



## KALIHI – PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

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### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Draft) WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008 KAPALAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Bernie Young called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with a quorum present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Dell, Cardy Fang, Ken Harding, Rodolfo Ibay, Florendo Juan, Fetu Kolio, Calvin Konno, Roland Louie, Alyn Vasquez, Jennifer Waihe'e, David Yaw, Shane Yaw, and Bernadette Young.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ken Akamine and Jesusa Rone.

**VACANCIES:** Four vacancies in Sub-District 3.

**GUESTS:** Senator Gordon Trimble, Ross Tsukenjo (Senator Donna Mercado Kim's office), Alisha Leisels (Senator Chun Oakland's office), Steve Lohse (Representative Karl Rhoads' office), Colette Devou (Representative Corinne Ching's office), Allan Garcia (Representative Joey Manahan's office), Alisa Agpaoa (Councilmember Romy Cachola's office), Firefighter Guy Fujio (Honolulu Fire Department), Major Clayton Saito, Sgt. Yiu K. Chan, Officers Thomas Taflinger and Lloyd Dabaluz (Honolulu Police Department), Ted Sarabay (Board of Water Supply), Colleen Mung Lim, Maryrose McClelland, Wilfredo Boter, Christina Pascua, Donald Guerrero, Lorainne Robinson, Kristi Sue Ako, Ken Kami; Leland Ribac, Marie Richardson and Mary Chanel-Benjamin (Neighborhood Commission Office Staff).

**VOTE TO FILL THE VACANCIES** – Chair Young asked if anyone was interested in filling the vacancies in Sub-District 3. No one came forward.

#### **COMMUNITY REPORTS -**

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Honolulu District 1, Beat 150** – Sgt. Chan reported statistics for last month included: 4 robberies, 1 unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (UEMV), 0 assault, 2 property damage, 21 motor vehicle collisions, 1 driving under influence (DUI), 1 drug offense and 22 miscellaneous service calls.

**Kalihi District 5** – HPD Officer reported statistics for last month included: 254 arguments, 28 assaults, 7 burglaries, 5 narcotic arrest, 16 DUI, 19 family offenses, 1 homicide, 22 motor vehicle thefts, 219 motor vehicle collisions, 31 property damage, 9 robberies, 65 thefts, 35 UEMV.

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Fire Fighter Guy Fujio reported:**

- 1) 1 brush, 1 fire, 1 vehicle and 0 structure fire; 27 medical emergencies, 1 search/rescue, 9 miscellaneous emergencies.
- 2) Fire Safety Tip: Fire, building, and U.S. postal codes and City ordinances state that property owners shall place their house numbers in such a manner so it is legible and readily visible from the street. This will assist HFD and other first responders in locating your house quickly in the event of an emergency.

Questions and concerns:

- A citizen asked HPD to please patrol Liliha Street from the freeway onramp to Vineyard Boulevard seems there has been a lot of "alleged drug dealings" done out in the open.
- The A'ala Park problem continues with "alleged drug dealings" and sleeping/camping on the sidewalks after park closes at 9:00 p.m. Ibay said it is an ongoing problem and the homeless/drug dealers always return even with issued citations.
- Vasquez asked HPD to patrol River Street between Hotel and King Streets; she said it is infested with "alleged drug dealings" in broad daylight.
- Dell said there has been panhandling by Vietnam Veterans at the corner of Vineyard Boulevard and Nu'uuanu Avenue. They seem to switch corners with the flow of traffic to their advantage with handheld



signs asking for help. HPD said they have given the veterans information on who to contact for help, however, it is up to the veterans to make contact.

- S. Yaw asked why there were 350 job vacancies at HPD. HPD said some officers are deployed overseas; some have returned home, however, most of them are still out on sick leave.
- Fang reported his daughter was followed by a green sedan near Banyan Mall on a Saturday morning and was reported to HPD. HPD said it is best to get the license plate number.
- Vasquez asked HPD to patrol near the eastbound Vineyard Boulevard off-ramp, there are sometimes 30 to 50 people gambling clearly visible with money at hand. HPD said they can't comment due to an ongoing investigation regarding this matter.
- Kolio suggested forming a community watch near Pua Lane and requested Officer Mata to assist. HPD said Officer Mata is currently on day shift and such patrol assignments had to come from the watch commander.

Chair Young took the agenda out of order to allow R. Tsukano from Senator Donna Mercado Kim's office to report due to his attendance at another meeting tonight.

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim – R. Tsukano reported:**

- 1) Senator Kim's community bulletin was circulated and on page two is a community survey that the Senator asked everyone to fill out and return to her office.
- 2) He apologized for having to leave early for another scheduled meeting.
- 3) He clarified on the agenda tonight he is not scheduled to report on the Kuhio Park Terrace (KPT) elevators which he reported on a couple of months ago. KPT is reported by Representative Manahan's office.

