



NUUANU/ PUNCHBOWL NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 12

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015** **PAUOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Phil Nerney called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. **Quorum was established with 10 members present.** Note - This 15-member Board requires eight (8) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Mason Aiona, Clarence Baijo, Jim Bannan, Joe Duax (departed at 8:31 p.m.), Audrey Hidano, Ellen Kitamura, Paula Kurashige (departed at 8:23 p.m.), Phil Nerney, Patrick Smith, and Sylvia Young.

Board Members Absent: Bob Vieira (notified).

Vacancies: There were four (4) vacancies: two (2) in Subdistrict 1 (Punchbowl) and two (2) in Subdistrict 3 (Nu'uauu).

Guests: Captain Michael Chun (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Baron Lee and Lieutenant Brian West (Honolulu Police Department); Nelson Koyanagi (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's representative, Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, Director); Councilmember Carol Fukunaga and Chris Delaunay (Councilmember Carol Fukunaga's Office); Keoni Mattos (Board of Water Supply); Seana Walsh and Pua Heimuli (Koolau Mountains Watershed Partnership); Ronald Higa, and Neil Baarde (Neighborhood Commission Office).

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Michael Chun reported the following:

- **January 2015 Statistics** – There were 2 structure, 0 wildland, 4 rubbish, and 1 vehicle fires; 59 medical emergencies, 3 search and rescues, and 18 miscellaneous calls for service. There were no major incidents.
- **Hiking Safety Tips** – HFD often responds to hikers who are lost or injured and would like to provide some tips, courtesy of the State of Hawaii's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. When planning a hike, inform others of the plans, let someone know which trail the hike will be on, and when one plans to return. If something should go wrong, rescuers will have accurate information on where to start searching. Plan to have enough time to return from the hike and keep a fully-charged cell phone, just in cast. HFD relies heavily on phone contact, when trying to locate a lost hiker or for information, regarding an injured hiker.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed:

1. **Hikers** – Aiona asked what closed trail hikers have called HFD to be rescued from. Captain Chun responded that there are a few that have called from Stairway to Heaven. Aiona suggested doing something about the trespassers, such as charging the hikers for being rescued. Captain Chun agreed and noted that HFD cannot control people.
2. **Laimi Bridge** – Hidano raised a concern about cars parking on both sides of the street on Laimi Street. Captain Chun responded that HFD is aware of the situation and noted that since construction is being done on the bridge, HFD's response time could be a little bit longer.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD), District 1 – Lieutenant Baron Lee reported the following:

- **January 2015 Crime Statistics** – There were 7 motor vehicle thefts, 8 burglaries, 11 thefts, 11 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV), 2 assaults, 0 sex assaults, 2 graffiti, and 1 drugs cases. There were 750 calls for service in District 1. Visit www.honolulu.hpd.org for further breakdown of the statistics.
- **Safety Tips** – The tips were on Pedestrian Safety, which included: Be safe and be seen. Wear bright/light colored clothing and reflective materials. Be smart and alert. Avoid dangerous behaviors. Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic. Do not assume vehicles will stop. Make eye contact with drivers. Do not rely solely on pedestrian signals. Look left, right, and left again before crossing a street. Obey traffic signals. Do not wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while crossing.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed:

1. Pedestrian Safety – Young expressed her gratitude that HPD has been working on pedestrian safety, because Young noted almost every day she sees people running to catch the light before the countdown ends. If someone is turning in the same direction, the pedestrian sometimes looks like they are about to dash out onto the road to cross, so it becomes a dangerous situation. Most people do not understand the rules of the crosswalks. Lieutenant Lee responded that it is true, people are confused with the rules of the crosswalk and noted that there is a lack of etiquette between pedestrians and motorists. Young noted that a great deal of the pedestrians that are in accidents are senior citizens. Lieutenant Lee commented that there is a long cycle of people not just senior citizens.
2. Motor Vehicle Thefts – Baijo asked why the motor vehicle thefts doubled and if they are occurring in any specific area. Lieutenant Lee responded that most of the time it is because of opportunity and they mostly occur by shopping centers. Lieutenant Lee asked the community to hide their valuables when leaving the car.
3. Crosswalk Guidelines – Smith asked what the law is when there is a pedestrian waiting to walk and a car is turning right on a red light. Lieutenant Lee responded that if there are multiple lanes, the pedestrian must finish crossing the street before the car should turn. The purpose is used as a just in case reason, and Lieutenant Lee noted that motorists should use common sense and make sure the pedestrian is clear of the lane. Aiona noted that pedestrians should look first and commented that he has seen a lot of people just walk and not look for any of the cars. Aiona raised a concern about a stop sign that was knocked down. Lieutenant Lee noted that the stop sign can be fixed by calling the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM). Ronald Higa noted that he has seen pedestrians trying to race the car to the crosswalk.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD), District 5 – Lieutenant Brian West reported the following:

