



HAWAII KAI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 1

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DRAFT – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2014 HAHAIONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Greg Knudsen called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with a quorum of 10 members present. (Note: This 15-member Board requires 8 votes to establish quorum and to take official Board action.)

Board Members Present: Paige Altonn, Rene´ Garvin, Natalie Iwasa, Greg Knudsen, Carl Makino, Roberta Mayor, Amy Monk, Judy Nii, Maxine Rutkowski, and Herb Schreiner.

Board Members Absent: Robert Clark, Marian Grey, Elizabeth Reilly, and Eugene Tierney.

Vacancies: There is one vacancy in Subdistrict 9.

Guests: Sergeant Gary Sunada (Honolulu Police Department), Tim Houghton (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's representative), Michael Leong (Councilmember Stanley Chang's office), Rian Adachi (Board of Water Supply), Representative Gene Ward, Kendrick Chang (Representative Ward's office staff), Senator Sam Slom, Jean St. Pierre, Bernard Akaki, Miki Stash, Bob Kern, Matt Gleib, R. Yanagi, Annmarie Kirk, Susan Halvorsen, and Jenilea M. Heath (Neighborhood Commission Office).

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS: The Board members introduced themselves at this time.

STATUS REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Firefighter III Jeremy Niwa reported the following:

- April 2014 Statistics: 1 structure fire, 3 rubbish fires, 60 medical emergencies, 10 search and rescues (2 from Koko Crater), 17 miscellaneous calls, 1 major incident involving 6 companies, and 6 unusual incidents.
- Fire Safety Tip: Smoke alarms save lives and are an important part of a home fire escape plan. In the U.S., from 2007 to 2011, 3 of every 5 home fire deaths were in homes with no smoke alarms. In one quarter of home fire deaths, smoke alarms were present but did not sound. Ensure all fire alarms work and batteries are good.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Search and Rescues: Niwa answered Altonn that one of the Koko Crater rescues was from inside the crater, the other was from a hiking trail on the outside of the crater.
2. Helicopter Rescue: Knudsen noted that using a helicopter in the rescue of hikers who were stuck a short way up the trail seemed unnecessary and expensive, when the hikers could have been walked down the trail. Niwa explained that anytime there is a hiker rescue dispatch, the trucks and a helicopter are automatically sent out. These responses are included in the HFD budget and do not increase costs. If a stranded hiker states that they cannot make it, HFD must respect this.
3. Past Rescues: Altonn noted she had been informed that some hikers had been rescued by helicopter multiple times and suggested that helicopters not be dispatched until need for them had been confirmed. Niwa reiterated that all resources are initially dispatched and returned if not needed, as time can be essential in emergencies.
4. Fees: Resident Matt Gleib suggested there could be fees for frivolous calls; Niwa noted that people are not charged for any rescue call lest they not call 911 when help is required.
5. Water Rescue: Livable Hawaii Kai Hui member Annmarie Kirk commended HFD on their work recently at Hanapepe Brow, which now allows safer access and egress from the water.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Sergeant Gary Sunada thanked HFD for assistance with a search and reported the following: April 2014 Statistics: There were 3 motor vehicle thefts (MVT), 3 burglaries, 15 thefts, 6 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV), and 5,910 total calls for service.



Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. HPD Website: Sergeant Sunada will follow up with Officer Aiu to allow Neighborhood Board members access to the Neighborhood Watch website for information about arrests and locations in the area.
2. Speed Limits: A community member asked that HPD more strongly enforce speed limits in Hawaii Kai and on Kalanianaʻole Highway.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Rian Adachi reported the following:

- No water main breaks for the month of April.
- Copper Theft: Thieves broke into a BWS reservoir twice stealing copper wiring, damaging the operating system, and causing water outages in the Kalihi area. BWS has increased security around its facilities to protect Oahu's water supply. It is illegal to trespass onto BWS property, including reservoir sites. BWS asks for residents' assistance in reporting any suspicious activity at BWS sites to HPD or BWS Security at 748-5911 at any time, 24 hours a day.
- Water Matters Customer Newsletter: Beginning April 2014, a newsletter will be included in BWS customer water bills. The newsletter was developed to better connect with customers and educate on efforts to provide safe, dependable and affordable water. The inaugural issue contains important information about BWS water system plans for the future, individuals impersonating BWS employees, and how to check for leaks. Water Matters will be mailed quarterly with customer billings, posted on the BWS website, distributed at Neighborhood Board meetings, and shared across social media accounts. For questions, comments, and concerns regarding Water Matters, contact the BWS Communications Office at 748-5041.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Fire Hydrant: It was answered for Iwasa that a fire hydrant on Wainiha Street had been hit by a drunk driver. The driver was arrested and the water was turned off by HFD.

FILLING OF BOARD VACANCY: Chair Knudsen opened the floor to candidates for the vacancy in Subdistrict 9. There were no candidates at this time, so the item was deferred to the next meeting.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dog Park Walk: Iwasa announced that the annual Hawaii Kai Dog Walk event would be held on Sunday, June 1, at 7:30 a.m. beginning at the Hawaii Kai Dog Park.

PUBLIC-GENERATED ISSUES

Hanauma Bay Lights: Resident Bob Kern explained that the Thursday night program held at Hanauma Bay was changed to Sunday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. This has affected attendance, which continues to decline. The issue, Kern stated, was to reschedule the program to daytime rather than fix the parking lot lights. The Friends of Hanauma Bay will be meeting with the new DPR director to discuss this issue.

OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative – Tim Houghton, Deputy Director of the Department of Environmental Services, reported the following:

- Street Rehabilitation: Work on Lunalilo Home Road is finishing; Hawaii Kai Drive will be completed by November 2014; Hahaione Steet work is beginning, and Portlock area work is anticipated to start in 2015.
- Park Improvements: Construction is ongoing at the Kamiloiki Community Park Recreation Building. Koko Head District Park multi-purpose building improvements and Sandy Beach comfort station roof projects have gone to bid.
- Cemetery Asphalt: A Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) inspector noted some vegetation clearing was done recently at the cemetery entrance. No grubbing work was observed.
- Beach Campers: Signs prohibiting overnight camping were installed on May 7, 2014, by DPR on the beach off of Kalanianaʻole Highway across from Kealahou Street. HPD noted that officers do not need signage to issue citations for use of vehicles for habitation. In late March 2014, officers issued several citations for sleeping in vehicles, alcohol use, and expired safety checks. Officers have been making frequent checks of the area.
- Maunalua Bay Bathroom: After more than three years of being closed for repairs, Maunalua Bay Beach Park bathroom is completed, including the landscaping, and is now under the authority of DPR.
- Hanauma Bay Master Plan: The plan is to be finalized in June and can be discussed then.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Private Roads: Garvin asked that the City reconsider Kamilonui Place for paving, although it is a private road. Houghton replied that City vehicles may use the road but private roads paved by the City are usually directly adjacent to City roads.
2. Main Roads: Houghton answered Schreiner that Kapahulu Avenue and Kapiolani Boulevard. are on the City's list of roads to be repaved. Schreiner noted that those main thoroughfares need attention.
3. Road Striping: It was clarified for Rutkowski that road striping near the Aloha Gas station was temporary. Also, a first layer of paving was likely removed because it had not taken properly and would be repeated.
4. Equipment Storage: Rutkowski reported that paving equipment stored near the Oahu Club on the curb area made it difficult for drivers getting in and out of driveways.
5. Portlock: Altonn noted that more homeless individuals have been seen in Portlock, there have been 3 burglaries with residents in their houses, and traffic has increased with the high surf conditions. She requested more HPD attention in the area.

