



MAKIKI/ LOWER PUNCHBOWL/ TANTALUS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 10

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009 MAKIKI DISTRICT PARK ARTS AND CRAFTS BUILDING

CALL TO ORDER: Chair John Steelquist called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of **11 members present**. Note - This 17-member Board requires nine (9) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Bigay (arrived at 7:06 p.m.), Ron Cannarella (arrived at 7:06 p.m.), Charles Carole, Diane Chong, Phil Hauret, Allan Lee, Chris Lee, Eloise Lee, Sam Mitchell, Mike Sarrazin, John Steelquist, Edmund Wong and Susan Lai Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Kawano, Martin Schiller and Alika Smith.

VACANCIES: One in Subdistrict 2 (Kinau, Lower Makiki, Kewalo), due to insufficient number of candidates in the Neighborhood Board elections.

GUESTS: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chrystn Eads (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative, Mayor's Office), Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Shawn Hamamoto (Councilmember Rod Tam's Office), Lt. Norman Kau and Sgt. Aaron Agmata (Honolulu Police Department); Capt. Warren Aki (Honolulu Fire Department); Nick Fucini, Alistar Cowley (The Artisans), Mike Wilcox, and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office).

FILLING OF VACANT BOARD SEATS:

One in Subdistrict 2 (Kinau, Lower Makiki, Kewalo) - As there were no volunteers, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) - Capt. Warren Aki reported: 1) September 2009 Statistics - 4 fires; 69 emergencies and 43 miscellaneous calls for service, which include hazardous conditions, stalled elevators, water evacuations, assist patients and good intentions. 2) Fire Safety Tip: The theme for this past Fire Prevention Week was "Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned" with focus on burn awareness and prevention and keeping homes safe from the leading causes of home fires - unattended cooking. Other suggestions included - Plan escape routes and use fire extinguishers.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) - Sgt. Aaron Agmata reported: 1) September 2009 Statistics - 7 assaults, 25 burglaries, 2 drug offense, 7 DUI (driving under the influence), 19 family offenses (-12), 4 graffiti, 93 motor vehicle collisions (-22), 7 motor vehicle thefts (-6), 13 property damages, 2 robberies, 3 sex assaults, 26 UEMV (unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle) (+25), and 195 miscellaneous calls for service (-19).

Comments followed: 1) Regarding auto thefts, how many are not recovered? 2) Burglaries are +2 and graffiti is +1. 3) The fine for using a cell phone (electronic device) while driving is \$97 per violation.

As there were no objections, Chair Steelquist moved the rest of the City-elected officials to the bottom of the agenda.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) - No representative or report present.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Cowley shared his thoughts on image, technology and passion for one's ideas.

Cannarella and Bigay entered the meeting at 7:06 p.m.; **13 members present**.



Another resident wanted more community people participating. He suggested posting a sign for publicity at the corner of Wilder Avenue and Keeaumoku Street. The Board should "outreach" to condos and shopping centers, like the Village Market.

Chair Steelquist appointed Chris Lee to follow up.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The minutes of the September 17, 2009 regular meeting were APPROVED as corrected by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 13-0-0 (AYE: Bigay, Cannarella, Carole, Chong, Hauret, A. Lee, C. Lee, E. Lee, Mitchell, Sarrazin, Steelquist, Wong and Young).

- Page 4, Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative - Item no. 10) Regarding 702 Prospect Street and Federal agents and the Sheriff raiding this house at the end of April 2009. This item was referred to the State Department of Public Safety."

BOARD BUSINESS:

Buoys to Separate Stand Up Paddlers and Swimmers at Ala Moana Park - No report.

Tree Removal on Tantalus - No report.

Department of Land and Natural Resources Recreational Renaissance "Plan B" - No report.

Dog Park at Makiki District Park - No report.

Parking near Stop Sign at Thurston and Wilder Avenues - No report.

Traffic at the intersection of Piikoi and Lunalilo Streets - No report.