- January 2015 Crime Statistics – There were 4 motor vehicle thefts, 5 burglaries, 15 thefts, and 14 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV). These statistics are for Beats 571, 572, and 573, as requested, rather than for the whole District 5, which had 926 total calls for service.
- Pedestrian Safety Tip – Lieutenant West noted that pedestrians do not have the right of way. The statute notes that pedestrians are not supposed to enter the street until it is safe. Lieutenant West noted that eye contact is important and necessary. The driver of the car has to look at signs and other safety concerns on the road.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed:

1. Countdown Numbers – Young raised a concern about the intersection at Vineyard Boulevard and Liliha Street and how it is the worst intersection in the district because pedestrians are known to run from the sidewalk to try and beat the light across. Young commented that the intersection is wide and the pedestrians do not want to wait in the middle of the intersection between lights.
2. Parking Ordinance – Hidano asked and Lieutenant West responded that the parking ordinances require drivers to leave at least 10 feet of road. Lieutenant West commented that if a car is parked offset, it does not fulfill the violation and noted that HPD can be called to cite if the road is less than 10 feet. Hidano noted that the residents are complaining because people are speeding down the road when others have the sun in their eyes. Hidano noted that she will measure the street to see if the cars are in violation. Kurashige commented that if an emergency vehicle cannot fit, it is in violation.

Neighborhood Security Watch (NSW) – Stolen Cars – Kurashige reported that there has been several cars stolen in the area and it was noted that stolen cars usually have two (2) different license plates, unlocked doors, or a broken window. If reporting a stolen car, provide all the information on the car stolen and report and check regularly.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Keoni Mattos reported the following:

- Water Main Breaks – There were two (2) water main breaks in December 2014. 1) On December 29, 2014 there was a six (6) inch main break at 2605 Booth Road. 2) On December 30, 2014 there was a 12-inch main break at 42 Puiwa Road. There were no main breaks in January 2015.
- New Customer Parking Procedure at BWS Headquarters – Beginning in March 2015, the BWS will be starting new parking procedures at its Beretania Street headquarters. Parking control arms will restrict use of BWS parking stalls to only visitors on official BWS business. The three (3) steps to enter the parking lot are: (1) Press the intercom button to speak with BWS security staff. (2) State the purpose of the visit. (3) Once cleared for entry, the parking arm will rise and allow one to park. For more information contact the BWS Security Center at 748-5911.
- Bank of Hawaii (BOH) to Accept Water Bill Payments – Effective Wednesday, April 1, 2015, customers will have the option to drop off water bill payments at any BOH traditional branch on Oahu (excluding in store

branches). Customers currently paying the water bill at First Hawaiian Bank (FHB), please note that FHB will no longer be accepting payments after Saturday, March 21, 2015. To drop off payments at BOH, provide the teller with a check (made payable to Board of Water Supply) and the bill payment stub, which must be detached from the bottom portion of the bill. Payments may also be deposited into the Express Teller boxes in BOH's traditional branch locations. Visit www.boh.com for a list of BOH locations on Oahu. For more information about the various bill payment, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com or contact BWS at 768-5030 or contactus@hbws.org.