Questions and concerns:

- M. McClelland said she opposed the proposal made to remove all clothes line from neighborhoods. R. Tsukano said he would relay the message to Senator Kim and hopes to answer this question at the next meeting.

**Board of Water Supply (BWS) -Ted Sarabay reported:**

- 1) He is happy to report there were no main water breaks in the Kalihi district.
- 2) Water main breaks are an unavoidable factor in the water utility industry. BWS works diligently to reduce the amount of breaks that happen every year. Main breaks occur for many reasons. Aside from people accidentally hitting the mains, a primary reason for main failure is their age. Additionally, there are many factors that can accelerate main deterioration, including corrosive soil conditions, an increase or decrease in water pressure, ground movement, stray electrical currents, etc. The BWS has taken several proactive steps towards reducing the amount of breaks. BWS gathers data at the main repair site to determine why different pipelines failed, and the data can be used to develop solutions that can later be incorporated in pipeline design, installation and/or maintenance. BWS is also working on corrosion control methods in an attempt to extend the life of its waterlines. BWS invested millions of dollars annually on the pro-active replacement of its aging water mains to effectively minimize water loss and service disruptions, and to ensure a continued safe and reliable water supply. To report a water emergency, please contact the emergency line at 748-5010.
- 3) The BWS kicked off the 2008 Water Conservation Week Poster Contest for all Oahu students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Deadline for poster entries is Thursday, March 13. Contest details can be found on the website, [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com) or by calling the Communications Office at 748-5041.

Questions and concerns:

- Juan said after confirming via a phone conversation with Moani Wright of BWS regarding the Mokuea Street pavement project between Dillingham Boulevard and King Street was completed three years ago. The work was inspected and approved, therefore the contractor was paid in full by the City; however, the<sub>2</sub>

work was unacceptable. The City funded these repairs without any contractor compensation. The same contractor paved Kamoli'i Street to King Street, covered by Federal funds; the quality between the two pavement projects had a significant difference. He is wondering why the difference in work quality if in fact the same contractor, R & Y Construction and the same inspector were involved.

- Dell said part of the problem is resolving if the City or State is responsible for Mokuea Street. He said the City paved up to the property line of Mokuea Street creating somewhat of a dip which he thought was unsafe. T. Sarabay said he had to research whether the State or the City is responsible.

**Mayor Mufi Hanneman's representative** - Ross Tanimoto was off island; no report was available.

#### **RESIDENTS' CONCERNS –**

1) Chair Young said a resident had concerns about someone rummaging through her trash receptacle for recyclable items leaving a mess behind for her to clean up. She read a copy received from Environmental Refuse Department stating in Section 9-1.6, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu covering prohibiting the disturbance of receptacles. Dell said to call the City Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) to pick up the trash since there are no locks on the bins themselves.

2) S. Yaw said Dillingham Boulevard between Honolulu Community College and King Street has had major flooding problems for over 15 years. He said there seems to be a drainage problem that needs the City's attention.

3) Harding said the trash pileup at Kamehameha IV Road and Middle Street intersection still remains a problem. Chair Young said the City sent out letters to neighboring businesses in the area to comply with trash removal.

4) Aaron Lee said the Superferry still continues to pose noise problems in the downtown area. S. Lohse from Representative Karl Rhoads' office said A. Lee should attend a hearing tomorrow on the Superferry noise bill being heard.

#### **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –**

##### **October 17, 2007 –**

**The Board UNANIMOUSLY agreed to accept October 17, 2007 regular meeting minutes with the following amendments:**

Page 4: under "NEW BUSINESS" strike out "EXCLUDE" from "ACTION TO EXCLUDE LAWMAKERS' REPRESENTATIVES FROM FUTURE MEETINGS." First and second bullets; replace "D. Yaw" with "S. Yaw." First bullet; replace "attend" with "provide". Second bullet; replace "attend Board meetings" with "attend all Board meetings". Replace "if it is held at night time" with "when the Legislature holds meetings at night time." Fourth bullet; replace "exclude lawmakers attending future Board meetings should be tabled" with "bypass agenda items for lawmakers presentations when not present at the meetings." Fifth bullet; replace "where by attending" with "which required attendance at"

Header note on pages three through six; replace "October 15" with "October 17".