Noise in Makiki (early morning trash pick-up/mopeds) - Someone suggested that the Board ask the HPD at the next meeting about noise from mopeds and trash pick up.

Report on Annual Makiki Newsletter Responses - This item will be presented next time.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report - Chair Steelquist reported that the previous balance was \$5,095.08; \$40.37 was expended for the printing and mailing of the agenda and minutes, leaving a balance of \$5,054.71. The Refreshments budget was deleted on September 2. The Treasurer's report was filed.

Elected Officials

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi reported: 1) The next Community Clean Up/Recycling Day is on Saturday, October 17 at Kaimuki High School from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They will accept big appliances, computers and printers, will pick up used cars and do shredding. From 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, bring in old light bulbs and exchange them for Compact Florescent Lamps (CFL). On December 19 another Community Clean Up/Recycling Day will be at Washington School. 2) Her newsletter has bulky items information. 3) Regarding sleeping on sidewalks, she does not favor criminal fines.

Comments followed: 1) At the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), there is a roomful of used computers and equipment to pick up. They will have more crews to go out to pick up bulky items or they can pick up at one place. They will try educating the general public.

Councilmember Rod Tam - Shawn Hamamoto distributed Councilmember Tam's newsletter and, in the interest of time, was available for questions. Councilmember Tam's newsletter reported that the Round Top Drive repaving would be in March/April 2010. The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) is planning to re-pave Phase 6 - Nehoa Street (from Punahou Street to Prospect Street), Wilder Avenue (from Spencer Street to Dole Street) and Kinau Street (from Alapai Street to Waiiau Street), starting in March or April 2010.

Senator Carol Fukunaga's newsletter was e-mailed to Board members and "hard copies" were available. Senator Fukunaga reported: 1) Regarding the traffic at Roosevelt High School for football games, it is the "home" field for four schools. To build a new parking structure, they must first re-do the Master Plan, burrow into the hill by the swimming pool, re-do the bleachers and re-do the parking and classrooms. She wants to get sports fans, community people and the auditorium crowd involved. She will follow up on complaints about the noise level at football games. 2) Regarding the off/on ramp at H-1, more studies will be done for the fly-over. 3) One suggestion for the federal "stimulus money" is to provide emergency shelters for Roosevelt High School.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative - Chrystn Eads reported: 1) On Friday, October 23, there will be a "Green" Aloha concert. More information is at www.opala.org. They will exchange light bulbs and have 5¢ container collections. Also, there will be a free concert on October 24 at the Hawaii Mission Academy.

Representative Della Belatti - No representative or report present.

Representative Karl Rhoads - No representative or report present.

Senator Brickwood Galuteria - No representative or report present.

Representative Sylvia Luke - No representative or report present.

Committees

Planning and Zoning - No report.

Transportation - Pat Lee, Honolulu Rail Transit Project (H RTP) submitted a written report: 1) The second Pearlridge station workshop (second of three workshops) is scheduled for October 15, as the latest in our series of workshops. Every community on the route will have a workshop series. The purpose is to gather residents' ideas about the design of their rail stations. We have completed workshops for Kapolei, Waipahu and Leeward Community College. We expect to schedule workshops for Aloha Stadium, Kalihi, Chinatown, downtown, Kaka'ako and Ala Moana in 2010. 2) We continue to read about the weak economy in the news, and job losses that affect our families. The one bright spot on this dismal economic horizon is the city rail project. On Monday, the Hawaii Congressional delegation and Mayor Hannemann announced that the Honolulu Rail Transit Project has entered the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase of the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts funding program. This is a very important step in the process. With entry into the Preliminary Engineering phase, the Project maintains eligibility for approximately \$1.5 billion in federal funding for rail construction after completing further engineering design and refinements of financial and management plans. In addition, the Project can immediately utilize \$39 million in federal funds, including \$4 million stimulus money, which is already appropriated by Congress. The Congress is also working on as much as an additional \$30 million appropriation for FY 2010. These federal funds are in addition to the federal stimulus funds and they are being used to keep and add more new jobs in Honolulu and throughout the state. Rail construction will generate or sustain an average of 10,000 jobs per year in both direct and indirect jobs, according to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Of this, rail will provide about 4,700 new jobs in the construction trades. The multiplier effect helps other businesses like local shops, restaurants and companies that supply other goods and services. 3) The Project's upcoming milestones in 2009 include publication of the Final Environmental Impact Statement, the Federal Transportation Administration's (FTA) issuance of a Record of Decision, which will conclude the environmental review, award of its first construction contract, and groundbreaking. The City expects to award several construction contracts in the near future:

- the first 6.5 mile segment of the rail guideway this fall.
- the maintenance yard after the New Year.
- and the rail cars and systems in summer 2010.

Total contract value is about \$1 billion for this first phase.

Health, Safety, and Wellness - No report.

Newsletter - No report.

Governor Linda Lingle's representative - Duane Okamoto submitted a written report: MAKIKI NB#10 INQUIRIES

- 1) The tree trimming on Tantalus by Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). Please update.

DLNR response:

Due to the ongoing budget shortfall, DLNR is not entering into any contracts with fiscal implications unless it is an absolute emergency. As such, DLNR is uncertain when the contract document with Trees of Hawaii to remove the three trees will be signed so there are no fixed dates yet. For further information, residents can call Land Division, Oahu District Office at 587-0433.

- 2) At a May meeting by Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), it was mentioned that buoys may be used to separate stand-up paddlers and swimmers at the Ala Moana Beach Park. To date, nothing has happened. Please update.

DLNR response:

A representative of the swimmers wrote a letter to the Department of the Attorney General and DLNR is working with the Attorney General to try and resolve the swimmers' issues. The Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) is building the mooring blocks and DLNR will install the buoys and will do so as soon as the mooring blocks are completed and the DOBOR dive team can schedule the project. DLNR will also be working on signs to inform the public where they are supposed to go to stand-up paddle and swim.

- 3) Can the State Department of Transportation (DOT) do anything to relieve the congestion at the intersection of Piikoi and Lunalilo Streets? The Board is especially concerned about drivers, who block the intersection when the lights turn red on Piikoi.

Department of Transportation response:

There is nothing that the state can do without the consent of the City. DOT has proposed that the City reverse the flow of Pensacola and Piikoi. This would eliminate the back up of Lunalilo onto the H-1 off-ramp and reduce the queuing at the Piikoi intersection.

The blockage of the intersection by cars illegally entering the intersection when they do not have the ability to clear the intersection is an enforcement issue. HPD has staged officers in the past to cite violators but drivers tend to continue this illegal behavior once the police are gone. HPD cannot be there at all times.

One other solution is to pass the red light photo enforcement bill that the DOT proposed last year to the legislature which died last session. Blocking the intersection is just like running a red light and this kind of photo enforcement would be able to cite violators if they are stuck in the intersection illegally.

Other Issues:

- **Chickens in Makiki:** DLNR reports that their efforts have reduced the population of chickens and roosters in the State forest reserve lands and around their Makiki baseyard. They have, however, received one complaint from a resident whose property adjoins the State land and is opposed to the chicken control. DLNR will suspend the control effort if the Neighborhood Board requests it as the effort was in response to a Neighborhood Board request.
- **702 Prospect St.:** Awaiting report from the Department of Public Safety.

December recess - **Lai moved and Chong seconded, that the Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10 recess in December 2009.** Discussion followed. Carole stated that the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the rail system may come out soon and it should be discussed. **The motion was deferred to the next meeting by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 13-0-0 (AYE: Bigay, Cannarella, Carole, Chong, Hauret, A. Lee, C. Lee, E. Lee, Mitchell, Sarrazin, Steelquist, Wong and Young).**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Chair Steelquist had several publications for interested people to review.
- The next Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10 regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 2009 at the Makiki District Park, Arts and Crafts Building at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Submitted by:

K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:

Phil Hauret, Secretary
and John Steelquist, Chair