

INITIAL CONVENING OF THE BOARD

Election of Board Officers (one-year terms)

Election of Chair - Gary Weller nominated, and René Garvin seconded that Greg Knudsen be elected Chair. As there were no objections, Greg Knudsen was elected Chair by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE: De Giacomo, Garvin, Grey, Isgar, Knudsen, Levy, Makino, Monk, Reilly, Tanabe, and Weller).

Election of Vice Chair - Amy Monk nominated, and Marian Grey seconded that Elizabeth Reilly be elected Vice Chair. As there were no objections, Elizabeth Reilly was elected Vice Chair by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE: De Giacomo, Garvin, Grey, Isgar, Knudsen, Levy, Makino, Monk, Reilly, Tanabe, and Weller).

Election of Secretary/Treasurer - Marian Grey nominated, and Amy Monk seconded that Jeanette Hanson be elected Secretary. As there were no objections, Jeanette Hanson was elected Secretary/Treasurer by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE: De Giacomo, Garvin, Grey, Isgar, Knudsen, Levy, Makino, Monk, Reilly, Tanabe, and Weller).

Ratification of Day of Month, Time, and Location of Regular Board Meetings - The Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1 voted to meet on the last Tuesday of each month, except for the December recess, at 7:00 p.m., at Hahaione Elementary School cafeteria, by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE: De Giacomo, Garvin, Grey, Isgar, Knudsen, Levy, Makino, Monk, Reilly, Tanabe, and Weller).
Ratification of Contract to Videotape Regular Board Meetings -  Weller moved, and Isgar seconded, that the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1 authorizes the expenditure of $250 per month for the Videotaping contract. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE: De Giacomo, Garvin, Grey, Isgar, Knudsen, Levy, Makino, Monk, Reilly, Tanabe, and Weller).

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24, 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES -  As there were no objections, the February 24, 2009 regular meeting minutes were APPROVED as corrected by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE: De Giacomo, Garvin, Grey, Isgar, Knudsen, Levy, Makino, Monk, Reilly, Tanabe, and Weller).

- Page 7, at the top, it should read, "The Humane Society of the United States" and "The Hawaiian Humane Society."

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 30 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:  As there were no objections, the June 30, 2009 regular meeting minutes were APPROVED as corrected by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE: De Giacomo, Garvin, Grey, Isgar, Knudsen, Levy, Makino, Monk, Reilly, Tanabe, and Weller).

- Page 2, under Board of Water Supply, it should be added, "Water pipe replacement in 2011."
- Page 2, under Public Generated Issues, it should read, "Natalie Iwasa mentioned in January 2009 she suggested to Department of Transportation Services (DTS) to move the crosswalk 40 feet on Lunaililo Home Road."
- Page 3, under the Mayor's representative's report, it should read, "As to the use of ova control, Mr. Bruce suggested that residents request a Humane Society presentation first."
- Page 3, under Governor's representative report, it should be added, "1) …The illegal buoy was removed. 2) Regarding the left turn to Hanauma Bay, the project will be completed next week. 3) Regarding the Keahole Street right turn onto Kalanianaole Highway, the contract will go to bid in September."
-  "5) The Ka Iwi reclassification will take about a year."

Chair Knudsen announced that the Board was caught up on the 2009 minutes.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:  Chair Knudsen reported that the previous Operating Balance was $810.92. With $102.04 printing agenda/minutes and photography supplies, the closing Operating Balance is $708.88. The previous Publicity Balance was $540.50. With $250.00 expended for the videotaping the May 2009 Board meeting, the closing Publicity Balance was $290.50. The Refreshment Balance remained at $113.25. The Treasurer's report was filed, pending payments for other June expenditures. Chair Knudsen noted that at the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, $1,112.63 went back to the City...

STATUS REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) - Capt. Todd Hugo was present, but he left to respond to a fire call. Chair Knudsen read the report: 1) June 2009 Statistics - 1 structure (4 activated), 3 wildland, 3 rubbish and 8 motor vehicle fires; 73 medical emergencies, 5 search/rescues 1 retrieval, and 3 miscellaneous (assist patients/1 boater/1 kayaker) calls for service. 1 unusual incident - Hazardous Materials (Haz Mat - joggers).

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) - Maj. Robert Green distributed the monthly report, which had frequently-asked questions, relating to the use of mobile electronic devices and the District 7 website.

