



KALIHI – PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES-draft WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2008 KAPALAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Bernie Young called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. A quorum of 11 was present of this 19 member Board.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT – Ken Akamine, Rodolfo Ibay, Calvin Konno, Jesusa Rone.

VACANCIES – Four vacancies in Sub-District 3.

GUESTS: Senator Gordon Trimble, Alisha Leisels (Senator Chun Oakland's office), (Representative Karl Rhoads' office), Amy Hammond (Representative Corinne Ching's office), Allan Garcia (Representative Joey Manahan's office), Elisa Agpaoa (Councilmember Romy Cachola's office), Capt. Steve Barrett (Honolulu Fire Department), Sgt. Y. K. Chan, Lt. N. Kau, Sgt. L. Dabaluz, Lt. R. Chinnen (Honolulu Police Department), (Board of Water Supply), Darryl Tamanaha, Monte Kalama, Donald Guerrero, Jade Neal (KRA), Kristi Sue-Ako, Kandy Key (TJ Mahoney & Associates), 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: 1 robbery, 2 unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (UEMV), 4 assaults, 1 property damage, 14 motor vehicle collisions, 3 driving under influence (DUI), 0 drug offense and 17 miscellaneous service calls.

Kalihi District 5 – Sgt. Dabaluz reported statistics for last month included: 258 arguments, 36 assaults, 17 burglaries, 4 narcotic/drugs arrests, 27 DUI, 13 family offenses, 0 homicide, 15 motor vehicle thefts, 226 motor vehicle collisions (MVC), 44 property damage, 10 robberies, 57 thefts and 26 UEMV.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Capt. Barrett reported:

- 1) There were 3 brush, 6 vehicle, 5 rubbish and 4 structure fires; 46 medical emergencies, 15 search/rescue, 2 miscellaneous emergencies.
- 2) Fire Safety Tip: Cooking at home can be a fun family activity, but please be careful. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, cooking fires are the leading cause of house fires and fire injuries nationwide. The following precautions can be taken to minimize your chances of starting a cooking fire: a) Do not leave cooking food unattended. If you must leave the kitchen even briefly, turn off the heat, and take a spoon or oven mitt with you to remind yourself of the food on the stove. b) Do not become distracted. Attending to children, answering phone calls, watching television, and answering doorbells can have devastating results when the stove is on the unattended. c) Keep ignitable items, such as dishtowels, paper or plastic bags, or curtains, at least three feet away from the range top. d) Keep an ABC-rated fire extinguisher near the kitchen, and learn how to use it.

Questions and concerns:

- Chair Young commended responsible agencies for the removal of some homeless people in the Iwilei Street. She asked if there was any shelter or state assistance offered to the homeless. Sgt. Chun said the order was initiated by the State Department of Transportation with HPD assistance and there was advance warning given as well as veterans' referral cards for those that inquired or needed it.
- Louie claimed the IHS recruits citizens from the mainland for their 90 day in house program and they then become the homeless that roamed the A'ala Park district. Sgt. Chun said panhandlers and the



homeless do move around a lot and HPD continues to monitor Nu'uuanu Street and southbound towards H-1.

- Harding questioned where most MVC occurred in the district which he noticed the total reduced from January. Sgt. Chun responded he does not have an actual report to differentiate residential versus commercial MVC, however, HPD has been conducting speed traps and this may be reducing speeders in the district.
- Harding asked HPD if part of their responsibility was to monitor the trash including bulky items placed on the sidewalks blocking access. Sgt. Chun said emergencies take precedence over trash complaints; however, also reminded that City bulk item pickup are once a month or citizens can call for pick up.
- D. Yaw inquired regarding a fight on Kamehameha IV Road involving public housing young adults and if HPD had any stipulations to make aware the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) of residents' involvement that could lead to housing disqualification. Sgt. Chun said it was not a procedure for HPD to contact HPHA. HPD said arrests are made if warranted and parents are contacted when minors are involved and patrol is stepped up if needed in a particular area involved.
- Kolio asked if security guards for housing projects follow the same procedures as HPD when involving incidents. Sgt. Chun said each private security company hired for a particular area are usually covered under the private company's own procedure and training guidelines and Kolio should check with his residence manager for the guidelines serving MWH.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – No report available.

Mayor Mufi Hanneman's representative – R. Tanimoto is off island; no report was available.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS:

1) Monte Kalama came forth as a Puahala Home resident to ask the Board for support regarding HPHA's transitional families being relocated to the district. M. Kalama said HPHA meetings have been delayed four times and again the final decision meeting has been delayed until June without any further information or answers for current Puahala Home residents that are concerned. M. Kalama said most residents felt in all fairness the vacancies at Puahala Homes should be offered to families on HPHA's seven year wait list.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION/ADDITIONAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –

February 20, 2008 meeting: **Vasquez moved and D. Yaw seconded to include the amended motion made by Waihe'e to include in the letter to HPHA asking to rescind their decision on the proposal to move the transitional families to Puahala Homes and to document the amended motion in the February 20, 2008 addendum to the minutes. The Board UNANIMOUSLY agreed to accept February 20, 2008 regular meeting minutes with the following amendments:**

Page 6: insert "Waihe'e moved and Dell seconded to amend the motion 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 and to ask HPHA to rescind their decision to relocate transitional families to Puahala Homes and supporting the January 30, 2008 letter initiated by Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland also asking to rescind HPHA's proposal to allow transitional housing into public housing projects".

