



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

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION OFFICE • HONOLULU HALE, ROOM 406
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DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2014 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 7:04 p.m. **A quorum was not established with only six (6) Board members present.** Note – This 13 member Board requires seven (7) members to establish quorum and take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Michelle Achong, Tyler Dos Santos-Tam (arrived at 7:11 p.m.), Wesley Fong, Carole Kaapu, Loy Kuo, Donald Nitta, and Robert Stubbs.

Board Members Absent: Brandon Mitsuda, Ethann Oki, and Dale White.

Vacancies: There were two (2) vacancies in subdistrict 1 and one (1) vacancy in subdistrict 3.

Guests: Karen Chun, Francis Nishimura, Warren Naai, Jack and Helen Kitahara, Steve Miller, Janice Lee, Sergeant Caesar Piros and Lieutenant Stephen Gerona (Honolulu Police Department), Ronald Higa, Pat Hamme, Radiant Cordero (Councilmember Joey Manahan's Office staff), Les Chan, Acting Captain Robert Data (Honolulu Fire Department), Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chris Oakland, Lauren Oakland, Iris Oda (Board of Water Supply), Keith Yamamoto (Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative), Randy Leong (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative), Representative Takashi Ohno, and Risé Doi (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FORUM

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lieutenant Stephen Gerona and Sergeant Caesar Piros reported the following:

- May 2014 Statistics: There were 3 motor vehicle thefts, 10 burglaries, 40 thefts, and 8 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (JEMV).
- Safety Tips: No safety tips were provided for this month.

Dos Santos-Tam arrived at 7:11 p.m.; **seven (7) members were present. A quorum was established.**

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Robbery: Kaapu noted that a cab driver had been robbed on Kealia Drive and asked if any other information was available. It was answered that the suspect got away. A resident asked about when robberies have been occurring, and it was noted that robberies occur during the day and night.
2. Motor Vehicle Thefts: Fong asked what kinds of vehicles were targeted regarding motor vehicle thefts. It was answered that Hondas are targeted due to the components inside.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Acting Captain Robert Data reported the following:

- May 2014 Statistics: There was 1 wildland fire, 2 rubbish fires, 2 cooking fires, 84 medical emergencies, and 32 miscellaneous emergencies.
- Smoke Alarm Safety Tips: Smoke alarms save lives and are an important part of a home fire escape plan. Three (3) of every five (5) home fire deaths resulted from homes with no smoke alarms or working smoke alarms. The death rate per 100 reported home fires was more than twice as high in homes that did not have working smoke alarms or no smoke alarms present.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Fire Station Renovation: Kuo asked if the renovation of the fire station will impact operations. Acting Captain Data noted the renovation state date is Tuesday, July 1, 2014. The ladder will be moved to the Nimitz-Waiakamilo fire station. The fire engine will occupy the Kalihi fire station.



FILLING OF BOARD VACANCIES: There were no volunteers to fill the three (3) board vacancies at this time.

DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING ACHONG'S THREE (3) ABSENCES: No motion was made to declare the seat vacant. Achong retained the seat.

Mayor's Representative – Randy Leong reported the following:

- New HandiVans: 99 new HandiVans have been added to the City fleet.
- Town Hall Meetings: Mayor Kirk Caldwell completed another round of town hall meetings.
- Hurricane Season: Hurricane season began on Monday, June 1, 2014. To receive free text alerts on severe weather events or road closures, visit www.nixle.com/dem.
- Repaving: The Rehabilitation of Streets, Unit 6, is estimated to start after 2014. This project includes Liliha Street to Analu Street and from Kunawai Lane to Panui Street. However, Liliha Street from Analu Street to Wyllie Street is not scheduled to be paved at this time due to a utility conflict. Liliha Street between Analu Street and Puunui Avenue was not included into the rehabilitation project due to a Board of Water Supply (BWS) project, and will need to be addressed in a future project.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Unfinished Projects: Nitta requested a list of construction projects in the Liliha area, and raised a concern that multiple projects occurring at the same time is causing a safety issue, and pedestrians are walking on the street to avoid the construction. Nitta noted that projects should be finished one at a time.
2. Kuakini Extension Project: Community member Francis Nishimura requested that a representative from the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) attend the board meeting to provide an update on the Kuakini Extension project. Chair Stubbs asked Leong if Kelly Cruz could provide an update to Leong or to report at the July 2014 board meeting. Leong noted that if there is an update, Cruz will report to the Board.
3. Houghtailing Street: A resident asked when Houghtailing Street will be repaved. Kaapu noted that the repaving project will occur in 2017 with other areas in Kapalama Heights. Leong noted that there may be underground utilities that need to be fixed before the City can start repaving. Kuo recommended postponing the utility projects. The resident noted that he did not want to see Liliha Street and Houghtailing Street closed at the same time. Kaapu corrected her previous statement, and noted that repaving Houghtailing Street will occur after 2014, not 2017.

