



## DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 13

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### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** **THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010** **PAUAAH COMMUNITY CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Frank Lavoie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **with a quorum of six (6) members present.** Note – This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members for a quorum and to take official Board action.

**Members Present** – Alvin Au (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Anthony Chang (arrived at 7:01 p.m.), Frank Lavoie, Lynne Matusow, Carl Middleton, Dolores Mollring, T.A. Ruby and Tom Smyth.

**Members Absent** – Stanford Yuen.

**Guests:** Sergeant Y.K. Chan and Officer Richard Fikani (Honolulu Police Department); Captain M. Nakagawa (Honolulu Fire Department); Bertrand Kobayshi (Representative Karl Rhoads' Office); Marsha Joyner (Arts District Merchants Association); Allen Stack Jr. and Lee Stack (Chinatown Improvement District); Phil McInnis (Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland's Office); Bill Brennan (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Office); Connie Geisler (Oh-No); Maryn (Shain) Miller (Ong King); Gary Omori (Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project); Alan Feliciano (Safe Haven); Norma Herkes; Kevin Lye; Ponprom Kuvakorn; and Theona Kapoi (Neighborhood Commission Office).

**INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS:** Those present introduced themselves.

### **CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)** – Captain Nakagawa reported the following:

#### **Chang arrived at 7:01 p.m.; Seven (7) members present.**

- **March 2010 Statistics** – 6 structure fires, 5 rubbish fires, 102 medical emergencies 2 search and rescues and 19 miscellaneous emergencies.
- **Community Relations Fire Safety Tip** – The time for picnics and outdoor events are arriving. Fire departments nationwide respond to an average of 7,900 home fires involving outdoor cooking each year. Thirty-three percent of cooking grill fires start on an exterior balcony or enclosed porch.
- **Safety Precautions When Cooking on a Grill** –
  - 1) Do not leave cooking grill unattended and keep children and pets away when in use.
  - 2) For charcoal cooking grills, use only starter liquids recommended by the grill manufacturer to facilitate the initial charcoal (coal) burning process.
  - 3) Allow coals to cool completely prior to disposal. Dispose of coals in designated fire-safe areas or receptacles and thoroughly saturate the coals with water to ensure they are extinguished.
  - 4) Propane gas can quickly develop into a large, colorless cloud that is ignitable. If the grill does not start within ten seconds, exercise safety precautions and turn the gas off, keep the grill lid open and wait five minutes prior to repeating.

#### **Au arrived at 7:04 p.m.; Eight (8) members present.**

Questions, comments and concerns:

**Update on Fire near Kinau Street and Ward Avenue** – Middleton having seen a Central 1 fire engine responded to the fire requested an update. Captain Nakagawa stated they assisted with the fire but because it is not a part of the Company's district, it is not included in their report.



Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Sergeant Chan circulated a report and highlighted the following:

- March 2010 Statistics – 3 robberies, 2 burglaries, 8 unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle (UEMV), 3 auto thefts, 14 assaults, 9 criminal property damages, 77 motor vehicle collisions, 13 driving under the influence (DUI) arrests, 2 prostitution arrests, 6 family offenses, 5 drug offenses and 1 graffiti offense. Sergeant Chan credited the decrease in crime activity to the Citizens Patrol Group, uniformed officers and citizens who report suspicious activities.
- Community Policing Team – Officer Fikani updated the Board on recent activities by the Community Policing Team. 1) Recent arrests near Pali Avenue and Kukui Street involving six males for soliciting prostitutes, two of the males had outstanding warrants. 2) A combined Neighborhood Citizens Patrol walk that involved 40 community members. He will follow up with the Board as to when the next combined walk will be. 3) Project Clean is scheduled for June 5, 2010, involving HPD and community members to pick up the trash in Chinatown and Aala Park. A graffiti paint out will also occur that day. For more information about the project call Officer Fikani at 590-1710.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Video Monitoring – Sergeant Chan assured the Board all the cameras are working.
2. Shopping Cart and Tent Ban – Matusow questioned if the ban of shopping carts and tents will apply to Smith/Beretania Park. Sergeant Chan stated the ban will take effect on all City Parks. HPD will begin a campaign to educate the public and warn them about possible infractions. Middleton questioned if HPD will use their discretion when the ban goes into effect on April 19, 2010. Sergeant Chan stated that officers will give warnings and should the officer notice the same person violating the law a citation will be issued. Mollring stated many of the people who use the shopping carts will be sitting close to the edges of City parks; she questioned the shopping carts near the State Library. The ban relates to City parks only.
3. Clarification of a Shopping Cart – Sergeant Chan stated that under the revised ordinance a shopping cart is a metal or plastic cart provided by a hotel or retail establishment. There is no mention of “radio flyer” type wagons being illegal.
4. Confiscated Shopping Cart – Smyth questioned HPD’s ability to confiscate unattended shopping carts. Sergeant Chan stated HPD would need to verify who owns the content in the shopping cart and have the owner remove it. If no owner is verified, the contents will be held in storage for 90 days. Retail establishments will be contacted regarding their property (the shopping cart) and will have three (3) days to retrieve the cart. Officer Fikani stated the Citizens Patrol Group and Community Policing Team will collect abandoned shopping carts.
5. “Residentially Challenged” Individuals – Smyth stated having spoken with Meredith, the woman with a lot of luggage usually on Hotel Street. Smyth noted she is an articulate person and a former paralegal who understands the law well. Sergeant Chan stated that Meredith stays within the boundaries of the law and HPD cannot hastily confiscate residentially challenged individuals’ property. There are Hawaii State laws and Federal Laws that prevent anyone from doing so.
6. Officers on Foot Patrol – Chair Lavoie stated there has been an absence in foot patrol officers in the Downtown/Chinatown area. There have been complaints of noise and fight breakouts happening between 11:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. Sergeant Chan stated foot patrol officers were reassigned to assist with the Family Festival at Magic Island and will be returning to their regular patrol. Officers do make their way to King Street and Nuuanu Avenue.
7. Project Clean – Joyner announced as a part of the project, two recipients received a Peabody Grant to assist with the project. The recipients would like to meet with community members for input and ideas as to what kind of artwork they would like to see completed. The permit to proceed is awaiting approval.
8. Ong King Art Center – Manager Maryn (Shain) Miller stated there was concern being raised regarding the noise level of the art center. Miller stated the establishment next to them, Alter Solum is creating a noise problem. The art center only has one microphone connected to one speaker that is not very large. Sergeant Chan stated Alter Solum rents the space for teen parties and does not have a permit to serve liquor. They stated they will try to order sound proofing materials to control their noise levels. If they do not comply, the manager or property owner will be cited. Chair Lavoie asked they keep their noise level down to help avoid the problem of one establishment blaming the other and vice versa.
9. Pedestrian Safety – Smyth stated there is a dumpster blocking the pedestrian crosswalk at the end of Queen Street before the Nimitz Highway merge and Bethel Street turn. The building does have a road use permit, however it was suggested to place the dumpster in a different location. Pedestrians cannot be seen

crossing the street from behind the dumpster. Sergeant Chan will follow up with the concern with the building manager and the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) may revoke their permit.

Neighborhood Citizens' Patrol – Mollring stated there was a combined walk of the Citizens Patrol Groups. Unfortunately many of the members that are a part of Mollring's patrol was not able to attend the combined walk that began at 6:00 p.m.

#### COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) – No representative present.

Honolulu Culture and Arts District – Marsha Joyner reported the following:

- Cinco de Mayo – There will be a street festival on Nuuanu Avenue and Hotel Street on Wednesday, May 5, 2010.
- First Friday – With the inclusion of SoHo and an establishment on Bethel Street, the event has grown.
- Peabody Grant – Two artists received Peabody Grants to assist with the Clean Up project partnered with HPD June 5, 2010. The artists would like to meet with community members to receive input for the project.
- Friends of Chinatown – The organization has adopted Kekaulike Mall and will work to keep the area properly maintained.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Vermicomposting Pilot Project – Chair Lavoie received a letter from Mayor Hannemann stating that he will look into the proposed Vermicomposting project for the downtown area.
2. SoHo Mixed Media Bar – Residents were pleased with Mardi Gras ending at 10:00 p.m. It was suggested to speak with the company that breaks down the tents, as they threw the pipes on the ground creating unnecessary noise.
3. First Friday Growth – Smyth was told that with the addition of SoHo Mixed Media Bar the growth of the event has extended out to that part of Fort Street Mall. First Friday events began on just Hotel Street and Nuuanu Avenue. Now the event includes Nuuanu Avenue as well as Bethel, Pauahi and Smith Streets. As the event grows, more off duty police officers are hired to control the crowds. Some establishments pay part of the costs for off duty police officers to specifically remain near their establishment. Liquor Commission Representatives have also gone to the event to ensure no one is walking around with alcohol outside of establishments.

