



LILIHA/ PUUNUI/ ALEWA/ KAMEHAMEHA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 14

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION OFFICE • HONOLULU HALE, ROOM 406
530 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TEL: (808) 768-3710 • FAX: (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: www1.honolulu.gov/nco

DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013** **MA'EMA'E ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Robert Stubbs called the Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **A quorum was established with seven (7) Board members present.** Note – This 13 member Board requires seven (7) members to establish quorum and take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Wesley Fong, Loy Kuo, Brandon Mitsuda, Donald Nitta, Robert Stubbs and Dale White.

Board Members Absent: Carole Kaapu and Ethann Oki.

Vacancies: There are four (4) vacancies on the Board; two (2) vacancies in Sub-District 1 and one (1) each in Sub-Districts 3 and 4.

Guests: Keith Yamamoto (State Department of Health and Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative), Acting Captain Corey Silva (Honolulu Fire Department), Randy Leong (Deputy Director of Community Services and Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative), Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, Councilmember Joey Manahan, Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Daniel Holt (Senator Mercado Kim's Office staff), Representative Takashi Ohno, Iris Oda (Board of Water Supply), Janice Lee (Maemae Elementary), Francis Nishimura, Bixby Ho, Steve Miller, Kathy Young, Leslie Chan, Naomi Kusayanagi (Maluhia), Bertha Tomiyasu, Steve Carvalho, Ronald Higa, Mark Garrity (Department of Transportation Services) Nicole Velasco (Executive Secretary of the Neighborhood Commission Office), Romeo Garcia (Neighborhood Commission Office) and Aisha A.C. Wang (Neighborhood Commission Office Staff).

FILLING OF BOARD VACANCIES: There was no one interested in filling the vacancies at this time. Item deferred. The item will be left on the agenda.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FORUM:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Acting Captain Corey Silva reported the following:

- July 2013 Fire Statistics: Included 4 structure and 1 rubbish fire, 90 medical emergencies and 12 miscellaneous calls.
- Fire Safety Tip: Have electrical work done by a qualified electrician. Before you buy or remodel a home, have it inspected by a qualified electrician. Plug only one heat-producing appliance into a receptacle outlet at a time. Plug major appliances directly into a wall receptacle outlet. Extension cords and plug strips should not be used. Check electrical cords to ensure they are not placed across doorways or under carpets. Extension cords are intended for temporary use. Have a qualified electrician add more receptacle outlets so you do not have to use extension cords. Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage for the lamp or fixture. A sticker that indicates the maximum wattage light bulb to use should be affixed to the lamp or fixture.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): No representative was present at this time. A written report was available.

Mayor's Representative: Randy Leong introduced the Executive Secretary of the Neighborhood Commission, Nicole Velasco to the Board. Velasco introduced her office staff, Romeo Garcia and Aisha Wang; Velasco stated that the Neighborhood Commission Office was a great resource for the board, even though their chair is a commissioner. In addition, another one of the board members, Tyler Dos Santos-Tam is going through the process of being appointed as a commissioner by the Mayor.

Leong introduced Mark Garrity of the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) to field questions about the upcoming rehabilitation of roads.