Comments followed: 1) Regarding the 4th of July event at Maunalua Bay, there were no incidents, no citations and no arrests. Next time, HPD will stay longer to prevent excessive drinking after the event. There was some ticketing to facilitate traffic flow. 2) Regarding the July 1 cell phone ban, at first there was "big" ticketing, then a drop. 3) The opening of school is next week, so be aware of school children.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) - A written report was distributed. 1) Water main break - On June 22, there was one water main break at 937 Uwao Street. An eight-inch main, which was installed in 1974. 2) 2009 Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale - The BWS will host its 21st Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale on Saturday, August 1, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The community is invited to an afternoon of family fun and education, where one will learn about Xeriscaping, which is an innovative means of conserving water through efficient landscaping that helps save water and money. All activities at the event are geared toward helping the community learn how it can have a beautiful, lush Xeriscape garden. This event includes lots of family-friendly, fun-filled and FREE keiki activities and games aimed at teaching youth about water conservation, sustainability and being eco-friendly. Educational workshops conducted by garden experts, narrated tours of our garden, a free much giveaway and the ever-popular Unthirsty plants sale...
round out this special event. Further information about the plant sale will be made available on the BWS website, www.boardofwatersupply.com. 3) Water Conservation Tips - Water lawns just two to three times a week. Lawns don't need to be watered every day, even during the summer. The fact is, if one waters just once every three days, one promotes deeper root growth, making the lawn healthier and more water-efficient. Don't water lawns between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Water evaporates quickly when the sun is out. So, if one waters during the day, one is not watering the lawn, one is watering the sky. Instead, water in the early morning, evening, or at night. 4) BWS follow up - Board member's concern regarding a meter/spigot attached to a fire hydrant near Makapuu beach. BWS crews checked out hydrants near Makapuu beach and did not find meter/spigot referred to. We believe contractor/owner returned to retrieve meter.

Comments followed. Weller acknowledged that BWS did follow up

PRESENTATION:

Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) Presentation on Rate Increase Request and Hurricane Preparedness - Darren Pai spoke about the rate increase. HECO has a responsibility to meet the energy needs of its customers. The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has allowed an interim 4.7% increase, which has not gone into effect yet. For an average 600 kilowatt/month customer, the increase would be $6.40 a month. If HECO provides more options, then it would reduce dependence on imported oil. The rate increase would provide for improvements, new air monitoring systems and new substations. The increases are reviewed by PUC and the Consumer Advocate. There would be a refund, if over-charged, like last year. HECO is also controlling its budget and costs.

Comments followed. 1) There were concerns about over head “temporary service lines” in areas like Mariners Cove where there are underground utility lines for Hawaii Kai. Pai would follow up about “temporary service lines.” 2) Photo-voltaic is good. HECO advised to conserve energy as it doesn't necessarily want to build new, costly power plants. 3) Regarding the earthquake two years ago and the power outage that followed, the problems were addressed, but it is hard to predict the future. 4) HECO provides electricity to Department of Transportation Services (DTS) projects, like the one on Lunalilo Home Road. There are many bad poles and the rate increase would help with the maintenance of the poles. There are regular pole inspections and they are not 75% bad. The strength is in the shell and they are inspected or reinforced. 5) Regarding the last island-wide power outage, Hawaii Kai got its power back last and many businesses had losses due to the two-day outage. An ice cream store lost thousands of dollars of inventory. Pai explained that power is restored closest to the power plants first, then outwards (from the Leeward Coast.) They didn't want the system to "crash" again. Most areas were restored after 14 hours, but there were pockets of consumers, that experienced equipment failure. 6) The rate increase does not provide for profits and stock dividends for Hawaiian Electric Industries (HEI). The company looks at renewable energy, the initial capital investment and stability in oil prices. A goal is 70% of clean energy by 2030. They look at transportation needs, too. The BWS would know how much water is left.

Hurricane Preparedness - Pai distributed a booklet and advised to make an emergency kit and not go to Costco at last minute, to have a plan and how to keep in touch with each other, and to practice the plan. In an emergency, assume all lines are "live." Call 911 or their emergency number - 548-7961. Other tips included - Secure lawn chairs. Caution on picking fruit - It is not the type of pole, but staying 10 feet away from the electric lines.

PUBLIC GENERATED ISSUES:

1) Natalie Iwasa suggested forming a committee for the Lunalilo Home Road street lighting and sidewalks. Moving the crosswalk is now not feasible with the new light pole base in the way.

2) Mardi LaPrade was concerned about the Hawae Heiau and the nearby wetlands and asked the Board to place this on the agenda for discussion.

3) Bruce Chapman thanked the City for solving the chicken problem at the Hawaii Kai Park and Ride. He supported a group to be formed to catch the chickens.

4) Makani Christenson created a website on Facebook about North Shore shark tours and shark feeding. He wants to stop shark feeding in Hawai‘i and posted about 40 videos. He mentioned Safe Waters for Hawaii, another local network with connection to stop shark feeding/ activity groups in Florida.
5) A resident talked about electric technology, photo-voltaic technology and forcing HECO to bring in advanced technology. He recommended such an approach for the Lunalihi Home Road new street lights.