- Ewa Road and Park Street – There was a main break on Friday, November 21, 2014 and another on Park Street on Monday, February 2, 2015. Both sites have been repaired and made passable but only because there is a temporary patch. BWS will work with the contractor to even the roads surface.
- Pacific Heights – There will be a series of pipes changed and the road will be repaved after. The project will be completed by Spring 2017. Currently, there are surveys being conducted in the areas where there are markings along the road. The project design should not bother the neighborhood and BWS will inform the Board before the construction starts.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed:

1. Customer Service – Smith raised a concern and asked what the average call/wait time with the customer service. Mattos responded that last year there was a resolution audit on BWS but now there is an overall better experience in dealing with customer service. Mattos noted that currently times are an average of two (2) minutes. Mattos commented that he will bring the numbers to the next meeting.
2. Homeless Issues – Kurashige raised a concern about dirt coming through her faucets and noted that her neighbor had a similar issue. Kurashige's neighbor called BWS and they said that there was a 12-inch copper pipe below a tree that BWS was cutting had been damaged. Mattos commented that people with photovoltaic panels have been getting dirt into their water heater. Kurashige noted that there is still homeless people bathing along the Pali highway with buckets at the BWS site and commented that there could be problems. Kitamura commented that she has met with Oahu Country Club and they told her that their security will start monitoring the area because other people use the same trail to hunt. BWS will continue to work with the Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) to keep the area secure.

Chair Nerney relieved the gavel to Vice Chair Duax.

3. Park Street – Chair Nerney commented that Park Street has a third world-conditioned road and noted that the road was nice until BWS started to work on the street. Chair Nerney noted that the most recent event was during the storm where he saw a water current going down the road because of a bad patch. Chair Nerney commented that it seems to be an on-going problem in the area. Kurashige commented that Puiwa Lane is also terrible and noted that maybe BWS should change all the pipes.

Vice Chair Duax returned the gavel to Chair Nerney.

FILLING OF VACANCIES ON BOARD There were two (2) vacancies in Subdistrict 1 [Punchbowl] and two (2) vacancies in Subdistrict 3 [Nu'uaniu]. As there were no volunteers or nominations, Chair Nerney deferred this item to the next meeting.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS

National Memorial of the Pacific Cemetery – A resident announced that there will be construction at the National Memorial of the Pacific Cemetery visitor center. Construction has started and should be completed by March 2016.

Pauoa Valley – A resident from Pauoa Valley raised a concern about giant trucks going up and down the road in and out of the valley. The resident noted that she does not know what is going on but would not like to see the trucks gone. Chair Nerney commented that he will mention it to the Mayor's Representative and the Councilmembers.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative – The City News February 2015 was distributed and Nelson Koyanagi reported the following:

- Dowsett Highlands Relief Sewer – The project is in the planning/design phase.
- Booth District Park Roof Repairs – The project went out to bid and the anticipated construction start date is Sunday, March 15, 2015.

- Kamamalu Neighborhood Park Play Court Lighting – The scope development/consultant procurement process is ongoing.
- Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Advisory – DTS Traffic Signals and Technology Division will begin placing the crosswalk stickers on crosswalk signal poles, as they go to inspect or repair crosswalk-signal poles, island wide.
- Candidate and Voter Registration for the 2015 Neighborhood Board Elections – Candidate registration for the 2015 Neighborhood Board Elections has begun and the deadline to apply is Friday, February 20, 2015. Paper applications are available on the front table or apply online at www.honolulu.gov/nco. For more information, call 768-3708.
- Honolulu Zoo – The Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA) and the Honolulu Zoo are asking for donations of ti leaf to help repair the hale la'i. Hundreds of leaves will be needed; green, yellow or brown leaves with stems may be dropped off in plastic bags at the Honolulu Zoo entrance.
- Sew a Lei for Memorial Day – Memorial Day is on Monday, May 25, 2015. All Hawaii school students grades K-12 are invited to enter the City and County of Honolulu's "Sew a Lei for Memorial Day" Poster Contest, which will run from Monday, January 26, 2015 through Friday, February 27, 2015. The poster will depict lei-making activities or ceremonial actions at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. For more information contact Alex Ching at 768-3028 or email aching2@honolulu.gov.
- Hawaii's Heroes Statistics – The City and County of Honolulu collected and submitted 2,434 signatures for Keep Hawaii's Heroes.
- Variance Applicants Presentations – The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) noted that in order to require applicants to present projects to the Board would require amending Chapter 9 of the DPP Part 1 Rules of Practice and Procedure. DPP will consider this when the next opportunity to process revision to the rules.
- Bike Lane Usage Statistics – DTS conducted bicycle counts on King Street, Kapiolani Boulevard, Beretania Street, and Young Street on Tuesday, February 10 to Thursday, February 12, 2015. The counts were conducted manually and using traffic cameras. The information is still being evaluated, and DTS will provide its findings to the Board once the study is completed.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed:

1. January 2015 Minutes – Hidano noted that in the January 2015 set of minutes, Booth Park is scheduled to start on a Sunday. Koyanagi responded that he will follow up.
2. Abandoned Cars – Vice Chair Duax noted that to report abandoned cars, go online and fill out the form and it will be taken care of. Vice Chair Duax commented that they will send a notification when the car is gone. Vice Chair Duax noted that they had great service.