Safe Haven – Alan Feliciano reported two residents were able to move out and two new residents were able to move in for the month of March. Earlier during the day, one more person was able to find permanent housing. Safe Haven received a new dishwasher which is quicker and more sanitary for the residents. The residents painted over graffiti in the alley and with their presence around the establishment, drug and bathroom use in the alley has been minimal. The establishment is still clear from bug infestation. Feliciano stated there is an on site substance abuse counselor that does random drug testing to monitor residents progress. There have been complaints about the vent on the building; however it is the building behind Safe Haven.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Filming of *Lost* – Ruby stated the television show *Lost* used the buildings rooftop to film one of their episodes. The cast members signed autographs and took pictures with the residents. The production also made a donation to Safe Haven.
2. Outpatient Services – Smyth was told Safe Haven does have outpatient services between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. for about 30 people who are not able to stay at Safe Haven.
3. Average Stay with Safe Haven – Middleton was told the average length of time a resident stays at Safe Haven is 18 months; however there is a time minimum of three months and no maximum.
4. Safe Haven Service – Chair Lavoie clarified with Feliciano about what Safe Haven does. Feliciano stated they do not house residents who do not want to get treatment. Safe Haven will not let someone in if they are not going to go through treatment as part of the Safe Haven Service. Feliciano stated Safe Haven is the

only homeless shelter that serves people with mental illnesses. He also confirmed for Lavoie that Safe Haven would not be considered "Housing First."

5. Additional Transitional Housing – Middleton questioned the effect additional transitional housing would have. Feliciano stated it would help and could not do harm.

Honolulu Rail Transit – Gary Omori reported the City is waiting on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) release from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and final approval from Governor Lingle. Some issues may need to be resolved using the proposed airport route specifically using Aolele Street. Omori stated he does not have much more details about the project.

Questions, comment and concerns followed:

1. Changes to Honolulu Rail – Middleton questioned what change the Governor would like to get the project started. Omori stated he will have to reserve comments because he cannot answer on behalf of Governor Lingle. Omori can only hope the Governor will assist and cooperate with the project because further delay of the project will have a negative impact.
2. Honolulu Weekly Rail Story – Smyth stated the Honolulu Weekly has published an article which focuses on comparing the 2008 EIS and the 2009 EIS. By comparing the two, the 2009 EIS is overall better for the rail project. The 2009 EIS indicated traffic would be mitigated by 20 percent as opposed to the 11 percent in the 2008 EIS.
3. Loss of Savings – Middleton would like to know when the savings of the project will be lost because the groundbreaking did not occur. Omori stated that the information would be based on the economy.

Chinatown Business and Community Association (CBCA) – No representative or report available.

Public Concerns – None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

**Middleton departed at 8:10 p.m.; Seven (7) members present.**

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative – Bill Brennan reported the following:

- City Council Bills 7 & 8 – City Council Bills 7 & 8 were signed by Mayor Hannemann and will become effective April 19, 2010.
- Earth Month – Mayor Hannemann deemed April as Earth Month on Oahu. There are various activities that will happen around the island in conjunction with Earth Month including the recycling of tennis shoes.
- Dedication of New City Buses – A new City bus was dedicated by Senator Daniel Inouye and Mayor Hannemann. It announced the new green technology of the busses and its ability to hold about 100 people.
- Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) – There will be a community workshop held at Farrington High School on Tuesday, April 6, 2010. There will be notable people to speak about the TOD and is free to the public.
- First Friday Signs – A letter from the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Director, Wayne Yoshioka has been sent to Chair Lavoie describing how the signs could be made permanent.
- Moped Parking near Ross – There currently is no "No Moped Parking" sign at the "wave" shaped bike rack between King Street and Ross Store. That rack previously had "Bikes Only" stickers on them; however, those stickers have subsequently been removed because it was determined that there is adequate space to accommodate both bicycles and mopeds at that location. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Maintenance went to the site and verified there are no signs that prohibit moped parking at the bike/moped rack on Fort Street Mall near Ross. For further inquires regarding moped parking in the area call Marie Flores at 522-7044.
- Public Restrooms – There are no plans to add public restrooms in the Downtown/Chinatown area. Public restrooms are available in the Chinatown Police Substation. Past attempts to maintain portable toilets

resulted in costly damage to the units and illegal activities being carried on inside them. There were numerous complaints about the illegal activities. The best option for people to enjoy using clean restrooms is to patronize the businesses on or near the mall where there are restrooms for customers to use. Alternatively, Aala Park and Beretania Community Park have restroom facilities maintained by DPR.

