



MAKIKI/ LOWER PUNCHBOWL/TANTALUS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 10

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING ST., ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MAKIKI DISTRICT PARK ARTS AND CRAFTS BUILDING NOVEMBER 16, 2006

CALL TO ORDER - Chair John Steelquist called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT - John Steelquist, John Bigay (7:24 p.m.), Charles Carole, Philip Hauret, Sue Hillmann, Allan Lee, Eloise Lee, Richard Kawano, Norma Koenig, Susan Lai Young, Sam Mitchell, Craig Thistleton and Martin Schiller.

MEMBERS ABSENT - David Heulitt (excused), Chuck Lee and Joseph Zuiker.

VACANCIES - One (Subdistrict 3).

GUESTS - Duane Okamoto (Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture, Governor Linda Lingle's representative); Senator Carol Fukunaga, Senator Gordon Trimble and Kristi Sue-Ako (Senator Trimble's Office staff); Diane Dunphy (Representative-elect Karl Rhoads' staff), Chrystn Eads (Mayor's Office, Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative); Captain Debbi Eleneki (Honolulu Fire Department), Lt. Norman Kau and Sgt. Yiu K. Chan (Honolulu Police Department), Cat Sawai (Board of Water Supply), Pat Lee (Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Tracy H. Okubo, Mike Wilcox, Beverly J. Haid, Patrick Ching, Elisabeth Ching, and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff)

FILLING OF VACANCY FOR SUBDISTRICT 3 - (Bordered by Pensacola Street, Lunalilo Street, Pele Street (odd) and Prospect Street) Gary Fujitani resigned after the October meeting. Chair Steelquist asked for volunteers to fill the vacancy in Subdistrict 3. No one responded. Chair Steelquist would defer this to the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - The following corrections were made to the October 19, 2006 regular meeting minutes:

Page 1, under **GUESTS**, it should read, "Marian Yasuda and P.J. Salmonson (Hawaii Ultra Running Team),"

Page 2, under **Residents' Concerns**, it should read, "Marian Yasuda, of the Hawaii Ultra Running Team (H.U.R.T.), reported that her group parks their cars at the Nature Center parking lot and their vehicles have been broken in to many times."

Page 3, at the bottom, it should read, "**Governor Linda Lingle's representative-** (7:55 p.m.) Duane Okamoto distributed the Governor's Weekly Update and highlighted the following:

1. He gave the State Civil Defense telephone numbers (733-4300 or 733-4306) to make inquiries regarding property damage due to the earthquake. Or people can go to the State website at www.hawaii.gov.

Call the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) hotline at 643-DLNR (3567) to report violations of state natural and cultural resource (environmental) laws.

2. The Hawaii Attorney General with nine other states' Attorney Generals settled with the R.J. Reynolds Company, which would no longer promote candy/fruit/alcohol-flavored cigarettes which target children, in Hawaii, nor use the Hawaiian names or hula dancers in their advertising.

Page 4, at the top, it should read, "1. Schiller and Mitchell requested more government information to be made public on City and State information numbers. Okamoto responded that immediately after the earthquake the Governor set up a task force to review the communications during an emergency."

Page 4, at the bottom, it should read, "8. At the September 21, 2006 meeting Board member Bigay asked if board members could be appointed at-large during the terms with subdistricts only used in the biennial election."

Page 6, under **ANNOUNCEMENTS**, "2. Chair Steelquist added that the Makiki Neighborhood Board doesn't usually take a December recess, but it may take one."

The October 12, 2006 minutes were accepted as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer Schiller reported that for October the combined Operating/Publicity Account started at \$5,058.00. With \$45.32 expended for printing and mailout of the agenda, minutes and correspondence, the balance was \$4,862.72. (The Publicity Account started at \$2,894 for FY 2007 and \$644.00 was added in September to allow for either videotaping of ten meetings or printing a four-page newsletter.) The Refreshment Account remained at \$120.00. Schiller mentioned that he would buy refreshments for the December 21, 2006 meeting.