OFFICIALS’ REPORTS:

Mayor Mufi Hannemann’s Representative - Gordon Bruce reported: 1) Hahaione Channel was checked on July 20, 2009 from Kahena Street to Pepekeo Street. No large branches were found. Channel area is scheduled to be cleaned by Department of Facility Maintenance. 2) Department of Environmental Services responded - The City has adjusted the hydraulics on some collection trucks to prevent over-packing, which violates federal laws. This adjustment affects all hydraulic functions of the truck, including the collection arm speed. If trash is falling onto the street because of arm collection speed, the truck will be re-adjusted to prevent littering. Get the license number of the truck. 3) Department of Parks and Recreation responded - The City & County of Honolulu has already established appropriate procedures for the use of the Hanauma Bay Fund. An official audit of the Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve Fund was completed and released June 29, 2007, documenting the appropriate management of the fund. Budgetary provisions have been regularly afforded to Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve for the provision of salaries, maintenance and equipment. It is and has been the responsibility of the staff assigned to Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve to requisition funding for equipment and repairs within the procurement processes established by the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, City & County of Honolulu. Action has been taken to ensure that the Hanauma Bay staff should appropriately utilize their allocations this current fiscal year for the equipment they have requested. 4) Department of Parks and Recreation responded - The play apparatus being installed is a direct one for one replacement for the previously removed play apparatus that was designed for children aged 5 to 12 years old. 5) Department of Design and Construction (DDC) sent its consultant out to the site last month. They did not observe any new slide area other than the two areas which are currently being monitored by the City. No changes were observed. 6) Paul’s Electric has street usage permits from Department of Transportation Services for Lunalihi Home Road and Hawaii Kai Drive at Kamilo Street. Any damages to the curb by the contractor will be repaired by the contractor at no charge to the City. A DDC representative will be at the next meeting to answer all these concerns. 7) On June 15, 2009, the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), State Historic Preservation Division, has jurisdiction over historic/archaeological sites. In response to a complaint regarding unauthorized earth work, DPP conducted an inspection confirming the illegal grading and grubbing work. Because the earthwork was at/near a wetland and an archaeological sites, DPP notified the State DLNR Historic Preservation Division and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers about the earthwork activities at TMK: 3-9-008: 039. On June 26, 2009, DPP issued a notice of violation to the owner, Hawaii Intergenerational Community Development Association, and the contractor, Alkali Engineers about the earthwork activities at TMK: 3-9-008: 043, DPP also issued notices of violation to the owner, Hale Alii Development, LLC. DPP is currently monitoring the violations to determine if further enforcement action will be required. - DPP

Comments followed. 1) A Board member asked how much money was spent by the City for chicken trapping in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 and Fiscal Year (FY) 2010. It was reported $750/week and ova control has never been used. 2) The phone number for a different trash bin is 768-3200. 3) The Parks Director was informed that the Hanauma Bay computers were down. Park reservations are a “people” problem, not a “technical” problem. People reserve more than one site and not use all of them. 4) Sandwich Isles has permits to install telephone lines along City roads to Hawaiian Home lands. 5) The City may not be participating in the Clean Energy Initiative. 6) As to the boulder question, Monk offered her phone number to point out the boulder. 6) Regarding the roosters at the Hawaii Kai Park and Ride, the City is spending $750/week for regular trapping. The bid and contract are online. 7) A resident asked how much is in the Hanauma Bay Fund. 8) Regarding a homeowner’s exemption to the real property taxes, Natalie Iwasa mentioned that renters should have rights, too. 9) Someone mentioned a Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp at the Koko Crater stables was burnt out.

Councilmember Charles Djou - Kenny Amazaki distributed the newsletter and will follow up on the Koko Head Stables. Kenny will attend the HKNB Park’s and Rec committee meeting.

Governor Linda Lingle’s Representative - Russ Saito reported: 1) The Governor is still negotiating with the public employees unions over the budget. 2) The USS Hawaii, a Kamehameha-class nuclear submarine arrived at its new home port of Pearl Harbor. 3) The closing of the Kulani prison on the island of Hawaii would save the State $2.8 million annually. 3) The State Budget shortfall affects toilet paper and hand towels.
Comments followed. 1) Regarding the indemnification of Neighborhood Boards, the Office of Information Practices (OIP) comes under State law. The City Council passed a resolution, which does not have the force of law. 2) Regarding the replenching of “doggie poop bags” for Ka Iwi/Makapuu Light House trail, the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) appreciates the private/public partnership. There may be a fundraiser in October or sooner in the future. 3) Regarding the right turn onto Kalaniana'ole Highway from Keahole, there was a question about bike lanes. 4) Call Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to get a community group to pull weeds at the Makapuu lighthouse. 5) There is a damaged guardrail near the cove near the Blowhole at the “From Here to Eternity” beach. 6) There needs to be more trash cans at Sandy Beach.