Councilmember Stanley Chang – Chief of Staff Michael Leong provided a handout and presented the following:

- Cemetery Dumping: The final write up of the DPP investigation of Hawaii Kai Memorial Park is being circulated and will be considered by the inter-governmental affairs committee in June.
- Traffic Lights: A concern about costs for the traffic lights study has been given to the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) and will be investigated.
- Collapsing House: Leong has communicated with Corporation Council (COR) regarding a property on Lunalilo Home Road where the roof is collapsing. The owner is terminally ill and is on the mainland. Possible solutions are being discussed for the situation.
- Yellow Traffic Barrels: The State Department of Transportation (HDOT) will be inspecting yellow traffic barrels that are leaking at Ainakoa Road.
- Stored Equipment: A concern about the staging of heavy equipment on Kumukahi Place has been reported to the Department of Design and Construction (DDC).
- Highway Repaving: The contract has been issued and an inquiry sent to DOT regarding coordination of timing with Hawaii Kai roadwork.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. DPP Investigation: Iwasa requested a copy of the findings from the DPP cemetery investigation.
2. Graffiti: Altonn noted that graffiti has also increased on traffic barrels near the H-1.

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative – Human Services Director Pat McManaman reported the following:

- Turtle Bay: On May 19, 2014, Governor Abercrombie signed the bill into law allowing the State to purchase a perpetual conservation easement for 665 acres of land at Turtle Bay.
- Minimum Wage: On May 23, 2014, he signed the bill raising the State minimum wage to \$10.10 by 2018.
- Public Input Deadline: The public is invited to submit comments to the Governor on any bill by July 8, 2014. Send input to thegovernor@hawaii.gov.
- HOV Lane: HDOT traffic engineers are investigating the possibility of moving the end of the HOV lane closer to Hawaii Kai.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Ainakoa Road Bottleneck: Schreiner noted that many people turn onto the highway from Ainakoa Road coming from Star of the Sea, causing a bottleneck in the area.
2. Kalaniana'ole Highway Work: Community members expressed concern about not receiving advance notice from HDOT about work being done on Kalaniana'ole Highway. Public affairs will be writing media notices in the future. The anticipated start date of the project is Monday, June 23, 2014.

Senator Sam Slom – Senator Slom provided a handout and reported the following:

- Kaiser High School Events: Senator Slom attended the Kaiser High School Learning Center Media Awards, as well as the high school's graduation on Friday, May 23, 2014.
- Christmas Parade: Senators Thielen and Slom sent a letter to Mayor Caldwell in support of the Hawaii Kai Christmas parade in response to the increased cost of HPD presence.
- New Laws: He voted against both the Turtle Bay easement and Minimum Wage bills. The Turtle Bay easement is not a purchase and the legal process is unclear. The increased minimum wage would decrease entry-level jobs and impact small businesses.

- University of Hawaii (UH): The University had a record number of 2,000 graduates at the recent commencement ceremony. The selection for the new UH president is down to two candidates and the selection should be completed by Monday, June 2, 2014.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Traffic Sensor Loops: Senator Slom answered Iwasa that the lights on Hawaii Kai Drive will have loops installed in the next few months.

Senator Laura Thielen – The Senator is out of town and no representative was present or report available.

Representative Gene Ward – Representative Ward provided a handout and reported the following:

- Kaiser High School: Representative Ward also attended the Kaiser High School Learning Center Awards and was impressed with the students' work. Kaiser High School graduated 286 students this year with 88% continuing on to college.
- Beer Summit: The next beer summit will be on Thursday, June 5, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. at the Kona Brewing Company. Former Mayor Peter Carlisle will be the featured speaker.
- Hokulea Send-Off: Ward attended the Hokulea send-off on May 18, 2014. He also attended the Hokulea's return from Tahiti in 1976.
- Keiki Day: He reported that he sold over 50 newspapers at 7-11 for Keiki Day.
- Internships: Paige Altonn will be going to Rumania for a reciprocal internship with the State Department.
- Election: Representative Ward is running for reelection. Saturday, August 9, 2014, is the primary election, and Tuesday, November 4, 2014, is the general election.
- Koko Marina Shopping Center: The issue with left turns into the center will be raised with HDOT again.

