



KALIHI – PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

C/o Neighborhood Commission Office, 530 South King Street, Room 406 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES-draft WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2009 KAPALAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Young called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. This 19 member Board requires a vote of 10 to adopt a motion. A quorum of 11 was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT – John Dell, Darryn Ng, Rodolfo Ibay, Ken Harding, Roland Louie, Shane Yaw, David Yaw, Cardy Fang, Fetu Kolio, Florendo Juan, and Bernadette Young

MEMBERS ABSENT – Donald Guerrero, Jennifer Waihee, Alyn Vasquez-Dela Cerna, and Jesusa Rone

VACANCIES – Four vacancies in Sub-District 3.

GUESTS: Keoki Miyamoto-Mayor Hannemann's office, Representative Karl Rhoads, Dennis Galolo-Councilmember Cachola's office, Firefighter Bruce Spears-Honolulu Fire Department (HFD), Sgt. Thomas Taflinger, Sgt. J. Kim, Sgt. P. Lucas, Major William Chur, Capt. Terry Kong, & Sgt Chang-Honolulu Police Department-(HPD); Ted Saribay-Board of Water Supply (BWS), Representative Corinne Ching, Leolani Oyama-Senator Chun Oakland's office, T.J. Mahoney; Nicole Fernandez & Lorraine Robinson; Pat Lee-Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP), Iwalani Sato-City Department of Environmental Services (ENV), Halau O Lokahi School: Tiane McNeil & June Nagasawa; Debbie Hiramoto-Senator Donna Mercado Kim's office, Pohai Ryan-Senator Brickwood Galuteria's office, Doreen Tanaka-Representative Joey Manahan's office, Jocelyn Ho, and Mary Chanel-Benjamin (Neighborhood Commission Office-NCO).

VOTE TO FILL THE VACANCIES – Chair Young asked the public if anyone was interested in filling Board vacancies; no one came forward.

COMMUNITY REPORTS –

Honolulu Police Department (HPD):

HPD (District 1) – Sgt. Chang reported total statistics for last month included 2 assaults, 2 drug offenses, 3 driving under the influence (DUI), 13 motor vehicle collisions (MVC), 1 property damage, 1 robbery, 1 unauthorized entry into motor vehicle (UEMV), and 16 miscellaneous calls.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Several Board members living near A'ala Park received concerns regarding a homeless lady using the bathroom in public; possible health issue. Sgt. Chang said he would need a description of the lady and if HPD catches anyone in the act of defecating, they will issue a citation rather than an arrest. He also said there were bathrooms at A'ala Park as well as a bathroom at the HPD sub-station.
- 2) Kolio asked which City department issued 24 hour parking permits for the downtown area. Sgt. Chang said the City Department of Transportation Services had this jurisdiction. Sgt. Chang added Kolio's complaint was already recently addressed as he brought it to the attention of the Downtown Neighborhood Board No. 13. An inspection of Indigo Restaurant and surrounding area by Sgt. Mata found the business complied with their issued parking permit; however, no metered stalls were involved including any vehicles belonging to area businesses employees.

HPD (District 5) – Sgt. Taflinger reported total statistics for last month included 232 arguments, 25 assaults, 15 burglaries, 4 drug/narcotics, 31 DUI, 17 family offenses, 13 motor vehicle thefts (MVT), 201 MVC, 40 property damages, 5 robberies, 5 sex offenders, 80 thefts and 24 UEMV.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Ibay was concerned over a recent robbery or burglary at or around the 700 block of Kalihi Street. Sgt. Taflinger said the statistic for the month of February will be available at the March meeting.



- 2) D. Yaw was concerned over reports of increased burglaries at the Ka'ahumanu Housing project and was interested if HPD offered any community meetings. Major Chur offered to take the concern to HPD's community service department which scheduled such meetings.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Spear reported statistics for last month included: 4 rubbish fires, 27 medical emergencies and 3 miscellaneous calls. Fire Safety Tip: Smoke alarms save lives and are important part of a home fire escape plan. Since the late 1970s, properly installed and maintained smoke alarms have contributed to an almost 50% decrease in fire deaths. According to the National Fire Protection Association, 65% of reported home fire deaths in 2000-2004 resulted from fires in homes that had no or inoperable smoke alarms. An estimated 890 lives could be saved each year if all homes contained working smoke alarms. Please be sure your home has a working smoke alarms; it could save lives.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – T. Saribay reported 1 main break on January 15 at Fernandez Street. The BWS was pleased to announce that Wayne Hashiro has recently joined the BWS as the new manager and chief engineer. W. Hashiro will be responsible for the overall strategic direction and management of the BWS; focusing on furthering the department's mission, "Water for Life-Ka Wai Ola," and expanding its efforts to become a truly world-class water utility. Hashiro was previously the city's Managing Director. The Maui native has worked as a professional engineer and manager for over 34 years developing diverse engineering, project management, employee leadership as well as an extensive experience while with the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The Halawa Xeriscape Garden held workshops geared toward community education about outdoor water conservation; February 7; from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. was a child workshop with parents making natural Valentine's Day cards. February 28; from 10:00 a.m. to noon was a class on making organic pesticides and March 21 and May 9 from 10:00 a.m. to noon was a workshop on how worms can turn food waste into organic fertilizer. To register, call 748-5363 or email to tours@hbws.org and visit www.boardofwatersupply.com for further BWS information.