1. Repaving of Iholena Street: It was asked when the repaving of Iholena Street would be done. Garrity replied that some streets, like Iholena Street, were being fixed by the City Department of Facilities Maintenance (DFM).
2. Traffic Calming Devices: There have been many requests to have traffic calming devices placed on Hala Street. The residents that were present wanted to know what other solutions DTS could suggest.
3. Crosswalk: Accident victim Leslie Chan spoke to the Board about her accident and how she felt the crosswalk could be better lit to avoid another person being hit in the same crosswalk. The intersection that she was in is at the corner of Liliha and Ekekela streets. Garrity believes there is a document and record tracking (DART) system on this intersection already.
4. Community Involvement: Garrity suggested the community be more involved. Resident Steve Carvalho told the board that he fabricated his own sign and placed it strategically in his yard to slow drivers around Hala Drive and it is working.
5. Road Repaving: Another resident asked about the repavement of Keola Street and suggested that it be repaved all the way to Lanakila Avenue.
6. Contractor's Office Representative: Resident Francis Nishimura requested having a representative from the City who was able to answer these questions or someone from the contractor's office to assure that the project would be completed.
7. Traffic Study: Garrity stated that a traffic study was done on Hala Drive. It was found that only about 500 vehicles passed during the study which did not warrant heavy usage. Board member Dos Santos-Tam suggested forming a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to discuss these traffic situations outside of the board meeting.
8. More Lighting: Board member Nitta raised the issue of lighting in dark intersections to reduce the number of accidents.
9. Ahupua'a Signs: Board member Kuo noted that the City had other types of signs and asked what the brown ones were. Garrity answered that these were informational signs to educate the population on the ahupua'a divisions.
10. Bulky Item Pick Up: Board member White stated that the bulky pick-up outside his house had not been picked up in a timely manner and he wanted to know what to do with it. Leong responded that the City Department of Environmental Services (ENV) is the department that takes care of that and he should call them to let them know that the bulky items have not been picked up.
11. Utility Pole: Board member White reported that a hole where a utility pole was removed on Ulena Street, and he would like the pole replaced before repairing the road.

District 6 Councilmember: Councilmember Carol Fukunaga reported the following:

- Sustainable Communities Activity: Communities for a lifetime will be holding a conversation on Tuesday, August 13, 2013 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Lanakila Elementary School to identify various projects they would like to see implemented in the neighborhood.
- Homelessness Solutions: Councilmember Fukunaga continued to talk to the community about ways to solve the homeless situation in the communities she serves.

District 7 Councilmember: Councilmember Joey Manahan distributed a handout and highlighted the following:

- Repavement of Roads: The rehabilitation of roads project will be from Kuakini Avenue to Keala Street.
- Pedestrian Safety Month: August is pedestrian safety month and drivers are urged to be cautious.
- Liliha Town History Walk: Residents are invited to join the inaugural Liliha Town History walk on Sunday, August 25, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. before the kick-off of "I Love Liliha". The 1.3 mile walk will highlight stories from people and businesses around Liliha. Call Kuakini's Public Relations Department to sign up at 547-8168.

13th Senatorial District: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland was not present, a written report was available.

14th Senatorial District: Daniel Holt from Senator Donna Mercado Kim's office reported the following:

- H-1 Freeway Rehabilitation: The H-1 Middle Street to Ward Avenue construction should begin shortly, from Sunday through Friday, ending in late August to early September 2013.
- Vineyard Boulevard: The rehabilitation project to resurface Vineyard Boulevard from Palama Street to the end of the H-1 on and off-ramps. Work will begin in Fall 2013, with mostly daytime work and some night closures for work on the intersections.

District 27 Representative: Representative Takashi Ohno reported the following:

- Oahu Cemetery Crematorium: A hearing by the Department of Health (DOH) for Oahu Cemetery's air permit for three (3) new crematory units will be held on Wednesday, August 22, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at Kawanakoa Middle School.
- Maluhia Hospital Funds: The State has released nearly \$1.2 million to Maluhia Hospital to replace dilapidated windows and building improvements as well as replacement of a retaining wall along Keola Road.

District 28, Representative: No representative present; no written report available.

Governor's Representative: Keith Yamamoto reported the following:

- Oahu Cemetery: Yamamoto will follow up on assuring that new crematory units means three (3) new replacements, not keeping the old two and adding three new ones.
- Bamboo Harvesting: It was confirmed that bamboo in the wild cannot be harvested for sale.
- Feral Pigs: Yamamoto is researching the answer whether a permit is needed to catch and eat feral pigs.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Iris Oda reported the following:

- Main Breaks: There were no main breaks for of July 2013.
- Estimated Readings and Reconciled Bills: The BWS recently discovered that since the Department moved to monthly billing, some of its customers have received estimated bills for several months in a row. The standard practice of the BWS is to bill its customers for water usage based on actual meter readings collected from the meter at their property. However, environmental factors such as weather conditions, physical obstructions, and malfunctioning meter reading equipment, as well as other factors related to the billing process, are some reasons why a meter reading was not secured and a billing estimate was generated.