##### **November 21, 2007 –**

**Dell moved and Harding seconded, to accept November 21, 2007 regular meeting minutes.** Kolio asked why the December meeting was cancelled when the Board agreed not to take a recess. Chair Young explained the NCO polled the Board and concluded not enough Board members were going to attend due to a heavy December holiday schedule, therefore, rather than risk having especially HPD along with HFD, BWS and all officials attend only to have no quorum. M. Richardson said the meeting was not cancelled rather it was not going to have quorum. **The November 21, 2007 regular minutes were APPROVED AS CIRCULATED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT. (13-0-0)**

##### **January 16, 2007-**

**Dell moved and D.Yaw seconded, to accept the January 16, 2008 regular meeting minutes. The January 16, 2008 regular meeting minutes were APPROVED AS CIRCULATED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT. (13-0-0)**

**TREASURER'S REPORT –** Fang reported the total appropriated balance is \$3,233.62. The operating account balance is \$1,187.62. The publicity account balance is \$1,926.00. The refreshments account balance is \$120.00.<sup>3</sup> Expenses for January were \$80.41.

## **OLD AGENDA BUSINESS –**

### **Kuhio Park Terrace (KPT) – A. Garcia reported:**

Not much has changed from the last report; building B still has only one elevator working. Building A has three elevators working, in all only four out of six elevators are currently working at KPT. Over \$5 million will be needed to modernize the 30 year-old elevators. The elevators themselves are outdated; technicians are forced to salvage one to save another to get it up and running again.

Questions and concerns:

- Chair Young raised same concern; the safety for elders and handicapped, as she was told the "wait period" for KPT could take up to 20 minutes for an elevator and wants to keep the issue on the agenda.

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS –**

**Governor Linda Lingle's representative –** No representative was present; no report available.

**Senator Gordon Trimble –** Senator Trimble reported:

- 1) In the interest of sustainability, the Senate has gone paperless. This advance has resulted in savings of about 3-mile worth of paper. However, if you plan on submitting testimonies, you must do it 24 hours in advance so that the committee can scan it in, otherwise, your testimony may not count, according to several committee chairs. The best way to have your voice heard is to fax or hand deliver a copy of your testimony to the chair of the committee hearing your bill, 24 hours before the hearing is scheduled. E-mail is an option, but has a higher possibility of being "lost". If you want to find the status of bills you can check the Legislative Reference Bureau's public website at: [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov).

**Representative Corinne Ching's representative –** Colette Devou circulated Representative Corinne Ching's report and said she is currently attending to a family emergency.

**Representative Joey Manahan's representative –** A. Garcia reported:

- 1) Representative Manahan is opposed to the current Puahala Homes proposal.
- 2) The KPT elevator report was given earlier under old business of the agenda.

**Representative Karl Rhoads' representative –** S. Lohse reported on some bills Representative Rhoads has introduced:

- 1) Criminal trespassing; House Bill 1985 would make it a criminal trespassing charge to enter or remain unlawfully upon the premises of a public housing project. This bill is scheduled for decision making today.
- 2) Liquor consumption; House Bill 1984 which will prohibit the consumption of liquor on any public sidewalk or common area within a public housing project. This bill is also scheduled for decision making today.
- 3) Mayor Wright Housing (MWH) Security; the residents of MWH have experienced a history of crime and violence in their neighborhood. To effectively address security issues at MWH, House Bill 2735 would appropriate funds for at least three security guards, police officers, or public safety officers with police powers at MWH. This bill has passed the House Committee on Human Services and Housing and has been referred to the House Finance Committee. (Representative Rhoads is vice chair of House Committee on Human Services and Housing). Kolo and the neighborhood watch group has made great efforts in providing HPD support.

Questions and concerns:

- Harding asked about the real purpose of the State government going paperless. Senator Trimble said printing costs was a factor; however, he felt also left out of the loop on what the real purpose was, and<sup>4</sup>

believed the public will have less access to the legislature by implementing the 24-hour limit to testimonies being submitted. Senator Trimble also said there are no recycled surplus funds available, therefore some counties are being forced to raise taxes. He informed that the five cent deposit refund does not occur until the recyclable items are shipped out of the state. He also said Senate Bill 2629 will eliminate the use of Styrofoam by the year 2010 and all will be affected by the six percent tax on recyclable items.