Mayor Hannemann's Representative – K. Miyamoto reported the Awa triangle was City owned; the City was currently working with the nearby condominium to take ownership of the triangle and further information was still pending. An assessment of the condition of the damaged drain pipe at 215 N. King Street was referred to the City Department of Design and Construction for repairs. Concerns over the use Loi Kalo Park by Halau Lokahi students which used the park as a community based, family oriented school spurred a complaint; a meeting was scheduled with the City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). However, DPR was a no show at the meeting; therefore, the issue remained unresolved. Community concerns over the search for a park to honor the late Senator Fong was understood by the City and should first be heard by City Council with the support of the respective Neighborhood Board(s) (NB). The bathrooms at Kalakaua District Park were kept open at the request of the tennis players; however, the City asked the players to present their side of the issue to the NB; which thereafter, the NB should comment and send a recommendation to DPR. Akina Lane was not allowed to post any public signage.

Questions, answers and concerns:

Kolio questioned which city agency was responsible for road re-pavements. K. Miyamoto said it depended on the location of the road, street or lane; jurisdiction could be BWS, State, City or a private entity.

Palama Adopt a Block Cleanup – Ewalani Sato reported Pua Lane, Kanoa, Banyan, Iwilei, Pine and Sumner Areas will hold its cleanup on Saturday, February 21 from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. Volunteers are asked to bring water, wear sun protection and to meet at Banyan Court next to Kaumakapili Church. Volunteers will receive cleaning supplies, t-shirt, and will partake in donated food from Tamashiro Market. ENV would like to commend Councilmember Cachola, Representative Rhoads, the City Department of Facility Maintenance, Senator Chun-Oakland, State Department of Transportation-Highways, MWH, Palama Settlement, Honolulu Community College Phi Theta Kappa, Honblue, Painter's Warehouse, HPD Community Policing, Weed & Seed, Palama Settlement and the many volunteers and residents that have helped in the past and looked forward to another great cleanup on February 21. ENV asked the community to report illegal discharges to the storm drainage system by calling 768-3247.

CHAIR'S REMARKS – Chair Young encouraged anyone interested as a candidate for the new NB election for Kalihi Palama No. 15 district; applications were available tonight. The deadline to file was February 20; candidates should submit their completed applications tonight to the NA to avoid delay.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS –

- 1) Kumuhulas from Halau Lokahi asked to be placed on the March agenda in order to facilitate a recent complaint against them using Loi Kalo Park; a scheduled meeting with DPR was cancelled due to "DPR

no show” at the meeting. A. Keama said the purpose of their Halau was to provide residing student the opportunity to access quality education that is safe, supportive and nurturing as well as being culturally relevant in a spiritually grounded and mentally stimulating environment. Part of their mission was being a community-based school with active parent involvement as well as extended family and community members in the educational process. She also added the students were able to learn, grow and excel both in the academic setting and life outside of regular school system and that the integration of the environment into a quality Hawaiian curriculum was absolutely essential. As, the Hawaiian culture, responsibility and accountability to the “ohana” was a foremost value.

- 2) Pat Lee from Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP) said after convening several public meetings and hearing some nearly 800 comments from residents, on January 28 the Honolulu City Council voted 6 (Apo, Dela Cruz, Djou, Tam, Okino and Garcia) to 2 (Cachola and Bainum) passing a resolution to change the first 20 miles of the proposed rail route from the Salt Lake (SL) route to the Honolulu International Airport route. The final impact statement due out by this summer and by the end of 2009, \$550-million will be awarded in contracts commencing the project. In choosing the new route, the council’s resolution cited the higher projected daily ridership compared to the SL route and the convenience for visitors, residents and the military community. More than 7,000 residents worked at the airport; served about 58,000 daily arrivals and figure projected to double in the next 20 years. Construction rail cost is estimated close to be about 5-billion with an annual maintenance cost of about \$68 million. To learn more about he project, visit www.honolulutransit.org.