As of May 2013, approximately 15-16% of the BWS customers received multiple estimated bills. Once the BWS recognized the magnitude of customers impacted, the BWS worked immediately to reconcile these bills and reduce the amount of affected customers to 12% in June 2013, The BWS is reviewing all accounts that have been flagged for review to ensure that customers have been accurately and fairly charged. These customers will receive a letter of explanation and a copy of each recalculated bill for their records. Reconciled bills are being sent to only the customers with multiple estimated bills and for the majority of our customers, the recalculation effort is not necessary.

A frequently asked questions (FAQ) list has been posted on www.boardofwatersupply.com to provide more information about estimated readings and what the BWS is doing to reconcile bills. Customers can call 748-5030 should they have questions about their account. Due to an unusually high volume of phone calls in to the BWS, customers are encouraged to email contactus@bws.org or mail a letter to or come to the Customer Care Division at 630 South Beretania Street.

PRESENTATIONS

Hawaii Youth ChalleNGe Academy: No representative was present at this time; item will be taken off agenda.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS

1. Traffic Sensor: There was a request that a traffic sensor at the intersection of School Street and Kapalama Avenue be checked because the red light on Kapalama Avenue takes three to four minutes to turn green and lasts only two to three minutes which allows only about five cars to cross School Street.
2. Dangerous Intersection: An accident victim came before the board to request that safety measures be placed at the crosswalk where she was hit while walking her dogs.
3. Buddhist Meditation Center: A resident asked whether there was any information on a property on Judd Street and Mahalo Street advertising a Buddhist meditation center.
4. Microsoft Scam: Board member White asked if anyone was aware of the scam that a caller claims to be calling from Microsoft.

APPROVAL JULY 8, 2013 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Hearing no objections, Chair Stubbs moved to accept the minutes of the July 8, 2013 regular meeting. **The Board UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED the minutes as amended, 7-0-0, (Aye: Dos Santos-Tam, Fong, Kuo, Mitsuda, Nitta, Stubbs and White).**

- Page 4: Item 4 under comments and concerns should read that Alewa Drive will be reflected on next months agenda.
- Page 4: Under Councilmember Fukunaga's section that the Kuakini Extension Project was not stalled because of the confusion between years 2013 funding and 2014 funding.

UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS:

- Kuakini Street Extension Project Update: The item was addressed earlier in the agenda.
- Request From DTS for Traffic Collision History on the Corner of Kapalama Avenue and Hala Drive from 2009 to April 2013: There was no response.
- Lanakila Park Basketball Hoop Repair: This item has been on the agenda for a long time and will be taken off once it is confirmed that the basketball hoop has been repaired.
- Discussion on the Future Focus of Neighborhood Board 14: This item will be discussed on a later agenda.
- Letter and Resolution to Add 1300 and 1400 Blocks of Kealia Drive to City's Repaving Plan: A letter was sent however, there has been no response.
- Letter Requesting Repaving of Keola Drive: This is a reminder that this item should be discussed at a later time.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Ma'ema'e Elementary School Community Council (SCC): Janice Lee reported that the school Family Fun Day went well and they will meet next week.

St. Francis: There was no representative present and no report available.

Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center: There was no representative present and no report available.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer White reported that after expenditures, there was a balance of \$643.60. The report filed.

Board Dinner: The Board dinner will tentatively be on August 16, 2013. The time and location is to be determined.

NB14 Facebook page/Twitter account: There was no report available at this time.

Report on HPHA Board of Directors Meetings: There was no report available at this time.

Report on Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) OahuMPO@OahuMPO.org: There was no report available at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next Meeting: The next Board meeting will be Monday, September 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ma'ema'e Elementary School cafeteria.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Submitted by: Aisha A. C. Wang, Neighborhood Assistant I

Reviewed by: Leland S. M. Ribac, Neighborhood Assistant II

Finalized by: Robert Stubbs, Chair