Senator Sam Slom distributed his newsletter and reported: 1) Thank you to Reilly and volunteers for the Fourth of July at Maunalua Bay. 2) There was a July Special Session to override 37 of 53 of the Governor's vetoes. 3) The next Special Session will vote on Judge Craig Nakamura to be Chief Judge of the Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals. 3) On August 21, 2009 there will be a "lackluster commemoration" of Hawai'i's 50th anniversary of Statehood.

Comments followed: 1) Comment on the shark-diving risk/report being negligible due to the data being collected by the tour boat operators was made and Senator Slom agreed with the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board's position Further explanation was given that part of the study was funded by the shark tours operators. 2) Governor Lingle selected Judge Nakamura from six names from the Judicial Selection Committee.

Senator Fred Hemmings - No representative or report present.

Representative Gene Ward reported: 1) Regarding Ka Iwi, no permits have been applied for. 2) There was a "shark update" in the newsletter. 3) Representative Ward mentioned the 4th of July event, a new upcoming community event “A Day on the Farm” in Kamilo Nui Valley in late August, the Budget stalemate and the House agreeing to two-day furlough per month. 4) Representative Ward welcomed the anti-human trafficking bill and other ideas for 2010. 5) He will meet with Hawaii American Water Co. on odor control in October. 6) He is concerned about wildlife protection and continued conservation by the DLNR.

Representative Lyla Berg - Newsletter was available. There was an article on the Hawae Heiau.

OLD BUSINESS

Continuing Discussion/Action on Hawaii Kai Streetlight Project on Lunalilo Home Road - Gerald Yamada explained the need for the project and how the project took place. Lunalilo Home Road is one of the original streets in Hawaii Kai 40 - 50 years ago with no lighting improvement. There were safety concerns and the city wants to avoid traffic accidents. The project is using 150-watt bulbs with staggered poles, alternating 150 feet apart, or 300 feet on one side. They will complete Phase 1 and the Neighborhood Board can help decide on Phase 2 and Phase 3. They did a 24-hour traffic count.

Comments followed, which included using 50- or 70-watt flat bulbs, or shielding the lights, consolidating signs utilizing the new street light poles. The City should work with the Hawai'i Clean Energy Project. 50-watt bulbs do not have enough foot-candle power according to the road classification, especially since there is three times the amount of street lights now installed. The improvement of street lights does not require public input but when the project grew in size the public should have been made aware. Phase 2 and 3 already have consultants and construction funds. Other comments included what happens when the Century Bike Ride comes and there is three times the lighting, poles and energy cost. The lighting standards are by the National Engineers guidelines and the complete 2006 traffic report. This item will be continued on the Board's agenda.

Discussion/Action on Funding and Purchasing Problems at Hanauma Bay - This item was deferred to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/Action on Closure of Public Beach Access from Hanapepe Loop, Portlock - Toni Robinson reported there are three beach accesses to the ocean and the middle one is closed. She doesn't know how long it will be closed, as DPR is assessing the repairs with no budget. Several pool companies are willing to donate ladders.
Comments followed: Lifeguards and surfers need that access. Residents need to be reminded to trim the trees. The public access may be re-opened until proper notices are given. This item will be kept on the agenda as well as discussed at the HKNB upcoming Parks and Recreation committee meeting. Parks Committee will discuss the lack of signs and the lack of parking. Offer was made to bridge public/private partnership to help with repairs – Toni expressed interest.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks & Recreation - David Tanabe announced that the next Parks & Recreation Committee meeting will be on Friday, August 7, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the Koko Head District Park Community Center.

Education, Transportation, Community Relations, Communications, Environment, Planning and Zoning and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) - No report.

OTHER BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board Member Announcements - There were none.

Board Chair Announcements - Chair Knudsen will be traveling to India for the next three weeks. Vice Chair Reilly will submit the August agenda.

Status of Board’s Authority to Fill Vacancies in Subdistricts 4 and 8 - The Neighborhood Commission will be holding public hearings to change the 2008 Neighborhood Plan (NP) and give the Neighborhood Boards the authority by September 2009.

Appointment of 2009-2010 Committee Chairs in August Meeting - Chair Knudsen welcomed Board members’ input.

Correspondence - There was none.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25, 2009, 7:00 p.m., at Hahaione Elementary School Cafeteria
- Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board regular meetings are broadcast every Tuesday of the month at 9:00 p.m. on Olelo Channel 54. Check TV listings to confirm schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Submitted by K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by Elizabeth Reilly, Vice Chair