The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

DECEMBER MEETING - Vice Chair Carole mentioned that rail transit would be a "big issue" in December and hearing no objections, Chair Steelquist announced that there would be a Board meeting on December 21.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) - Sgt. Yiu K. Chan distributed a flyer, announcing a HPD on-site assessment by the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies, and the September statistics. He highlighted the following:

There were 5 robberies, 12 burglaries, 47 thefts, 36 unauthorized entries of motor vehicle (UEMV), 11 auto thefts, 6 assaults, 14 property damages, 94 motor vehicle collisions (MVC), 12 Driving Under the Influence (DUI), 2 sex assaults, 3 family offenses, 3 drug offenses, 10 graffiti and 201 miscellaneous service calls.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. When Allan Lee asked about "criminal property damage," Sgt. Chan explained that there are four degrees of "criminal property damage" and gave the dollar amounts of each.
2. Sgt. Chan mentioned that Beat 164 covered lower Makiki, mauka of Lunalilo Street to Wilder Avenue and from Pensacola Street to Punahou Street.
3. Concerning the statistics, Sgt. Chan responded that one person/incident could be listed under multiple crimes. Sam Mitchell mentioned that the statistics may be higher than reported.
4. Richard Kawano was concerned about the recent earthquake near the Big Island of Hawaii and the power outage on Oahu. He wanted to know how long it took to help people trapped in elevators. HPD had no information and deferred to the Honolulu Fire Department.
5. A. Lee was concerned about graffiti. Sgt. Chan replied that of the number of cases called in, only sometimes the suspects are caught.
6. Resident Mike Wilcox commended the HPD for "cracking down" on speeders, and requested more enforcement. Sgt. Chan reported that they had a stakeout and one person was arrested. Sgt. Chan suggested that the public call 9-1-1 for speeders and to give the license number of the vehicle.
7. Mitchell reported that he heard that certain car dealers are taking young drivers on a test drive and drifting (the fad of controlled sliding) on Tantalus. The HPD would monitor the situation.

Chair Steelquist thanked Sgt. Chan.

Board member John Bigay entered the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) - (7:24 p.m.) Captain Debbi Eleneki distributed the monthly statistics and highlighted the following:

1. There were 10 structure fires and 1 rubbish fire for a total of 11 fires. There were 71 medical emergencies and 23 miscellaneous emergencies for a total of 94 emergencies. There were a total of 105 calls for service.
2. The holidays are a time for celebration and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States. After a party, check for smoldering cigarettes. Use caution with holiday decorations, and whenever possible, choose those made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials. Purchase only lights and electrical decorations bearing the name of an independent testing lab, and follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation and maintenance. Do not overload extension cords. Try to keep live trees as moist as possible by watering them daily. When purchasing an artificial tree, ensure it is made with fire-retardant materials.

Question, answers and comments followed.

Kawano requested that for the next meeting that the HFD report how long it took to help people trapped in elevators after the earthquake and power outage. As Captain Eleneki was "off duty" that day, she mentioned that most of the calls were before 12:00 noon and unless there was a medical emergency, HFD would not rescue trapped people, as they would be unfamiliar with the different types of elevators. She would relay the question to the appropriate person, who would attend the next meeting.

Chair Steelquist thanked Captain Eleneki.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) - (7:26 p.m.) Cat Sawai highlighted the following:

1. There were no water main breaks.
2. She thanked the public for water conservation after the earthquake. The reservoirs operate by gravity and they did not have to use the back-up generators. The reservoirs have approximately a 24-hour capacity.

Question, answers and comments followed.

Phil Hauret noticed a drop in water pressure as he lives on the second floor of a three-story building. Sawai responded that after the earthquake, the BWS had a system-wide debriefing and is constantly concerned about breaks.

Chair Steelquist thanked Sawai.

Residents' Concerns - There were none.

NETWORKING OF NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS

Makiki Stream - No report.

Sidewalk improvements - No report.

Pawaa Park - No report.

Makiki Community Plan - No report.

Traffic and Transit - (7:30 p.m.) Pat Lee, representing the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP), reported that the public can visit the website at www.honolulutransit.org and request a DVD of the Alternatives Analysis (AA). The City Council's Transportation and Planning Committee is having meetings around the island. There was a meeting tonight at Kapolei Hale. The next one is tomorrow at Kalakaua Middle School at 6:30 p.m. The Transportation and Planning Committee is also scheduled to meet tomorrow at Committee Room

205 at 9:00 a.m. Lee mentioned a Department of Transportation Services (DTS) poll where 45 percent supported fixed rail as the "locally-preferred alternative."

Discussion followed.

Charles Carole countered that 55 percent did not support it. He requested a "spread sheet of costs." Carole was also concerned about "the quality of life." People cannot afford to live here. He added that Hawaii does not have a "sales tax," but an "excise tax," which has a "pyramiding effect."

Norma Koenig asked if the Federal government would pay for the operating costs. Lee responded that there is some money for that. Schiller mentioned that in the early 1990s, the Federal government would have picked up 80 percent of the cost, but the anti-rail people prevailed.

