



ALA MOANA/KAKAAKO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 11

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET <http://www.honolulu.gov>

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2008 MAKIKI CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

MEMEBERS PRESENT: Anne Stevens, Larry Hurst, Marilyn Michaels, Nancy Hedlund, Bob Chung, Steve Okumoto, and Edna Fujiwara (elected in this meeting).

VACANT SEAT(S): There was one vacancy in sub-district one.

GUESTS: Dexter Sensui (Sheridan Citizen Patrol), Emily Viglielmo (Representative Karl Rhoads' office), Windy McElroy, Kari Nishioka (Garcia & Associates), Howard Tanioka (BWS), David Hilea Jr. (Kapiolani Terrace Board), Mike Polovcin (Hawaii Convention Center), Frances Shintani, Dave Berry (Uraku Tower), Anna Maria Preston (Councilmember Charles Djou's office), Dexter Okada (KBLA), Shawn Hamamoto (Councilmember Rod Tam's office), Jack Hamada, Captain Bert Nakamura (HFD), Roy Gritter, Michael Zehner, Lori Lum (GGP), Michael Boyer, Wayne Ibara, Lindell Saelua (HPU Student), Pat Lee (HHCTCP), Dr. Chiyome Fukino (DOH), Kristie Sue Ako (Senator Gordon Trimble's office), Senator Gordon Trimble, Sonia Trimble, Senator Carol Fukunaga, Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Dewey Kim (Liquor Commission), Lieutenant K. Crouch, Sergeant A. Agmata, (HPD), Duke Bainum, Ron Lockwood (Chair of the McCully-Moiliili Neighborhood Board), Joan Manke (Mayor's Representative), Barbara Kim Stanton, Leland S.M. Ribac (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

FILLING OF VACANCIES: Chair Stevens nominated Edna Fujiwara, with no other nominations; **Edna Fujiwara was APPOINTED UNANIMOUSLY to the Ala Moana-Kakaako Neighborhood Board, 7-0-0.** Chair Stevens called a short recess at 7:02 p.m. Neighborhood Assistant Ribac administered the Oath of Office and Fujiwara joined the Board. The agenda resumed its regular order at 7:05 p.m.

COMMUNITY REPORTS:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD): Captain Nakamura, representing HFD, reported the following;

- Statistics for the month of January include: 6 fire structures, 1 vehicle fire, 2 rubbish fires, 242 medical emergencies, 16 search and rescues, and 34 miscellaneous calls..
- Fire Safety Tip of the month: Fire, building, and U.S. postal codes and City ordinances state that property owners shall place their house number so that it is visible from the street, which will assist first responders in locating houses quicker and more efficiently.

No questions, comments, or concerns followed.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD): Sgt. Agmata with Lt. Crouch of HPD reported the following;

- Statistics for the month of January include: 25 assaults, 17 burglaries, 43 drug offenses, 23 driving under the influence (D.U.I.), 22 family offenses, 6 graffiti, 167 motor vehicle collisions, 13 motor vehicle thefts, 38 property damage, 4 robberies, 4 sex offenses, 79 unauthorized entry to a motor vehicle (UEMV), and 324 miscellaneous services.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- Chair Stevens questioned if there were any trends in regards to UEMV. Sgt. Agmata noted that most UEMV offenses occur at the Ala Moana Shopping Center. Agmata also noted the graffiti offenses occurred two weeks ago where three juveniles were cited.
- Chair Stevens also noted that several derelict cars have been removed from Queen Street.
- Okumoto noted that graffiti activity seems to be more constant near Don Quijote and Wal Mart, near Pensacola and Opaka streets.



- Hurst illustrated the crime statistics using a district map, noting there are not enough officers.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY (BWS): Howard Tanaka, representing the BWS, reported the following;

- There were three main breaks in January and one thus far in February. The first on January 9th at 1156 Kona Street, the second on the same date at Keeaumoku and Makaloa streets, and the third on January 16th at 640 Sheridan Street. The main break in February was on February 7th at 1302 Kona Street.
- Water projects in the District include water and sewer improvements on Kapiolani Boulevard between Kalakaua Avenue and Atkinson Drive, between Keeaumoku and Kaheka streets, at Ward Avenue, and Kalakaua Avenue between Makaloa Street and Ala Wai Bridge.
- The BWS 2008 Water Conservation Poster Contest is due on Thursday, March 13th contest details can be found at www.boardofwatersupply.com or by calling 748-5041.

No questions, comments or concerns followed.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS:

- A community member and resident of Uraku Tower raised concerns regarding an outdoor party held by the O Lounge on February 9th. The party was held outdoors causing noise issues. When HPD finally arrived, it was noted that a permit was obtained no action was taken. HPD officers noted the concerns, and will follow up. Dewey Kim of the Liquor Commission noted that the incident is under investigation at this time.