District 6 Councilmember Carol Fukunaga – Chris Delaunay provided Councilmember Fukunaga's newsletter and highlighted that there was a community meeting regarding the Na Pueo Park facility, and that funding was approved for Complete Streets and the Kuakini Extension project.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Mahalo: Nishimura thanked Councilmember Fukunaga for getting funding for the Kuakini Extension project. Dos-Santos Tam thanked Councilmember Fukunaga for getting funding for the Complete Streets project. Dos-Santos Tam asked what the next steps will be for the money to be released. Delaunay answered that Mayor Caldwell has to release the funding. Kuo thanked Councilmember Fukunaga for holding the meeting at Na Pueo Park to discuss the Alzheimer's facility.

District 7 Councilmember Joey Manahan – No representative was present; a handout was provided.

13th Senatorial District Suzanne Chun Oakland – Senator Chun Oakland provided a newsletter that highlighted the budget and projects that will affect the Liliha and Alewa Heights area. Senator Chun Oakland noted there is a housing shortage, and 44% of homeless individuals are working people. Senator Chun Oakland explained the newsletter also contained 2014 legislative highlights and listed capital improvement projects (CIP).

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Mahalo: A resident thanked Senator Chun Oakland for responding to his concerns. Chair Stubbs thanked Senator Chun Oakland for her support of the Kuakini Extension project.

14th Senatorial District Senator Donna Mercado Kim – No representative was present; no report was provided.

District 27 Representative Takashi Ohno – Representative Takashi Ohno reported the following:

- District 27 CIP Awards: CIP funding includes \$3.5 million for a guard rail and shoulder improvements along the H-1 Freeway from Middle Street to Punchbowl Street. \$250,000 has been approved for traffic operation improvements to the intersection at Vineyard Boulevard and Palama Street. \$259,000 has been

approved for plumbing upgrades at Maluhia Hospital. In addition, \$518,000 has been approved for repairing the retaining wall at Liliha Public Library and \$100,890 to add new walkways at the library.

- Lane Closures: There will be full closures on the H-1 Freeway in the eastbound direction between Middle Street and Ward Avenue from Sunday night, June 8 through Friday morning, June 13, 2014, from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. nightly for the H-1 Rehabilitation project. The right lane in both directions will be closed on Vineyard Boulevard between Liliha Street to Nuuanu Avenue, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from Monday, June 9 through Friday, June 13, 2014 for sewer rehabilitation and tree trimming. The northbound lane on Liliha Street between Vineyard Street and Kuakini Street will be closed from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from Monday through Friday for water line installations.
- Board of Water Supply (BWS) Liliha Street Project: The project is on schedule to be completed in five (5) to six (6) months. BWS will implement water lines between Vineyard Boulevard and the H-1 Freeway overpass. The right lane will be closed. Traffic caused by this project is expected to ease over the next few weeks as workers will not need as many lane closures, and will be working along the sidewalk and shoulder lane.
- Seamless Summer Option: The State Department of Education (DOE) is announcing its locations for the summer food service program, Seamless Summer Option (SSO). Beginning in early June 2014, the SSO will be available at 59 public schools without charge to all children 18 years old and younger. Meals will be served at select locations Monday through Friday, except June 11 and July 4, 2014. The SSO is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and was established to ensure that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. An eligible school must have 50 percent or more of its regular enrolled students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunches and some type of summer program on campus, but meal recipients do not have to be enrolled in those programs. Lanakila Elementary School, Roosevelt High School, Farrington High School, and Fern Elementary School will be participating.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. SSO: Chair Stubbs asked and Representative Ohno clarified that the only participating school within the district is Lanakila Elementary School. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. from Monday, June 9 through Friday, June 27, 2014. Fong asked why the program was being implemented. Representative Ohno noted that the program was established so that low income students could have nutritious meals when school is not in session. Fong asked about how the program will be regulated, and Representative Ohno answered that lunch is offered to anyone 18 years old or younger at schools where 50 percent or more of its regular enrolled students qualify for free or reduced price lunches.
2. Liliha Public Library: Fong asked about Liliha Public Library's hours, and noted the operation hours are odd. Fong noted libraries are important for education. Chair Stubbs and Representative Ohno noted that there have been funding cuts. Kuo noted that library hours need to be expanded and that the library is beneficial to the community.
3. Lane Closures: Kuo thanked Representative Ohno for the lane closure updates, and recommended having the State Department of Transportation (HDOT) coordinate with the maintenance activities to reduce traffic congestion.