Representative Mark Hashem – Representative Hashem reported the following:

- Highway Contract: The repaving contract has been awarded to Grace Pacific.
- Housing First: The State is moving forward with the Housing First Program, modeled after a successful program used in Utah. The process involves putting the homeless individual in a housing unit first, then working to get them sober, on medication, and/or working with any necessary services. This program will ultimately save the City and State money. Pat McManaman answered for a community member that the Housing First program has existed for years and will now be part of the core budget. Similar programs in Seattle and Salt Lake City have reported savings in money and human lives. Often, people placed in such programs have comorbid disorders, self-medicating for mental disorders. Individuals who do not commit to treatment do not stay in the program.

NEW BUSINESS

Hawaii Kai Disaster Preparedness Plan: Garvin reported that she has contacted the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), as well as the Hawaii Hazards and Resilience Program (HHARP) and a meeting with these agencies and community volunteers will be held on Monday, June 16, 2014. Resident Matt Gleis noted that he has gone through the three-day training program offered by DEM and recommended it to anyone able to attend.

Discussion/Action on Homeless Encampment Sites:

- Homeless Groups: Schreiner noted that there are three types of homeless people: the mentally ill who are the hardest to reach; those who have lost their jobs and homes who are seeking help; and those who would rather live "on the street." He added that most homeless people in Hawaii Kai are mentally ill.
- Outreach: Pat McManaman suggested calling DHS when homeless individuals are noticed and a social worker or team will be sent offering outreach services. Services cannot be forced on people and contact must often be attempted multiple times before services are accepted.
- Funding: McManaman explained for Iwasa that the \$1.5 million allocated for homeless is a small portion of the total DHS homeless programs budget. Federal and State funds pay for contracts around the island, and help to run several State shelters.
- Container Housing: A demonstration project is being developed with Honolulu Community College (HCC) to build affordable housing for Housing First programs from shipping containers. Each container would include two bedrooms, a shared kitchen, and bathroom.
- Affordable Housing: Altonn noted it would not be possible to place mentally ill homeless individuals into affordable housing. McManaman explained that there is a continuum of housing issues and that housing for homeless individuals is a different issue than affordable housing for middle and lower income families.

- Homeless Woman on Lunalilo Home Road: Resident Susan Halvorsen a social worker with the State Department of Health (DOH), noted that she has made contact with the homeless woman living near Kalaniana'ole Highway and reported that the woman is afraid of homeless shelters on the island. Her daughter on the mainland has been contacted. The woman has been signed up for housing, but there is a two-year waitlist.
- Contact Information: McManaman explained that if there is an emergency involving a homeless person, 911 should be called. However, if residents simply observe a homeless person, call DHS for outreach or a check-in on the individual, McManaman's office can be reached at 586-4997.
- Displacement Programs: Schreiner noted that in the past some homeless people received a one-way ticket to different areas of the country. McManaman stated there is evidence that some jurisdictions have run such programs. San Francisco sued Las Vegas for busing mentally ill people to California. DHS turned down funding from the Legislature for a similar program here.
- Health Hazards: McManaman explained for Schreiner that if a homeless individual poses a health hazard, DOH should be notified. There have been modifications to involuntary commitment laws to make it easier, but sufficient evidence is required. Problematically, once individuals are stabilized, they are often discharged back to the streets.
- Economy: Representative Ward noted that the rights of society must be balanced with the rights of the individual. When tourists see homelessness in Waikiki, it is detrimental to the State's tourism economy.
- Legality: McManaman reminded the audience and Board that homelessness is not illegal, and if issues arise, her office can be reached directly at 586-4997.