Chair Stevens with the approval of the Board took the agenda out of order, and allowed the Liquor Commission to speak at this time.

LIQUOR COMMISSION: TRANSFER PROCEDURES: O LOUNGE AND JON DOMINIS: Dewey Kim of the Liquor Commission noted that the Liquor Commission is working with HPD, and has planned to meet with the manager of Uraku Tower. The Liquor Commission and HPD will determine if O Lounge was operating with a permit or not.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- Michaels questioned who residents should call if there is another complaint. Kim noted to call the Liquor Commission and they will send a unit for a noise reading. Kim also noted that if the establishment says they have a permit for their function, residents have the right to see it.
- Hedlund asked for the contact information; Kim noted that the complaint hotline is 523-4194, and noted that the penalty could extend from a verbal warning to a \$500 fine.
- Michaels questioned the influence of the public in regards to the permitting process. Kim replied that usually, there is no hearing for special permits unless there is a history of violations. In regards to the sale and/or transfer of a liquor license it must be approved by the Liquor Commission. At a public hearing 51% of the public must oppose the transfer in order to stop the transfer from taking place.
- A community member questioned the transfer of the license at Jon Dominis. Kim noted that the owner, Andy Anderson, opted for a lease back option, which allows him ownership of Jon Dominis for 18 more months before a transfer of license would occur.
- Hurst questioned the Liquor Commission's laws and regulations, noting that the laws have not been followed in the past. Kim noted that all complaints are dealt with and have never been ignored.

Chair Stevens thanked the Liquor Commission for attending tonight, the agenda then resumed its regular order.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

GOVERNOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Dr. Chiyome Fukino, representing the Governor, reported that Senate Bill (SB) 2423 relating to the purchase of Turtle Bay resort has received a wide range of support. The Governor plans to keep the North Shore community as country as possible should the measure pass.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

A community member raised concern to the smoking ban, and the data collected. Fukino noted that the Liquor Commission stated that they did have a six month gap in data, but was then ruled no difference in data. The community member noted that the smoke ban has hindered businesses, Fukino questioned what sources of data was being used and welcomed data to the Department of Health.

STATE LEGISLATORS:

SENATOR CAROL FUKUNAGA: Senator Fukunaga reported that the Legislature is at its half way point of session, and noted that SB 2271 regarding liquor licenses and further applications was heard by the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing. Fukunaga invited members of the community to submit testimony to Senator Russell Kokubun.

No questions, comments and concerns followed.

SENATOR GORDON TRIMBLE: Senator Gordon Trimble reported that the Legislature is 22 days through, and noted that the lack of a two party system has never been more apparent. Last year, the Democratic Party limited the congregate contributions of a particular entity not to exceed \$1,000, but has now changed the policy to no limit. Trimble also noted that the Senate has chosen to go "paperless" and has used approximately 4 million less sheets of paper, making the process of submitting testimony very difficult, and noting that the submission deadline could be as little as 24 hours advance notice.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- Chair Stevens questioned Senator Trimble as well as Senator Fukunaga in regards to the Senate going paperless. Fukunaga noted that there have been several mistakenly delivered testimonies to the wrong committee due to computer glitches.
- A community member questioned if this paperless is to eliminate paper trails; Fukunaga noted that the Legislature is trying to make everything available through the internet.
- A community member questioned Senator Trimble of what happened in his caucus meetings. Trimble noted that if republican Senators did not speak during floor sessions, there would be no floor discussion.

REPRESENTATIVE TOM BROWER: No report available at this time.

REPRESENTATIVE KARL RHOADS: Emily Viglielmo, representing Representative Karl Rhoads' office, distributed the Representative's written report and announced his regrets as he was in a Finance Committee hearing.

No questions, comments or concerns followed.

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT SAIKI: No report available at this time.

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: Joan Manke, Executive Secretary and Mayor's representative, apologized for her absences and reported the following information;

- In regards to the derelict cars on Queen Street, Manke will follow up in regards to the property owner.
- Regarding the Honolulu Advertiser sidewalk dispenser at the corner of Pensacola and Elm streets, there is a City ordinance for the Waikiki area, but not Pensacola and Elm streets. The area is under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Transportation (DOT) whose role is to make sure the dispenser meets height requirements and is not blocking the line of sight. It is suggested that a photograph be taken and submitted to DOT for evaluation.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- Michaels noted that the walls of the Ala Moana canal are in need of repair, and seem to be falling into the water. The restrooms at Waikiki Beach Park is also getting really bad, Michaels does not want the Ala Moana Beach Park restrooms to look like those.
- A community member questioned the timeline of a complaint made in 2004 which was finally resolved at a Neighborhood Commission meeting. Manke noted that prior to her becoming Executive Secretary, there had been stagnant complaints, and the Commission is thoroughly resolving each complaint.