- Relocation of Bus Stop – DTS will not relocate the bus stops on Hotel Street because the current stops are high traffic generators and nothing in the immediate vicinity is suitable for relocation. Downtown has a plethora of birds in the area and it's common to see droppings all over. There is not much DTS can do to help from keeping the bus stops and its amenities free from bird droppings.
- Trapping Pigeons – DPR does not have the capability or the funds to trap pigeons.

**Middleton returned at 8:16 p.m.; Eight (8) members present.**

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Alapai Transit Center – It was requested that the potholes near the entrance of the Alapai Transit Center on the King Street side be patched. It is very dangerous for pedestrians and the City busses.
2. Motor Scooter on City Buses – It was suggested to allow senior citizens with motorized scooters to “practice” on the various buses to maneuver their scooter. Doing so will alleviate the time spent when they get on the bus and not upset other passengers.
3. City Employee – It was requested to know what happened to the employee who lived in section 8 housing but was employed as a city worker.
4. Permit to Paint Pillars Near College Walk – It was requested to know the status of the permit to call for artists and begin planning the art work for the pillars near College Walk.
5. Smith/Beretania Park Water Spout – There is a water spout at the park that someone managed to turn on. It doesn't seem to have anything to turn it off. It was requested to fix the spout or replace the knob so water isn't wasted.

**With no objections, the agenda was moved out of order to discuss VI. Unfinished Business Items B and C.**

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to Comment on Lack of Benches on Fort Street Mall – A representative was not available from DPR to comment on the issue. Brennan will follow up with DPR to have a representative present at the next Board meeting. Matusow requested they come with a map showing where each bench is.

Report on the Request for Extended Hours at Smith/Beretania Parking Garage – No report was available for the Board at this time. Brennan will follow up with the concern.

**The agenda resumed order with V. Elected Officials Item A.2 Councilmember Rod Tam.**

Councilmember Rod Tam – No representative or report available.

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland – Phil McInnis circulated a report and highlighted the following:

- Healthy Start Program – Senate Bill (SB) 2469 passed the House Finance Committee. However, if Governor Lingle does not release the funds for the program, nothing can be done.
- McKinley High School – The new softball field for the high school has publicized its Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA). Input for the project will be accepted until April 21, 2010 to Senator Chun Oakland's Office at the State Capitol or by calling 586-6130.
- Children's Day – It was clarified that the Governor has no opposition to partially hosting the 2010 Children's Day on the first Sunday in October.

Senator Brickwood Galuteria – No representative present; a report was circulated.

Representative Karl Rhoads – Bertrand Kobayashi reported the following:

- "This Week" Publications – Representative Rhoads received numerous calls regarding the "lack of presence" in the "This Week" Publications of the Chinatown area. It was requested they improve their tourist promotions for the Chinatown/Downtown area. Many of the States businesses rely on tourism and it would be helpful to "show off" the Chinatown area as a tourist attraction.
- Roof Equipment – A total of 14 letters were sent to various Downtown building management companies informing them of properly monitoring and maintaining roof equipment.
- Pauahi Recreation Center – The Recreation Center charges \$15 an hour to rent the room. It was suggested senior citizens look into meeting in a conference room in a condominium with a resident sponsorship. Smyth stated that would be difficult because condominiums and apartment complexes are not bound to have the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.
- Surveillance Cameras – Some cameras are blocked by trees, which HPD will follow up with.
- Downtown/Chinatown Street Lights – Street light maintenance was suggested to give priority to areas with the most pedestrian traffic in the evening.
- Legislature – Two Bills are still alive. The public urination bill will extend its sunset date to 2014 and has to go to Conference Committee. The habitual solicitation prostitution bill has been extended to at least 2012 with the hope that it may still be altered to remove the sunset date entirely. The provisions relating to the solicitation of prostitutes within 750 feet of a school or park was resurrected by the Senate although the House killed the Bill.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Legislative Update – Smyth stated City Council Bill 4 has not been heard by the Public Safety Committee. House Bill (HB) 2318 relating to the State Homeless Housing Agency First Project passed the House and Senate. The Safety Study Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 76 relating to bikes, mopeds, scooters and Segways will have a great impact on the Downtown area. This SCR passed the Senate and is in the House Judiciary Committee. The Bill relating to gas leaf blowers has not been heard in the House. There is a problem with the Attorney General stating that Federal regulations do not allow local control of off road gasoline engines. The Department of Health (DOH) is in charge of monitoring ambient the noise level.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chinese New Year's Street Closures REVIEW – Chinatown Merchants Association representative Gifford Chang stated the event went well. The shut down of the streets were fine and many people were in attendance of the festival this year. The weather cooperated and there were no major incidences of injury or crime. There were a few small incidences involving four unapproved vendors on Maunakea Street, which were shut down, or requested to pay the vendor fees for the event. Much effort, time and money was put into the event.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Two Events on the Same Night – Mollring stated that First Friday and the Chinese New Year Celebrations should not happen on the same night again for a long time. She thinks it is a wonderful thing that the Chinese New Year events bring people in to the community.
2. Suggestion for the Lion Dance Event – Matusow stated it could be better coordinated for the Lion Dance event to fall on a different night than First Friday. A letter should be sent to the City to stress the events not be held on the same day.
3. Event Appreciation – Middleton thanked G. Chang for having port-a-potties available for patrons.
4. Parking Garages – Matusow commended G. Chang for getting residents in and out of the parking garages smoothly. It was suggested to have the parade begin earlier because there were many participants, it is growing each year, and lasted for a few hours.

**Matusow moved, Smyth seconded to send a letter to the City with a copy to the Chamber stating that the Lion Dance event be held on a different night from the First Friday events in the future.** Discussion followed:

- Au stated that the Board should not get into a decision which involves the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the City. There are other ways they could work this out because it seems the Board is giving preference to the First Friday event. Middleton concurred with Au.
- Smyth stated that people come to the Neighborhood Board for issues such as congestion and traffic and an issue like this event is Board business.
- Matusow stated all she would like is for the event to be on different days.
- Matusow and Joyner said that some merchants earn their rent on First Friday. Joyner added that restaurants did well, but the others had little business as the public was following the lion dancers and not patronizing the stores.

**The motion was ADOPTED, 5-3-0, (AYE: Chang, Lavoie, Matusow, Ruby, Smyth; NO: Au, Middleton, Mollring).**

Department of Parks and Recreation to Comment on Lack of Benches on Fort Street Mall – Previously addressed by the Mayor's Representative.

Report on a Request for extended hours at the Smith/Beretania Parking Garage – Previously addressed by the Mayor's Representative.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

City Council Bill 4 – Relating to the impoundment of vehicles for solicitation of a prostitute. The Board discussed the Bill and its effects to the Downtown/Chinatown Area.

- Mollring stated the Bill fails to mention what will be done with prostitute solicitors from taxis.
- Smyth stated HPD is opposed to the Bill because there is no room for impounded vehicles. The number of vehicles is not an issue and as Mollring stated, there is an issue with taxis and commercial vehicles. The Bill mentions the impoundment of vehicles that are owned by the solicitor. There is no other place in the nation that has a law similar to this. If the solicitation of a prostitute were made a misdemeanor, the car can be impounded.
- Au stated prostitution is the oldest profession in the world and would be difficult to get rid of it. The Bill does not seem to be thoroughly thought through.

With no objection, the Board did not take action on this item.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The March 4, 2010 Downtown Neighborhood Board No. 13 regular meeting minutes were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AS CORRECTED, 8-0-0 (AYE: Au, Chang, Lavoie, Matusow, Middleton, Mollring, Ruby, Smyth).**

#### Corrections –

- Page 2 – Crime Stoppers, second sentence should read "...the youth in the area *who do* graffiti."
- Page 3 – Weed and Seed project, the first sentence should read "...City tore down the *trellises* at..."
- Page 3 – Culture and Arts District, second bullet, Preserve Hawaii should read "...will have an *area* showing of Hawaii with some focus on the older *sections* of Chinatown."
- Page 5 – Councilmember Rod Tam, Questions, comments and concerns number three should read "...at Beretania and Smith Streets *has* been..."
- Page 6 – Representative Karl Rhoads, fourth bullet, Senate Bill (SB) 2545 should read "...your own *bottle* (BYOB) liquor establishments..." and "...bill within Representative *Rhoads'* district."
- Page 7 – Hawaii Capital National Heritage Area, first bullet, Testimony, the second sentence should read "A copy *of* all testimony..."
- Page 9 – City and County Affairs, number three should read "...the ban of gas leaf blowers passed *the Senate*."