Altonn departed the meeting at 9:15 p.m. **9 members were present.**

Discussion/Action on Board Committees: Chair Knudsen noted that committees need to be appointed by the Board, and that the role of committees is to advise the Board.

Appointment of members of one-person committees: (1) Board approval of Parks & Recreation (Herb Schreiner), Education (Roberta Mayor), Transportation & Safety (René Garvin), Community Relations (Maxine Rutkowski), Environment, (Amy Monk or Gene Tierney), Planning and Zoning (Natalie Iwasa), Communications (vacant), Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization [OMPO], (Greg Knudsen). Amendments may be offered.

Schreiner moved and Mayor seconded approval of the following committee members: Parks & Recreation, Herb Schreiner; Education, Roberta Mayor; Transportation & Safety, René Garvin; Community Relations, Maxine Rutkowski; Environment, Amy Monk and Gene Tierney; Planning and Zoning, Natalie Iwasa; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Citizens Advisory Committee, Greg Knudsen. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 9-0-0 (Aye: Garvin, Iwasa, Knudsen, Makino, Mayor, Monk, Nii, Rutkowski, and Schreiner.)

Chair Knudsen followed the Board's approval of committee members by designating each to serve as chairs of their respective committees (Monk and Tierney are co-chairs). The Communications Committee remains vacant.

Discussion followed:

- Meeting Locations: Garvin noted that the Board cannot make meeting location arrangements and that arrangements need to go through the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO). The Board expressed opposition to this.
- Pre-Approval: Schreiner suggested the Board submit locations to the NCO for pre-approval, possibly expediting processing.

Subdistrict 5 Three Absences: The Board selected to take no action concerning these absences.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Relations: Rutkowski noted that Board meeting and candidate forum announcements should be posted in area shopping centers. The Hawaii Kai Library would also be a good location to post meeting announcements.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 28, 2014, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – The January 28, 2014 minutes were APPROVED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 9-0-0 (Aye: Garvin, Iwasa, Knudsen, Makino, Mayor, Monk, Nii, Rutkowski, and Schreiner.)

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 25, 2014, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – **The February 25, 2014 minutes were APPROVED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 9-0-0 (Aye: Garvin, Iwasa, Knudsen, Makino, Mayor, Monk, Nii, Rutkowski, and Schreiner.)**

APPROVAL OF APRIL 29, 2014, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – **The April 29, 2014 minutes were APPROVED with amendments by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 9-0-0 (Aye: Garvin, Iwasa, Knudsen, Makino, Mayor, Monk, Nii, Rutkowski, and Schreiner.)** Amendments were as follows:

1. Throughout the Document: Whenever Moanalua Bay is mentioned, its spelling should be changed to Maunalua Bay. Specifically, this occurs on pages 2, 4 and 6.
2. Page 3 of 7: In the middle of the page, Lunalilo Street should be changed to Lunalilo Home Road.
3. Page 4 of 7: In the middle of the page, under “HECO Box” it should be noted that Iwasa would follow up with HECO.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Rutkowski reported a total of \$22.94 spent in April 2014, with a remaining balance of \$219.79. The report was filed. The cost of the May meeting mail out was not included in these numbers.

OTHER BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none at this time.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board is Tuesday, June 24, 2014, 7:00 p.m., at Hahaione Elementary School Cafeteria.
- Cablecasts: Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board regular meetings are cablecast the 2nd Monday of the following month at 9:00 p.m. on Olelo Ch. 49 (digital only), and repeat on that month’s 3rd Friday and the next month’s 1st Friday at 7:00 a.m. on Olelo Ch. 49. Meeting videos can also be streamed on www.olelo.org under “What’s On?: OleloNet” (search “Hawaii Kai Board”).

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Submitted by: Jenilea M. Heath, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Neil Baarde, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Rene Garvin, Board Secretary
Reviewed and Finalized by: Greg Knudsen, Chairperson