Craig Thistleton added that in Houston, the people opposed the rail system, but now it is a great system.

Lai Young mentioned that she was proud that during the recent bus strike, people came together to car pool and provide transportation solutions. Lee mentioned that have an award-winning bus system, but the buses are always full or running late. One problem is that they travel in lanes with other vehicles.

Carole mentioned that in Vancouver and Los Angeles, the Hispanic and black people lost transportation and sued the cities for routes.

Schiller and Kawano favor the rail system.

Lee mentioned that the fare is set at 27 percent of cost by the City Council.

Bigay asked about potential expansion to Mililani and Hawaii Kai. Lee replied that these routes could be added later.

Chair Steelquist thanked Lee. Chair Steelquist would put this issue on next month's agenda.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Senator Carol Fukunaga - Senator Fukunaga had left the meeting, but left her legislative report. There will be a community briefing on the status of repairs on Round Top/Tantalus on Tuesday, November 21 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. at the State Capitol Conference Room 016.

Senator Gordon Trimble - (8:05 p.m.) Senator Trimble distributed his newsletter and reported that for the next two years he would be focusing on continued citizen participation and quality of life issues. He does not favor more tourists, but to encourage them to spend more money. He would also look at energy and the environment. He will sit in on the Transportation Committee to monitor air and water transportation. Call his office manager Kristi Sue-Ako with any concerns. He favors a referendum on rail.

Chair Steelquist thanked Senator Trimble.

Representative Sylvia Luke - No representative was present. Chair Steelquist mentioned that House members were meeting tonight to organize. A letter from Representative Luke was available for review by interested persons.

Representative-elect Della Belatti - No representative was present.

Representative-elect Karl Rhoads - Diane Dunphy, from Representative-elect Rhoads' office, introduced herself and was available to take back concerns.

Chair Steelquist thanked Dunphy.

Governor Linda Lingle's representative - Duane Okamoto distributed the Governor's Weekly Update and highlighted that Hawaii's new "no smoking" law goes into effect today, November 16.

Question, answers and comments followed.

1. Board members were concerned about enforcement of the new law and especially for Japanese tourists in Waikiki.
2. Thistleton commended Governor Lingle for "getting it" on the homelessness issue. She attended both morning and afternoon sessions of a homeless service providers' conference.
3. Resident Patrick Ching thanked the Department of Health (DOH) for their position on the "wild" chickens, which were on his neighbor's property.

Chair Steelquist thanked Governor's representative Okamoto.

Councilmember Rod Tam - No representative present.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi - No representative was present.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative - Chrystn Eads, Office of the Mayor, distributed the Mayor's newsletter and reported the following concerns from last month:

1. Concerning the large boulders in the Makiki Ditch, the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) responded that the Makiki Ditch does not cross or intersect with Punahou Street. Jurisdiction and the responsibility for any repair of damage or maintenance of the ditch mauka of King Street vary between the City & County of Honolulu, the State, and private property owners. Please provide a Tax Map Key or property address for the location in question.

Chair Steelquist mentioned that the boulders are inside the tunnel that exits near the Jack in the Box on King Street.

A Board member mentioned that there is a lot of trash is blown into the Makiki Stream at that location. Eads suggested contacting the property owner to build a fence.

2. The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) responded that buses traveling "not in service" are either going back to the bus garage or going to a start point quickly to keep operating expenses down. Someone mentioned that he saw buses in the left lane of the freeway and suggested that they move to the right lane.
3. From the June meeting- A hazardous traffic condition exists at 1060 Kinau Street (between Victoria and Pensacola Streets. Drivers trying to exit this private driveway cannot see the on-coming (speeding) traffic and one has gotten hit twice. The back lot neighbors asked the front property owner for a mirror, but he refused. Removing the front parking space (as it may be too close to the corner) may give them a better line of sight. The Board requested that the Department of Transportation Services work with the front property owner to solve this problem. The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) responded that they conducted an investigation and found the marked parking stall just Ewa of the private driveway is located 15 feet from the driveway. In many other locations, parking is allowed up to 4 feet from driveways. Also, on-street parking is in high demand in this area. DTS' investigation, which included a review of accident history, did not indicate a need to remove parking at this time.

However, removal of the parking stall could be considered if the requestor conducts a survey of the property owners on both sides of Kinau Street between Victoria and Pensacola Streets with a goal of roughly 90 percent concurrence. This survey should be submitted to the DTS through the Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board. While the support of the Neighborhood Board does not guarantee that the requested change would be implemented, they find it the best forum for residents to express their viewpoints regarding neighborhood parking matters.