TREASURER'S REPORT – Fang reported the total appropriated balance is \$3,183.01. The operating account balance is \$1,137.01. The publicity account balance is \$1,926.00. The refreshments account balance is \$120.00. Expenses for February were \$50.61 for printing and postage. He also noted the facility charge for the January meeting was not posted on this report.

OLD AGENDA BUSINESS:

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

1) The KPT staff has been operating one service elevator for each building at KPT to ensure safety, building A and B are now down to one elevator per building. The other elevators are either not of any further use without replacement parts and others having been scheduled to receive maintenance once a contractor is hired when needed parts on order are received. A. Garcia said the work has been delayed over two years due to parts not₂ being available.

Questions and concerns:

- Harding clarified only two out of the total six elevators serving KPH residents are operating and considered this inhumane and outrageous treatment of public housing residents. He felt the State had no urgency to correct or solve the elevator problems which are creating health and safety issues upsetting the residents. Harding was appalled as he claimed no where else in the United States this could occur. Chair Young asked A. Garcia to please report to the Board what he can find out regarding the part orders and a timeline of when to expect them.

Puahala Homes/Transitional Home Proposal – D. Yaw reported:

There are seven members on the HPHA Board that have supported asking to rescind their decision to move the transitional families into Puahala Homes, however, the four remaining members are opposed to it. The next HPHA Board meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. He understood the State no longer declared the transitional residents as “homeless” since they are living in the transitional home; however, he thought the federal program appropriated 20 million from the Legislature to build new homeless shelters in Hawaii. The State public housing is trying to work with Housing Urban Development (HUD) or federal government to come to a resolution as soon as possible. At the time when Norman Ho worked at HPHA there was a fifty percent allowable for low income families versus the other being higher income families being offered low income housing facilities. He also said Kamehameha IV (K4), Kalihi Valley (KV) and MWH are some public housing that may be affected by transitional homes occupancy in the near future.

Questions and concerns:

- Chair Young said the community seems to be concerned over the district being used as a transitional home without any due process and consideration of the community.
- Harding, after reading inserts from the State Department of the Attorney General responded to Senator Chun Oakland’s opposition letter, that it seemed Puahala Homes is going to become a partial transitional home project. He said according to the respond letter the State basically has the authority to use any of it’s housing project as a transitional homes and can offer the units available at Puahala Home to the homeless families in need. The State will eventually lease to nonprofit or government agency for a period of not to exceed ninety-nine years for a sum of \$1 per year. The letter stated based on the power of the HPHA pursuant to section 356D-122, Hawaii Revised Statute, they can take reasonably necessary actions to carry out their duties with regard to the administration of homeless facilities and programs.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

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

Senator Gordon Trimble – Senator Trimble reported:

- 1) A Bill to reduce paper in the landfill, SB2628, will change the distribution of phone books. This will impact 17,000 small businesses that rely on yellow pages for advertising and all those who use them instead of a computer.
- 2) SB3215, SB2847 and SB2849 will change how our agricultural lands are being used, allowing the growth of crops for biofuels and other alternative non-agricultural energy technologies. The importance and priority of agriculture is being protected while the state is carefully exploring new ways to meet our energy needs.
- 3) SB2885 will ban the sale of incandescent lamps in Hawaii, beginning this year. SB2842 phases out energy inefficient lighting and directs the Department of Health (DOE) to develop a recycling program, but doesn’t allocate funds for the program. Lighting is about 20% of our energy bill. The energy saving bulbs will truly reduce energy use production of greenhouse gases. The lamps promoted the widespread use of DFL light bulbs which contains mercury and the State required special disposal as hazardous waste of such light bulbs. LED lighting technology saves even more energy however; it is expensive.
- 4) SB2933 would allow people to use clotheslines without regard to community association rules.
- 5) SB2841 will require large retail dealers to operate redemption centers to make recycling more convenient, however, be aware this may put your groceries in a shopping cart used to sort or move mildewed cans and bottles.
- 6) SB2629 and SB2001 will prohibit the use of polystyrene foam in disposable food containers, which will help reduce waste in the landfill.

Questions and concerns:

- D. Yaw inquired on the status of Karens Law. Senator Trimble said he will have to follow up and report next month.
- Florendo thanked the Senator for attending the Environmental Protection Agency meeting. Senator Trimble was concerned about water conditions around Waikiki and Sand Island.
- Dell does not support the primary to secondary wastewater treatment being proposed at Sand Island and felt the community would be greatly ignored.