#### BOARD REPORTS:

Chair's Report – Chair Lavoie received a letter from the Institution of Human Services (IHS) stating they do not own land and would not be able to "swap" land to assist less fortunate residents. Chair Lavoie also approved the newsletter to be sent to all Downtown residents.

- 1) Liquor License Applications or Street Closures – Aloha Tower has up coming events that extends their liquor license, they are good neighbors and keep the Board informed about events.
- 2) Future Agenda Items –
  - a. Noise at Ong King will not be on the next agenda. A representative was present to address concerns and informed the Board that they will try to remain good neighbors. Should a problem rise again, they will be contacted to address the issue at a future board meeting.
- 3) Neighborhood Commission –
  - o Executive Secretary – Rae Gee is the Acting Executive Secretary for the Neighborhood Commission Office. Gee has been with the City for many years and has most recently worked in the former Housing Department, Department of Community Services and the Mayor's Office. She is also a former Neighborhood Board member. She works well with the public and should do well in the Office.
  - o City Budget – Councilmember Nestor Garcia is looking to eliminate the staff of the Culture and Arts Program and Neighborhood Commission Office except the Executive Secretary. Councilmember Garcia's proposal is to eliminate the staff but keep its functions that could possibly be done by other City staff members. How the minutes of a meeting will be handled have to be discussed.
  - o Makakilo Neighborhood Board – The Commission will meet on April 5, 2010 to discuss the numerous complaints against a particular Board member. It will be interesting to see the results of this meeting and the possible removal of board members.
  - o Conference of Chairs Meeting – The first issue is to determine who the Commission Members are representing if they also serve on a Neighborhood Board. The Commission is working to resolve this issue because if more than four (4) members from the Commission attend the Conference of Chairs meeting, it turns into a Commission Meeting. The Commission could establish a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to allow four members to attend. The Neighborhood Plan may be amended to include the issue of a Commissioner serving as a Board member, the Commission position will supersede. The second issue would be to send out a survey of the agenda template for Board feedback.
- 4) Queen's Medical Center Plan Review Use – The Kinau Off-Ramp Project is expected to start on April 26, 2010. Construction is anticipated to last for approximately 12 months. The Noise Variance Permit for the project was issued by the DOH. The permit limits major construction work to daytime hours only.
- 5) Office of Information Practice (OIP) – Smyth stated that in some cases items are deferred to the Attorney General's Office for opinions. As an example, Smyth Chairs the By-Laws Committee for the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) and a letter from the Attorney General's office stated that while 'yes' OMPO is a board under the sunshine law, 'no' it is not a board governed by part two under the sunshine law which deals with quorum, so OMPO has rewritten the quorum requirements because it is not statutorily established. OIP is enlightened by this matter and realizes that part two of the sunshine law is a part of the Attorney General's responsibility.

Treasurer's Report – Mollring reported as of March 2010, the Board has \$2,851.01. The report was filed.

City and County Affairs – No additional report.

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) – The By-Laws Committee met, however the Policy committee has yet to give approval to return from the quorum of 50 percent plus one to a quorum of 30 percent which assures OMPO has membership. As it relates to Neighborhood Boards as well, is that there are invited speakers to present at various meetings there needed to be enough people to begin the meeting. Now meetings are able to start without a quorum present however, votes cannot be taken. By lowering the quorum, OMPO will be able to begin the meeting with a smaller number of people present and let invited speakers present. Smyth stated there is no transportation project directly affecting the Downtown Neighborhood Board area. A project scheduled to begin in two years would be an additional lane from the H1 on to Vineyard Boulevard which will bring more traffic into the Downtown area, but possibly alleviate the H1 traffic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Board Meeting – Will be on Thursday, May 6, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Pauahi Community Center, 171 North Pauahi Street.

Neighborhood Citizen's Patrol – The Neighborhood Citizen's Patrol meets every Tuesday on the Diamondhead side of the Kukui Plaza at 8:00 p.m. Please consider joining the patrol and supporting its efforts as they express their service and pride in our Downtown/Chinatown community.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Submitted by Theona Kapoi, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by Frank Lavoie, Chair