Councilmember Carol Fukunaga – Chris Delaunay distributed Councilmember Fukunaga's newsletter and reported the following:

- Complete Street Update – Area legislators are pressing City agencies for immediate follow up to the Complete Streets initiatives that have obtained broad community support during the past two (2) years. In light of recent events where a bicyclist was struck by a truck on Judd Street in Nu'uau. The community is pushing for short term and longer term improvements to improve pedestrian and bicyclist's safety in the region.
- Kawananakoa Park Complaints – Irate Makule League baseball team representatives complained about conditions involving Kawananakoa Park's public restrooms, graffiti'd walls, and what appeared to be raw sewage during the January and February 2015 inspection. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) supervisors reported that repairs were authorized and have begun. BWS will announce the short term shutting off of water service to complete their portion of the repairs.
- District Funding – Councilmember Fukunaga is seeking the communities input on community funding needs as the State Legislature and City Council budget deliberations get underway. Please contact Chris Delaunay at 768-5069 or at cdealaunay@honolulu.gov if there are projects for submittal during Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 budget cycle.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed:

1. Complete Streets – Kurashige noted that there have been different organizations giving helmets away and commented that more than 200 helmets have been given away.
2. Special Meeting – Chair Nerney noted that there is a possibility of Councilmember Fukunaga holding a special meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2015 and asked how the meeting would work. Councilmember Fukunaga responded that she has met with the Hawaii Bicycle League (HBL) and the Liliha Neighborhood Board No.14 and they recommended a memorial walk or bike ride to where the incident occurred.

Councilmember Fukunaga commented that the special meeting will be with the residents coming up with ideas for pedestrian safety as well as for the motorists on the road. Councilmember Fukunaga noted that her office has contacted 15 different venues to check for availability.

3. Park Street – Young commented that the incident occurred on Judd Street and Nu'uuanu Avenue and asked how the bicyclist got to Nu'uuanu, since bicycles are not allowed on the Pali Highway. Councilmember Fukunaga responded that she is not too familiar with the information and noted that she will be working with the family.

Governor David Ige's Representative – There was no representative present and no report was available.

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland – There was no representative present but a report was made available.

Representative Sylvia Luke – There was no representative present but a report was made available.

Representative Takashi Ohno – There was no representative present and no report was available.

PRESENTATIONS

Kurashige departed the meeting at 8:23 p.m.; **Nine (9) members present.**

Restoration of the Pali Lookout – Pua Heimuli presented the Koolau Mountains Watershed Partnership project and noted that they are a voluntary organization that is working to protect the different areas near the Koolau Mountains. Their goal is to establish native plants in the Nu'uuanu area. The restoration of native plants in the area will help with the watershed. Heimuli announced that their group does do a lot of volunteer trips and is available for all ages because the trips are held on weekends. The partnership is trying to establish a network of volunteers so that a tradition can start and keep occurring.

Vice Chair Duax departed the meeting at 8:31 p.m.; **Eight (8) members present.**

BOARD BUSINESS

Adoption of the January 20, 2015 Meeting Minutes – **Smith moved and Aiona seconded that the Nu'uuanu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board No. 12 approve the January 20, 2015 meeting minutes as circulated. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, 8-0-0 (AYE: Aiona, Baijo, Bannan, Hidano, Kitamura, Nerney, Smith, and Young).**

Pali Highway Lighting – No report.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Baijo reported that in January 2015, \$25.87 was spent for the printing and mailing of the agendas and minutes, leaving a balance of \$327.33. The Treasurer's report was filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Regular Board Meeting – The next meeting for the Nu'uuanu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board No. 12 is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 7:15 p.m. in the Pauoa Elementary School cafetorium. Thanks to Principal Dale Arakaki and his staff for allowing the Board to meet at the school.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by:
Neil Baarde, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:
K Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:
Patrick Smith, Secretary and
Phil Nerney, Chair