Should you have any questions, please call Peggy Ho of the DTS at 523-4279.

Schiller wanted the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) to contact the original complainant.

Mitchell did not believe that it is the City's responsibility to install a mirror there, but suggested signs for drivers to slow down and not speed. Eads would follow up.

4. The Department of Design and Construction is proceeding with repairs to the sections of Round Top Drive damaged by the March rains with the objective of restoring full vehicular access to the area. The project does not include any access control measures.

Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) recently completed their first phase slope repairs. The City anticipates road repairs to commence in December 2006 (pending permit approvals) with completion in the spring of 2007. DLNR will schedule their second phase slope repairs to begin after the City's road repairs.

5. The contract for Crowing Rooster Control Services is administered by the Division of Motor Vehicles, Licensing and Permits (DMVL&P), Department of Customer Services. Part of this contract with the Hawaii Game Breeders Association requires the contractor, upon request by the private property owner, to provide the means (traps) for the private property owner to capture feral chickens on **private property** (not federal, state or county property – the government agencies who control the property are responsible for such capture and disposal). The contract requires the contractor to dispose of the captured chickens. The funding for the contracted service is part of the DMVL&P budget.

The resident claimed that the sub-contractor did not have enough money to buy more traps as the resident trapped 20 chickens. He wanted to know where the money is. Eads would follow up with the resident. He and his neighborhood want to invite the offending neighbor, who is feeding the "wild" chickens, to a meeting, before calling the police.

Chair Steelquist thanked Mayor's representative Eads.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Makiki Tantalus Recreation Area - It was already announced that there will be a meeting next Tuesday on the fixing of the road.

Makiki District Library - Carole reported that they received \$96,000 of the \$100,000 that U. S. Representative Neil Abercrombie was able to secure for the learning center. However, the second and third floors are not wired for computers and the next project is to get funding. He does not know what happened to the remaining \$4,000.

Makiki District Park - No report.

Contemporary Art Museum - No report.

Makiki Heights Care Home - No report.

1214 Matlock Street - Kawano reported that there are still two cars there.

Bulky Item Pick-up - No report.

Roosevelt High School - Chair Steelquist mentioned that the principal will give the briefing on academics and finance next month.

Road dead-end on Round Top - This was previously mentioned and will be taken off the agenda.

City Auditor's audit of the Neighborhood Board system - Last month City Auditor Les Tanaka gave a presentation. **Mitchell moved and A. Lee seconded that the Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10 accept the City Auditor's audit and findings "as a whole."** Discussion followed. Schiller opposed any "blanket" acceptance of the audit. Koenig wanted to thank the City Auditor for his work and that the Neighborhood Boards are trying to improve the system. **Schiller moved and Mitchell seconded to table the previous motion. The motion to table carried unanimously.** Kawano would like to invite the Neighborhood Commission's Executive Secretary Joan Manke to the Board's January meeting.

Wild chickens along Aliamanu Place - This item was previously discussed.

NEW BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS

December recess - There would be no recess for December. Treasurer Schiller will bring refreshments and rail transit will be on the agenda.

Anti-graffiti meeting- Hui O Makiki will be meeting Saturday, November 18 at 9:00 a.m. at the Makiki District Park. They will be meeting with people working against graffiti from Waikele, Major Macadangdang from the Honolulu Police Department and a vendor of anti-graffiti products.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning and Zoning - No report.

Transportation - This item was previously discussed.

Health, Safety, and Wellness - No report.

Newsletter - No report.

Other Committees - No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Chair Steelquist received *Agriculture Hawaii*, the Alternatives Analysis (AA) on CD and a flyer on Honolulu City Lights, which starts at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 2 at Honolulu Hale and the Civic Center grounds. These and other publications were available for public review.
2. He also received an invitation to a "Sunshine Law" meeting, sponsored by the University of Hawaii Public Policy Center (UHPPC). The forum will be on Thursday November 30, 2006 from 5:00 to 7:30 pm, in Conference Room 229 at the State Capitol.
3. Concerning the "training survey" from the Neighborhood Commission, Bigay did not agree with all of the "duties" of a Neighborhood Board member, like "writing minutes."
4. The next Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10 regular meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2006 at the Makiki District Park, Arts and Crafts Building at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT- Hearing no objections, Chair Steelquist adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by Neighborhood Assistant K. Russell Ho

Reviewed by Chair John Steelquist and Board Secretary Allan Lee.