Scheduled Resident’s Concerns:

The Kaunakapili Church Proposal to Purchase or Lease of Banyan Street Park – no representative or report available.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION/ADDITIONAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –

The January 21, 2009 meeting minutes were adopted with the following amendments:

Page 4; under Councilmember Cachola’s report, strike out “slowdown was due to an architect issue with the landowner” and insert, “the slowdown was because the architect was awaiting approval from the City Department of Planning and Permitting”

TREASURER’S REPORT – Fang reported: The January appropriated balance was \$3,395.07: Operating expenditures were \$24.79 for printing and postage leaving a balance of \$1,373.86; Publicity funds remained at \$1,926 while the refreshment funds remained at \$120.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Governor Lingle’s report: No report or representative available.

Senator Mercado Kim’s report: D. Hiramoto reported HB1536 relating to Hawaii government salary freeze was scheduled for decision making on Monday, March 2 in conference room 308. The committee on finance has recommended that the measure be passed with amendments.

Senator Chun Oakland’s report: L. Oyen reported a fundraiser for the Lanakila Center was July 18 at the Multipurpose Center at Lanakila coinciding with Aloha Aina Earth Day; bring your recyclable items for donation. SB765 and SB980 were passed; SB1679 was waiting for amendments and SB768 was deferred.

Senator Galuteria’s report: P. Ryan reported the Senator worked 60 hours plus on a weekly basis; meetings and after session discussions. Government officials working many overtime hours were well deserving of their salaries. This year the Senate will focus on a variety of issues including affordable housing, social services, tourism, public safety and others. In an effort to improve Senate operations, provide enhanced access to legislative information, and reduce waste, the Hawaii Senate has gone 100% paperless effective this 2009 session.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) S. Yaw said the Legislature only worked five months out of the year compared to other government departments including him and without overtime pay. P. Ryan commended those departments; however, unions are available to some departments to assist with overtime pay if warranted.

Representative Rhoad's office reported HB71 was seeking a task force to spearhead ownership of Lanes on the island of Oahu therefore, has been deferred. HB64 has passed second reading. HB630 was still seeking approval.

Representative Manahan's report – Hawaii Public Housing Authority was facing an audit resolution due to many complaints regarding unsafe conditions, maintenance operations and performances especially at Kuhio Park Terrace (KPT) which has taken the brunt of conditions especially with non-working elevators for some time.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Dell asked D. Yaw, S. Yaw and Kolio if they were aware of the HPHA audit being with regards to the P.I.G and Community Policing Teams. D. Yaw said they were aware of the audit due to many unresolved safety issues concerning public housing facilities.

Councilmember Cachola's report – D. Galolo reported the public comment period for the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) ended February 6; all comments received will be considered as the final EIS is prepared by the Federal Transportation Authority and the City. All substantive comments will be responded to in writing. For further information, please call DTS at 566-2299 or by writing to DTS/ City & County of Honolulu, 650 South King Street, 3rd. Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. A website address was also available for viewing: www.honolulustransit.org. A formal request was sent to the administration to conduct a study on the Winant Street speeding issue. DTS did the study and determined that motorists were traveling at or below the posted 25 miles per hour speed limit sign; the signs were appropriately posted along Winant Street and therefore additional traffic control measures were not warranted at this time. Councilmember Cachola invited the public to join the Palama-Adopt-a-Block cleanup scheduled for February 21 starting at 8:30. Many thanks went out to the many volunteers from the community including the City and State departments. Parking for volunteers was available at Kaiulani Elementary School. The abandoned building at Kokea and North Street was acquired by Palama Supermarket (PS) and the adjoining land parcel for parking as required by DPP. This project is expected to be similar to the current market at 1670 Makaloa Street which opened in 2005; if all goes well with this project at King Street, the Kalihi store will replace the company's first store at 1210 Dillingham Boulevard. Incidentally, PS president, Hyo Kyu Lim, was named the 2008 Retailer of the Year by the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and received the 2008 Kookela Award. After many years of service with the HPD, Sgt. John Kauwenaole retired in December 2008; he worked extensively with the Weed & Seed (WS) Site I program since its inception in 1998. His successor was Sgt. Sam Fontanilla. WS districts currently were: Kalihi, Waipahu and Ewa. The next WS meeting was slated for February 25 at 3:00 p.m. at the Kamehameha Homes Community Hall. Anyone was welcome to attend.

Questions, answers and concerns:

- 1) Several Board members asked if the WS meeting could be moved to later than 3:00 p.m. being most residents worked during the daytime. D. Galolo said he will pass the request on to WS.
- 2) Louie said the City's ferry boat was very costly to the taxpayers as well as unreliable. D. Galolo said the ferry was only a pilot project and was coming to the end of the project.
- 3) L. Robinson volunteered to promote the WS program assisting D. Yaw and to relay information regarding its meeting on February 25.

Representative Ching's and Senator Sakamoto's reports were circulated.

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 the stimulus project was pending 90 to 120 days to implement. A report should be available after January 28, 2009; however further information would be available at www.oahumpr.org.

Mayor Wright Housing (MWH) Security Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) – No report available.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned without objections at 8:37 p.m.