District 28 Representative John Mizuno – No representative was present; no report was provided.

Governor's Representative – Keith Yamamoto reported the following:

- Minimum Wage: Hawaii's minimum wage will be increased to \$10.10 per hour. Governor Neil Abercrombie signed SB 2609 (Act 82) on Friday, May 23, 2014.
- Act 26: This measure helps protect homeowners from mortgage fraud.
- Act 76: This law requires that kindergarten be mandatory for children who are at least five (5) years of age before July 31, 2014.
- 2016 World Conservation Congress: The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) decided to hold its 2016 World Conservation Congress in Hawaii. It is the largest and most prestigious of all gatherings of the conservation community. This will be the first time a United States location is holding the event since 1948.
- Turtle Bay: On Monday, May 19, 2014, Governor Abercrombie signed HB 2434 (Act 81). Turtle Bay space and access will be preserved.
- Bill Review: By Monday, June 23, 2014, Governor Abercrombie must provide the Legislature with notice of the intent to veto any specified bills. By Tuesday, July 8, 2014, Governor Abercrombie must sign or veto bills, or allow bills to become law without his signature.

- Public Comments: Governor Abercrombie welcomes public comments regarding the bills on his desk. Contact the Governor's office at governor.hawaii.gov, where there is a "contact us" link. Please include the bill number.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Minimum Wage: Fong asked and Kaapu clarified that the minimum wage will reach \$10.10 by 2017. Fong asked if the state minimum wage takes priority over the federal minimum wage, which is \$7.25 per hour. Yamamoto will follow up.
2. Grant-In-Aid (GIA) Funds: Dos Santos-Tam inquired about the process of releasing funds for GIA projects. Yamamoto clarified that the particular state department has to release the funds, and to contact the department to which the project was assigned for more information.
3. Green Infrastructure: Kuo noted there is \$50 million set aside in a special fund for green infrastructure. Yamamoto explained that special funds are funds that are created for a particular purpose. Yamamoto noted the \$50 million may be appropriated for a ceiling increase. Yamamoto will follow up.

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

- May 2014 Main Break Report: There were no water main breaks to report.
- Safety and Security at BWS Properties and Facilities: In April 2014, copper thieves broke into a BWS reservoir twice in one (1) week and stole copper wiring, damaging the operating system and causing a water outage for a portion of the Kalihi area. BWS has been proactive in increasing security efforts around BWS facilities, however, the community's help is also very important. Please report any suspicious activities to HPD by calling 911 or notifying BWS security at 748-5911.
- "Water Matters" Customer Newsletter: Starting April 2014, a new customer newsletter was inserted into BWS customer water bills. "Water Matters" was developed to better connect with customers and educate them about efforts to provide a safe, dependable, and affordable water supply. "Water Matters" will be mailed quarterly with customer billings, posted on the BWS website, distributed at neighborhood board meetings, and shared across BWS social media accounts. Contact the Communications Office at 748-5041 for more information.
- June 2014 Main Break Report: There was a water main break on 1712 Kealia Drive on Thursday, May 15, 2014. The six (6)-inch main was installed in 1928.
- Water Rates: In 2012, BWS implemented a new water rate schedule. The rate increase was spread over five (5) years to minimize the impact on customers. Effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014, the monthly billing charge will increase from \$7.70 to \$8.44 a month. The average residential customers will see a \$0.74 increase in their billing charge. The water rate will go from \$3.68 to \$4.03 for 1,000 gallons of water. Water charges are separate from sewer charges.
- Annual Water Quality Reports: BWS conducts thousands of tests on the water sources and distribution system to ensure that municipal water meets or exceeds all federal and state safe drinking water standards. The results of the tests are shared with customers in the BWS annual water quality report, which will be mailed to all customers by Tuesday, July 1, 2014. Digital copies of water quality reports will be posted on www.boardofwatersupply.com.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Water Bill: A resident raised a concern that although her water usage had fluctuated in the past few months, the bill remained the same. Oda will follow up.
2. Water Meter: Another resident inquired how BWS acquires a reading for the water meter, and if BWS uses an average instead of an exact amount when determining a charge. Oda answered BWS acquires a meter reading each month. Chair Stubbs asked how reading the water meter works. Oda noted the water meter transmits signals that BWS reads.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS

- Election of Officers: Chair Stubbs reminded the Board that the election of officers will take place at the July 2014 regular meeting.
- Parking: Community member Karen Chun raised a concern about the difficulty of finding street parking on Rooke Avenue due to renters who own more than one car. Chun also noted that there is someone who is

parking a private work vehicle on the street in addition to a personal vehicle. Fong recommended calling HPD.