Representative Corinne Ching's representative – A. Hammond reported:

The next scheduled HPHA meeting will be on April 10 at the Lanakila Center from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Questions and concerns:

- S. Yaw asked if SB2933, the use of clothesline, if crossover yet. A. Hammond will have to check on the status of this bill.

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

A. Garcia reported on KPT elevators earlier in the meeting but was open to questions from the audience.

Representative Romy Cachola – E. Agpaoa reported:

E. Agpaoa said Representative Cachola is currently at a council meeting however she is happy to take questions from the audience as well.

Questions and concerns:

- Harding said a master plan for housing projects was needed, and MWH needed some renovation funding. He said the State could provide funding through HUD for MWH project and believed funding is possible every ten years. A. Garcia will have to follow up with both representative Manahan and Rhoads.
- D. Yaw thanked Councilmember Cachola for a great recycling project at Farrington High School as it was a success.
- S. Yaw asked if the new Walgreens construction needed input from the Board. D. Yaw said the Board could write a letter to Walgreens requesting information. Dell thought it was too soon to inquire since Walgreens has not even started the construction plans yet. The Board should recommend discussing the project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization / Citizens Advisory Committee (OMPO/CAC); (The sub-committee on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) was formed to advise the CAC on PPP) – S. Yaw reported:

- 1) PPP is working on finalizing the final report to submit to CAC and he should have the final draft in April for the Board.
- 2) The committee is opposed to any use of eminent domains or the use of any ceded lands for the project, either for toll roads or served as a stop for the transit rail.
- 3) The committee also is discussing a concern regarding the effects of speeding and district commercial versus residential traffic. He is proposing some commercial businesses be moved to Kapolei, Mililani, Wahiawa and Ewa to help reduce commercial traffic in Kalihi-Palama districts.
- 4) He also said the committee has proposed lanes for emergency vehicles as well as to wave toll fees for such vehicles.

Questions and concerns:

- Dell asked if S. Yaw knew where exactly the transit terminal will be for the district. Dell was also concerned regarding emergency evacuation for the district especially from King Street going upward direction of School Street. He was also curious to see how many bus stops will be at lost. S. Yaw said he will report further after the April meeting.

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

- 1) Kolio said a meeting on March 7 with the MWH acting residence manager, Mr. Kimura of HPHA and Representative Karl Rhoads discussing further security measures and will have an update in April.
- 2) Vasquez was upset about the recent stabbing that occurred at MWH during their patrol walk through MWH. She said the HPD officer that was scheduled to walk with the group was not present. This was upsetting to her especially with the two stabbings during the patrol.
- 3) Vasquez said MWH seem to be having a problem serving trespassing citations. She said most times violators are gone off property by the time HPD arrives. Vasquez requested the Board to offer solutions and to consider writing HPD for a solution as well. S. Yaw thought it was not a good idea to write HPD as a Board. Chair Young said to speak with the MWH Board members for a solution. Vasquez said she will find a solution for HPD presence at MWH since she felt the HPD Major assigned to the district covering MWH is opposed to the senate bill calling to control public drinking.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and NEW AGENDA BUSINESS:

- A. Banyan Court Mall closure signs: D. Yaw said the signs are needed for HPD to enforce the mall closure hours from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. **D. Yaw moved and Waihe'e seconded to allow the City Department of Parks and Recreation to post the Banyan Court Mall closure signs closing the mall from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. The motion was ADOPTED by a 10-0-1 vote.** (Ayes: Dell, Kolio, Louie, Waihe'e, Young, Vasquez, Fang, D. Yaw, Juan and Harding; abstain: S. Yaw)
- B. Board letter to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the 301H waiver for the Sand Island wastewater treatment plant: Juan said the 1.8billion new upgrade to the plant for the proposed secondary wastewater treatment will cost citizens about \$300 a month increase in sewer charges not including a water bill increase. **Harding moved and Florendo seconded for the Kalihi-Palama Board No. 15 to write a letter to the EPA to oppose the 301H secondary treatment proposed for the Sand Island wastewater treatment plant. The motion was ADOPTED by unanimous consent. (11-0-0)** Dell, Kolio, Louie, Waihe'e, Young, Vazquez, Fang, D. Yaw, S. Yaw, Juan, Harding.
- C. K. Akamine Sub-district 1 seat declared vacant: **Waihe'e moved and Dell seconded to declare the seat vacant.** Harding wanted to be sure a letter was sent to member Akamine asking for his resignation. Chair Young informed the Board that the Neighborhood Commission Office sent a letter to Akamine informing him of his absence in over one year as well as NA, Mary Chanel-Benjamin receiving a verbal confirmation from Akamine as he was no longer available to serve on the Board. S. Yaw said he would be offended if Akamine's seat was not declared vacant since a similar situation almost affected his seat at one time. **The motion was ADOPTED by unanimous consent. (11-0-0)** Dell, Kilio, Louie, Waihe'e, Young, Vasquez, Fang, D. Yaw, S. Yaw, Juan and Harding.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by: Mary Chanel-Benjamin, NA

Approved by: Chair Bernadette Young