



KALIHI – PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

C/o Neighborhood Commission Office, 530 South King Street, Room 406 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

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

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Young called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. There were 11 members present of this 19 member Board which constitutes a quorum. A vote of 10 is required for the Board to take action.

MEMBERS PRESENT – Donald Guerrero, Rodolfo Ibay, Ken Harding, Fetu Kolio, Alyn Vasquez-Dela Cerna (re-elected tonight), Roland Louie, Shane Yaw, David Yaw, Jennifer Waihe'e (arrived at 7:20 p.m.), Cardy Fang, Jesusa Rone, Florendo Juan, and Bernadette Young

MEMBERS ABSENT – John Dell and Darryn Ng (newly elected tonight)

VACANCIES – Four vacancies in Sub-District 3.

GUESTS: Representative Joey Manahan, Representative Karl Rhoads, Dennis Galolo (Councilmember Cachola's office), Captain Harryson Nicholas-(Honolulu Fire Department-HPD), Sgt Piros, Sgt Agmata, Lt Lum and Lt. Lum-(Honolulu Police Department-HPD), Ted Saribay-(Board of Water Supply), Karen Takemoto-(Lanakila Senior Center), Colette Devous-(Representative Corinne Ching's office), Darryl Tamanaha, Darryn Ng and Mary Chanel-Benjamin (Neighborhood Commission Office-NCO).

VOTE TO FILL THE VACANCIES – Chair Young announced vacancies and asked the public if anyone was interested in filling Board vacancies.

- 1) **D. Yaw moved and Chair Young seconded to nominate Darryn Ng to serve in Sub-District 1. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent; 11-0-0.** Guerrero, Kolio, Louie, Young, Fang, Ibay, Rone, D. Yaw, S. Yaw, Yuan and Harding)
- 2) **D. Yaw moved and Guerrero seconded to nominate Alyn Vasquez-Dela Cerna to serve in Sub-District 2. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent; 11-0-0.** (Guerrero, Kolio, Louie, Young, Fang, Ibay, Rone, D. Yaw, S. Yaw, Yuan and Harding)

A short recess was taken to administer the Oath of Office to A. Vasquez-Dela Cerna before seated. D. Ng was called away on an emergency and was not able to remain at the meeting.

COMMUNITY REPORTS:

Honolulu Police Department (HPD):

HPD (District 1) – Sgt. Agmata reported total statistics for last month included: 1) 3 assaults, 0 burglary, 0 drug offense, 0 graffiti, 8 motor vehicle collisions (MVC), 1 driving under the influence (DUI), 2 property damage, 3 unauthorized entry into motor vehicle (UEMV), and 22 miscellaneous calls. Safety Tip: Be aware of your surroundings especially while shopping for the holidays. Do not leave purses unattended while shopping and lock all purchases in vehicle trunks where they cannot be seen. Also park in well lit areas of the shopping mall and lock all belongings in the trunk while shopping.

HPD (District 5) – Sgt. Piros reported total statistics for last month included: 1) 250 arguments, 34 assaults, 26 burglaries, 1 drug offense, 19 DUIs, 11 family offenses, 17 motor vehicle theft (MVT), 214 MVC, 40 property damages, 7 robberies, 3 sex offender, 92 thefts and 35 UEMV.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Chair Young said she received calls from residents to assist with several complaints regarding Maluhia Hospital; loud noise and excessive speeding; the area was under Liliha Board No. 14 however, she was willing to lend a hand. Sgt. Piros said his district was in charge of the complaints and have addressed several of them.