- Graffiti: Chun raised a concern regarding graffiti on bus benches. Chun caught kids who were vandalizing, and Fong recommended taking a picture and calling HPD.
- Mayor's Representative: Nitta raised a concern that Leong was withholding information from the Board regarding a safety issue that Nitta had discussed earlier in the meeting. Chair Stubbs will contact Leong.
- Construction: A resident suggested having police hold signs during construction. Chair Stubbs noted that police are present during construction for traffic control.
- Bus Transfers: Community member Ronald Higa noted that bus transfer policies will change starting Tuesday, July 1, 2014. The bus rider will have two (2) hours to use the transfer.

UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS:

- Complete Streets/Bill 13 CD 2 Executive Capital Budget: Dos-Santos Tam reported Mayor Caldwell still needs to release the funds for Complete Streets, and recommended the community send an email to the Mayor and DTS to ensure that the project can begin soon. Chair Stubbs reported that Bill 13 CD 2 passed, and the Mayor still needs to sign the budget.
- Kuakini Extension Project Update: Nishimura noted that the Mayor's Representative should report on the Kuakini Extension project and all items that are on the agenda listed as ongoing issues.
- Request from DTS for Collision History: Chair Stubbs reported the Board is still waiting for DTS to send the traffic collision history on the corner of Kapalama Avenue and Hala Drive from 2009 to April 2013.
- Repaving of the 1300-1400 blocks of Kealia Drive: Kaapu noted that this project has been added to the online list of repaving projects.
- Repaving of Lolena Street and Lolena Place: Kaapu noted that this project has been added to the online list of repaving projects, and is scheduled to start after 2014.
- Na Pueo Park Former Alzheimer's Care Facility: Kaapu noted the last meeting was well attended. The attendees had a tour of the facilities. Delaunay noted that Councilmember Fukunaga's office will work with area legislators to survey the community regarding how the facility should be used. Fong and Dos Santos-Tam recommended getting input from all area residents. A resident asked and Kaapu answered that the City Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) was doing repairs to the building. Chair Stubbs noted the building belongs to the City Department of Community Services (DCS), and the park belongs to the City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The March 10, 2014 regular meeting minutes were ADOPTED as circulated by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 7-0-0 (Aye: Achong, Dos Santos-Tam, Fong, Kaapu, Kuo, Nitta, and Stubbs).

NEW BUSINESS

- Liliha Resurfacing Bid: Dos Santos-Tam asked Delaunay about Liliha Street resurfacing. Kuo and Kaapu noted that Judd Street and Analu Street will be repaved.
- Kunawai Park Restrooms: Achong reported that a couple of years ago, the restrooms at Kunawai Park were supposed to be replaced. Families who go to the park need to go home if they need to use the restroom. Nishimura noted that there used to be restrooms, but there was a lack of funding and structural problems. A resident commented that a restroom would attract illegal activities at night.
- Kunawai Lane Illegal Dumping and Repainting of Speed Bumps: Chair Stubbs commented that illegal dumping has been a problem relating to bulky item pick up.
- Lanakila Avenue Sidewalks from Kunawai Lane to Kuakini Street: Nitta commented that the sidewalks are too narrow and deteriorating. Dos Santos-Tam noted that there needs to be a painted line that separates the sidewalk for pedestrians and the road for the drivers. Kuo noted there is no sidewalk at the corner of Kunawai Lane and Judd Street. Dos Santos-Tam suggested the issue could be a Safe Routes to School opportunity. Kuo also noted there is a tree on Lanakila Avenue near the second house on the left going mauka, past Keola Street, that needs to be cut.
- Alewa Heights Thefts/Break-Ins: Fong noted there were many burglaries in the area. HPD is aware of the problem and there are more patrols. Call police to report suspicious activities.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- Ma'ema'e Elementary SCC: Ma'ema'e Elementary SCC is taking a break for summer.
- Maluhia: No report was provided.

- St. Francis: No report was provided.
- Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center: There will be a candidate fair on Friday, July 25, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The event is open to the public. There will be door prizes and free lunch.
- Others: No report was provided.

BOARD BUSINESS

- Treasurer's Report: Chair Stubbs read the financial statement, noting a remaining balance of \$222.51. The report was filed.
- Neighborhood Board No. 14 Facebook/Twitter Account: No report was provided.
- Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA): No report was provided.
- Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC): Dos-Santos Tam recommended the public look at the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) report that is posted online.
- Sunshine Law Online Training: Chair Stubbs reminded all Board members that Board members are required to complete Sunshine Law online training.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next Board Meeting: The next board meeting will be Monday, July 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ma'ema'e Elementary School cafeteria. Election of officers will take place.

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

Submitted by: Risé Doi, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Nola J. Frank, Neighborhood Assistant
Finalized by: Robert Stubbs, Chair