- S. Yaw asked if Representative Manahan supported the Governor's Turtle Bay proposal. A. Garcia said he would have to pose the question to Representative Manahan.
- Harding asked S. Lohse why Representative Rhoads has not lobbied for more funds to update the KPT elevators, since it has been an urgent ongoing issue, and to solve the homeless crisis in the district with him being the vice chair of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing. S. Lohse said he would have to pose these questions to the representative and give a reply at the next meeting.
- Juan expressed concern regarding the sewer manholes at KPT, Kamehameha IV and MWH. He said the State had no 24-hour emergency phone number posted anywhere. He has had to respond to sewer overflow sitting overnight while trying to reach someone at the state level to open the manholes. D. Yaw said he had a phone number which he will relay to Juan.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization / Citizens Advisory Committee (OMPO/CAC)** – S. Yaw circulated a report from the OMPOCAC meeting. He reported:

- 1) The sub-committee on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) was formed to advise the CAC on PPP.
- 2) The sub-committee is open to educating and informing the public on options for proposed toll roads whether using existing highways or building new ones for the purpose of toll fares.
- 3) He said the majority of Oahu businesses will be utilizing the toll roads and he opposes having a toll road through the Kalihi district.
- 4) A call for action authorizing S. Yaw to vote on the report to be submitted to the CAC in the March 2008 meeting.

#### Pro Discussion:

1) The State cannot afford to repair aging transportation infrastructure. 2) Allows State to collaborate with private vendors for long term transportation projects. 3) Technical specialization. 4) Better maintained and managed roadways. 5) No excess revenue would be reverted to the State General Fund.

#### Con Discussion:

1) No compete clause permits a virtual monopoly. 2) No geographic restrictions. 3) Limited disclosure of information. 4) No prohibition on foreign ownership. 5) Unsolicited procurement procedures. 6) Demand risk is responsibility of the State. 7) No blanket legislation for creation of non-toll roads as an alternative.

**D. Yaw moved and Dell seconded, to support S. Yaw with CAC report; the motion was ADOPTED 12-0-1.** (Aye: Dell, Fang, Harding, Ibay, Juan, Kolio, Konno, Louie, Vasquez, D. Yaw, S. Yaw and Young. Abstain: Waihe'e).

**MWH Security Permitted Interaction Group (PIG)** – Vasquez reported:

1) After several months of proposing a task force for MWH, Chad Taniguchi, Mr. Jacobs of MWH, Ms. Chavez (acting director for MWH), the president and vice president of MWH Tennant Association, Kolio and Vasquez will meet regarding the much needed task force.

2) She introduced a neighbor who came to testify tonight (Fred Aly). Fred Aly introduced himself and stated he had a confrontation with a neighbor about one year ago. On February 15, he was assaulted by this same neighbor. HPD was called and the neighbor was arrested. F. Aly is now fearful especially having to face his attacker during an upcoming trial.

Questions and concerns:

- Harding opposed any land condemnation for the purpose of new toll roads.
- Kolio inquired how the MWH Security PIG could get funding to purchase neighborhood watch t-shirts. A suggestion was made by a constituent to approach the district elected officials with a proposal of support.
- Dell suggested to F. Aly to apply for a temporary restraining order (TRO) to protect him from further harassment. F. Aly said he will research and apply for one as soon as possible.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS and NEW AGENDA BUSINESS –**

Puahala Homes:

D. Yaw reported he attended the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) public hearing regarding the closure of the transitional shelter in Kaka’ako and indicated the State has proposed to move the displaced families into Puahala Homes on School Street. He opposes the proposal because of the lack of due process. He expressed that this proposal may bring more problems to the area and families on a seven year wait list to receive public housing are being cheated.

Chair Young said she too attended the HPHA public hearing, which was never brought to the Board’s attention. She said a letter was signed by several elected officials and sent to HPHA asking to rescind the decision to move homeless families into Puahala Home.

Harding said HPHA will be holding another meeting on February 29 to debate and make a decision. **Harding moved and Dell seconded, to send a letter to HPHA to insist on communication with the Neighborhood Board No. 15 and ask recognition to express concern how this proposal will affect the district, which was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT (13-0-0).**

Residents’ trash concerns were addressed earlier in the agenda during residents’ concerns.

Solid waste management permit for construction demolition:

Brian Tajiri from Tajiri Demolition Disposal notified the Board per a Department of Health requirement of his company’s Sand Island location which consisted of 10 and 30 cubic yard dumpsters and trucking equipment being used to move construction waste to landfill as well as recyclable waste. He was aware that this would be an informational requirement and not an action requirement.

Questions and concerns:

- Dell said the City will endure more problems and funding to sustain the community when the State approves the homeless move to Puahala Homes. Imposing more taxes, electricity, water and transportation costs will be factors the district should be concern about. He urged everyone to inform the Mayor not to support the State proposal and to have an open meeting to voice community opinions.
- Chair Young asked B. Tajiri if construction waste was all his company handled. B. Tajiri said yes. **Dell moved, and Waihe’e seconded, to support Tajiri Demolition Disposal, which WAS ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT (13-0-0).**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board meeting will be March 19, 2008.

Submitted by:  
Mary Chanel-Benjamin, NA

Approved by:  
Chair Bernadette Young