- 2) Kolio asked what the procedure was regarding temporary restraining orders (TRO) if an HPD officer responded to a complaint involving a recently filed TRO and no hard record was available. Sgt. Piros said the victim can submit a written statement so that HPD can enforce without the TRO hardcopy.
- 3) D. Galolo reported gambling gatherings in a neighborhood seemed to be attracting crime such as robberies as well as an overwhelming amount of cars blocking others' driveways. Sgt. Piros said to call 911 and if gambling was suspected; ask to speak to someone that handled gambling complaints.
- 4) Juan reported the Kalakaua District Park bathrooms were now closed after school hours due to illegal activities; however park users were now left without a bathroom to use. Juan added the bathrooms were vandalized along with illegal activities when it remained opened 24/7 and Board support was needed to ask the City to allow at least one bathroom to remain open when the tennis court was still open. The Board unanimously agreed to take a vote on the bathroom situation. R. Tanimoto said the proposed closure will assist HPD in enforcing crackdown on the illegal activities at the park. **D. Yaw moved and Juan seconded for the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board No. 15 to support the Kalakaua Park bathroom facing Kalihi Street-diamond head of the park to remain open during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. during Mondays to Fridays and 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The motion was unanimously adopted; 13-0-0. (Aye: Guerrero, Kolio, Louie, Waihe'e, Young, Vasquez-Dela Cerna, Fang, Ibay, Rone, D.Yaw, S. Yaw, Juan and Harding)**
- 5) S. Yaw reported the stabbing at Ka'ahumanu Housing involved drinking; many residents were carrying knives as well. Sgt. Piros encouraged the public to assist with reporting crime.
- 6) T. Saribay asked if an installed video camera outside a home for safety reasons was still legal if it captured neighboring houses. Sgt. Piros said he will follow up at the next meeting.
- 7) Vasquez-Dela Cerna thanked HPD for their assistance in her complaint regarding an internet scam. Sgt. Piros will forward her compliment and information to the officer in charge of the complaint.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Andrews reported statistics for last month included: 1) 5 fires, 80 medical emergencies, 7 hazardous condition emergencies, 2 miscellaneous calls. 2) Fire Safety Tip: This holiday season, consider a fire-resistant, artificial Christmas tree. However, if a natural tree was chosen; choose one as fresh as possible; keep it hydrated and away from home heat sources. Use noncombustible materials for decorations. Also, choose only Underwriter's Laboratory approved electrical decorations and follow manufacturer's instructions for installation and load. Do not overload extension cords. Also, holiday family gathering often include extensive food preparations; significant portion of home fires originate in the kitchen, therefore, do not leave cooking unattended. Have an ABC-rated fire extinguisher available near the kitchen and learn to use it. Turn off the heat if you must leave the stove, even if only for a few minutes. Never wear long, loose-sleeved clothing while cooking. Turn the handles on pots and pans inward to prevent accidents. Keep children away from the kitchen.

Residents' Concerns: There were no concerns.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – T. Saribay reported: 1) There were no main breaks in the district. The BWS asked that the voluntary conservation be extended until the end of November. 2) The annual BWS craft holiday fair was November 15; 10:00 a.m. to noon. BWS's Xeriscape holiday wreath making workshops will be November 22 and 29; from 10:00 a.m. to noon as well. Pre-registration and a nominal fee were required by calling 748-5363 for reservations; email tours@hbws.org. 3) The city's Christmas parades were slated for December 6 in Honolulu and December 16 at Kapolei Hale; both beginning at 6:00 p.m. BWS wished everyone a safe and joyous holiday season and don't forget to visit BWS's annual light display at S. Beretania Street.

Mayor Hannemann's Representative – R. Tanimoto and K. Miyamoto reported: 1) HPD made road checks during October 22 through 28 at Kanoi and Banyan Streets; eight vehicles were towed, four were cited for illegal parking, and one was marked as abandoned. HPD will continue to monitor and take appropriate enforcement actions. 2) Bulky items at Akina and Naopala Streets were removed on October 21; reminded that pick up days were the first Mondays of each month. "NO DUMPING" signage was suggested to be posted in the area as this was not residential. 3) The Awa Lane land acquisition proposal was still in review with the City Department of Design and Construction. 4) HPD was not able to locate any residentially challenged people cohabitating in vehicles at Pua Lane, Kanoa and Palama Streets; those frequenting the area were under case management and not homeless. The Kalihi-Palama outreach workers were aware of the following hangouts: group of teens at Kanoa Park; elder group at Olomea Street near the Vineyard overpass; another group at Kohou Street near the canal; a few also hung out at Dillingham Boulevard at a Honolulu Community College construction site and Austin Lane was gated during

nights therefore no report available. 5) There were eight abandoned vehicles tagged and towed on Naopala and Kanoa Streets; HPD will continue to monitor and take appropriated enforcement actions. 6) The ponding at King and Iwilei Street was still under review.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Chair Young thanked R. Tanimoto for his services during the past years and the Board wished him well on his new assignment; R. Tanimoto will be servicing the Kahala neighborhood on behalf of the Mayor.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS –

- 1) K. Takemoto asked for support in contacting state officials to oppose the closure of the Lanakila Multi Purpose Senior Center; nearly 2,000 island wide senior citizens will lose recreation and health facilities including volunteers. The center had seven Ethnic Clubs with an average of 50 classes and hosted special festivals, food drives, and also served as a Federal Surplus Food distributor. Catholic Charities Hawaii was a private non-profit agency with over 30 programs on Oahu, the Big Island, Kauai and Maui; donations were being sought. Please contact the program at 847-1322 for further information and request them to be on the next agenda for a presentation.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION/ADDITIONAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –

The October 15, 2008 meeting minutes were adopted without objection.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Vasquez-Dela Cerna reported: The September appropriated balance was \$3,486.45: Operating expenditures for the month were \$25.83 for printing and postage leaving a balance of \$1,440.45; Publicity funds remained at \$1,926 while the refreshment funds remained at \$120.