- Chair Stevens noted that several of the derelict vehicles on Queen Street have been removed.
- Chair Stevens questioned the Council resolution 07-379 relating to Neighborhood Board member term limits. Manke noted that the term limits are of concerns to the Neighborhood Commission, and Manke has submitted testimony in opposition herself. Many Boards are problematic in filling Board vacancies, and this may cause a greater decline in number of neighborhood Board members.

COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI: Councilmember Ann Kobayashi reported that rail is not a done deal, although the Transit Panel has met and has made a decision of steel wheel on steel rail. There will be a transportation hearing on Thursday, February 28, 2008 that will decide the technology used. Kobayashi noted that the system does not have to be rail as there are several other options at half the cost.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- Hedlund encouraged everyone to submit testimony in regards to steel wheel on steel rail and referenced a YouTube video clip that depicts the noise of this technology.
- Dexter Okada questioned the height of the rail and if it could make that incline. Pat Lee of Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP), noted that the rail is designed to make a 6% incline. Lee also gave a brief timeline and status of the transit bill.

COUNCILMEMBER ROD TAM: Shawn Hamamoto, representing Councilmember Tam's office distributed the Councilmember's written report and will take back the community concerns.

PRESENTATIONS:

GENERAL GROWTH: PROPOSED PLANS FOR 60 ACRES IN KAKAAKO: Lori Lum, representing General Growth, provided a slideshow in regard to the proposed plans for 60 acres in Kakaako that General Growth now owns, and highlighted the following:

- General Growth proposes a new kind of neighborhood bringing new life and opportunity to the heart of Honolulu.
- Ideas include a long range plan with a diversity of housing opportunities, mixed use landscaping, open public spaces, streetscapes, community participation and sustainability in the area.
- General Growth is looking to "grow smarter" by providing more jobs and housing opportunities per acre, less land per person, reduced energy consumption, reduced automobile dependency, positive health impacts, smaller carbon footprint, reduced water consumption, and lower infrastructure costs.
- If approved the first phase may begin in two to three years.

Questions, comments and concerns followed;

- Hedlund questioned the statistics and demographics of the Ala Moana and Kakaako areas, and noted the proposed high-rises in the plans. Lum noted that a team has been formed to collect demographic reports and noted that high-rises pay for public spaces.
- Chair Stevens questioned legislation that would have a dynamic effect on the proposed housing. Lum replied that General Growth has submitted testimony in regards to SB2294, which might hinder plans.
- Michaels, in the interest of time, noted that the cultural aspects and sense of place seems to fit right in, though questioning the profit that General Growth will make. Lum noted that a community open house will be held on March 11th from 2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Ward Warehouse Kakaako Room.
- A community member questioned with General Growth and the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) is looking into connecting bike routes, Lum noted that they are.
- Several community members questioned the impact that the farmers market might endure. Lum noted that General Growth does note the social aspects of the farmers market, but will follow up on details.
- Dr. Duke Bainum thanked the Board for allowing this presentation and supported General Growth as they seem to be supporting the same ideas of public housing, open spaces, and parks as the Board does.

LIQUOR COMMISSION: TRANSFER PROCEDURES: O LOUNGE AND JON DOMINIS: The presentation was heard earlier on the agenda.

AARP: PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAM: Barbara Kim Stanton and Ron Lockwood, representing AARP, noted that there are currently 156,000 members statewide. Stanton thanked Councilmember Kobayashi for her participation. Lockwood, Chairperson of the McCully Neighborhood Board No. 8, noted that the McCully Neighborhood Board has also been involved and encouraged the Ala Moana-Kakaako Neighborhood Board to do the same. A sample of the mobility tool kit as well as a district map was available for descriptions. Stanton noted to contact either herself or AARP for further details on how to get involved.

No questions, comments or concerns followed.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 22, 2008 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Chair Stevens questioned if there were any objections to the approval of the January 22, 2008 regular meeting minutes. Seeing no objections the regular meeting minutes of January 22, 2008 were **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chair Stevens deferred this item until the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

LAND USE DEVELOPMENT AND PARKS: Chair Stevens deferred this item until the next meeting, and apologized to Anthony Ching of Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA).

TRANSPORTATION: Chair Stevens deferred this item until the next meeting.

HEALTH SAFETY AND NOISE: Chair Stevens deferred this item until the next meeting.

LIQUOR AND ADULT ESTABLISHMENTS: Chair Stevens deferred this item until the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: Noting the end of the agenda, Chair Stevens called the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted By:

Leland S.M. Ribac
Neighborhood Assistant