The October current appropriated balance was \$3,463.49: Operating expenditures for the month of October were \$22.96 for printing and postage leaving a balance of \$1,417.49; Publicity funds remained at \$1,926 while the refreshment funds remained at \$120.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Representatives Ching's report – C. Devou reported: 1) The Liliha Community Clean Up Day was Friday, November 28 starting at ten to noon; meet at the Liliha Town Clock at 1808 Liliha Street. 2) Maluhia Hospital and Puahala Homes were taking measures with security and residences to end loitering in the area. Hawaii Public Housing Authority was currently considering a barrier to deter illegal activities as well. 3) Representative Ching has lobbied on behalf of Lanakila Senior Center (LSC) as well as working to find fundraising solutions.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Several Board members agreed problems were forthcoming once Puahala Homes was opened to facilitate the residentially challenged from the Kakaako shelter several months ago.

Representative Manahan reported: 1) He thanked the Board members and the district for the opportunity to serve for another term. He will continue to work towards a common goal with support and guidance from the community. He looked forward to the next two years to continue to make the district a better place to work and raise families. He announced he will serve as Chair of the Tourism and International Affairs Committee as well as a member of the Agriculture Committee and the Economic Revitalization, Business, and Military Affairs Committee. 2) He was aware of the housing shortfalls regarding security issues at both Kuhio Park Terrace and Puahala Homes and asked the community to be sensitive to financial challenges facing the State in implementing solutions. He encouraged anyone to call his office for any questions or concerns at 586-6010.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Juan requested assistance in requesting matching color paint to cover up some electrical pole graffiti near Farrington High School; he was given the go ahead to complete this request.
- 2) Vasquez-Dela Cerna informed she will be forming a neighborhood police team with Juan in her new Sub-District and welcomed anyone to contact her to get involved.
- 3) S. Yaw inquired if any Hawaii banks were failing. Representative Manahan said the State was working with banks to increase borrowers, small business and mortgage loans.
- 4) D. Yaw asked if a Governor's Representative was ever going to attend another Board meeting as there were many concerns for the Governor without reply. He also added the Lanakila Housing project was state jurisdiction; street lights at Ahiahi Street near the project were completely out.

Representative Rhoads reported: 1) A proposed senior housing project at King Street and Iwilei Road has come to a stall; a request to the Governor for 4 million dollars has been made. He requested the project to be placed on the January agenda for comment. 2) Bulky items have become a nuisance due to residents piling items throughout the month prior to scheduled pick up date; asked the City to enforce somehow and consider pick up at twice a month instead. 3) He was still waiting response from the State Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding a listing of private lane ownerships in the district. 3) He has also requested assistance for the LSC as the state was still working on downsizing its' budget. 4) He has also initiated a bill to clear bus stops from transient people using them as sleeping quarters.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) K. Takemoto thanked for support of LSC and reiterated how much seniors needed the center.
- 2) Several Board members were concerned regarding the bulky item nuisance throughout the district; many were blocking sidewalks and becoming unsafe in some areas. Representative Rhoads said he was waiting a response from the City regarding a resolution. S. Yaw said some items may be from evicted residents.

Senators Sakamoto and Mercado Kim's reports – Monthly reports were circulated. No representative present.

Councilmember Cachola's report – D. Galolo reported: 1) A complaint was submitted to investigate the feasibility of restricting left turns into the Costco gas station driveway on Alakawa Street; customer physical confrontations has been reported. The issue has been assigned to the City Department of Transportation Services. 2) The executive summary and entire draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for Honolulu's proposed rail is available at: www.honolulutransit.org. Once published in the Federal Register and in the State Office of Environmental Quality control Bulletin, the public will have 45 days to submit written comments to DTS or provide oral comments during public hearings. The city will not begin construction until a Record of Decision is received from the Federal Transportation Authority.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Several Board members supported Councilmember Cachola in the original Salt Lake Boulevard transit route and encouraged citizens to attend informational meetings and offer testimonies. D. Galolo said Councilmember Garcia was scheduled to meet with the Salt Lake community before the next council meeting regarding the project. Comments on transit system's EIS are due by January 7. All public hearings in December are as followed starting from six to eight in the evening: 8th. at Blaisdell Center; 9th. at Salt Lake District Park; 10th. at Filipino Community Center in Waipahu; 11th. at Bishop Museum.
- 2) Guerrero reiterated the situation at the Costco Iwilei gas station was a very dangerous situation as HPD cannot enforce the "no left turn"; signage was needed to be placed first.

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 was attending a meeting on Friday and will report thereafter.

Mayor Wright Housing (MWH) Security Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) – Kolio reported he attended a public housing meeting and gathered the housing authority were proposing new programs along with adding mixed income families to qualify for public housing due to transition findings.

Announcements: Vasquez-Dela Cerna was pleased to announce the Slipper Project was underway for free slippers to Mayor Wright Housing, Kaahumanu Housing, Kuhio Park Terrace and Kamehameha IV Housing as well as Kauai. She also thanked Representative Rhoads for his support of the project.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned without objections at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by Mary Chanel-Benjamin, NA

Reviewed by Chair Young