



KALIHI VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 16

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DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2006 KALIHI REGIONAL DISTRICT PARK

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Bill Woods called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wilton Ching, Anthony De Campo, Jory Watland, Lance Bateman, Kanoa Bristol, Chester Koga and Bill Woods.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Merry Balatico and Lisa Mitchell.

GUESTS: Ron Jones (Kalihi Business Association); Captain Davis (Honolulu Fire Department); Ken Nakamatsu (Director, Department of Human Resources -- Mayor Hannemann's Representative); Dana Viola (Deputy Attorney General -- Governor Lingle's Representative); Elisa Agpaoa (Councilmember Romy Cachola's Office staff), Al Canopin (Councilmember Rod Tam's Office staff); Major Kurk Kendro, Lt. Bennet Martin, Sgt. John Vines, (Honolulu Police Department), Hazel Murakami, Pascual Dabis, James Rodrigues Sr., Hubert Onaga, Bob Farrell and Ivonne Cardenas (Makakilo.com); Terry Vesperas, Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Captain Carter Davis reported the following:

1. Statistics on Kalihi Station activity for May 2006: three structure fires, zero brush, three rubbish, one vehicle, 68 medical emergencies, zero search and rescues, and five miscellaneous calls. He reported no unusual incidents.
2. Fire Safety Tip: Prepare a fire escape plan. Map out escape routes. Designate a location outside of the house where everyone can meet. Know where the closest phone is located to call 911.

There were no questions from the Board or audience at this time, and the Chair thanked Captain Davis for attending the meeting.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) – Major Kurt Kendro introduced himself as the Kalihi HPD district commander effective March 19, 2006, replacing Maj. Susan Ballard, who has been reassigned to the Training Division. He introduced Lt. Martin and Sgt. Vines. He reported that monthly statistics reflect the last two months, as there was a computer problem last month that prevented the statistics from being reported.

Major Kendro was available to answer questions and comments:

1. In response to member De Campo's question regarding the consistency of citations given to illegally parked vehicles, Major Kendro replied that HPD would gladly work with the community to address these issues.
2. Major Kendro reported that HPD is still checking with the Attorney General's Office (AG) regarding the ability to arrest trespassers specifically in the area underneath Likelike Bridge. Kendro also reported that a rock wall has been built underneath the bridge that essentially restricts access. Kendro has not established which agency or organization built the wall. The Chair noted the improvements due to the concerted efforts of government agencies to address the issue.



The Chair thanked HPD for attending the meeting.

OTHER COMMUNITY CONCERNS: No other concerns were reported at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Member Bristol gave the Board's financial report: Operating balance of \$1032.61, Publicity balance of negative \$866.64 and Refreshment balance of \$120. Chair Woods-Bateman said that the accounts would be balanced out to allow for payment for videotaping services (and 'Olelo broadcasting).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MAY 7, 2006 REGULAR MEETING – Vice Chair Watland moved and Member Ching seconded to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2006 regular meeting of the Kalihi Valley Neighborhood Board 16. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRS REPORT – Report was deferred at this time.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2006-2007:

CHAIR—Bateman nominated Woods. Ching seconded the nomination. Woods was unanimously elected.

VICE CHAIR—Watland nominated Koga. Koga nominated Watland. Ching moved and Watland seconded to close the nominations. The motion carried unanimously.

Koga was elected 5-2-0. (Ayes: Bateman, De Campo, Ching, Watland, Woods. Nays: Bristol and Koga).

SECRETARY—Bristol nominated Watland. Watland nominated Balatico.

Discussion followed:

1. Watland thanked the Board but respectfully declined the nomination. He indicated that it may be difficult for him to fulfill his duties as an officer this year as he is sitting on two other Boards. However, he is happy to serve as a member of the Board.
2. The Chair suggested that the duties of secretary and treasurer be consolidated into one office and the position be held by one officer.

Bateman moved and Woods seconded to combine the positions of Board Secretary and Board Treasurer. The motion carried unanimously.

Bateman nominated Bristol to serve as Board Secretary/Treasurer. Bristol was unanimously elected to serve as Board Secretary/Treasurer.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD YEAR 2006-2007—Bateman moved to keep the same regular meeting schedule and place, every second Wednesday at 7pm at Kalihi Valley District Park with recesses of the Board to take place in August and December. The motion carried unanimously.

HOTEL WORKERS RISING CAMPAIGN – Hernando Tan, President, and Cade Watanabe, Community and Political Organizer from Hawaii's Local 5 reported the following:

Local 5 is a local union with more than 11,000 members, 60% of which are Filipino. They contribute and belong to our local communities. They are our family, friends and neighbors, and Kalihi is one community where many of our members make their homes. On June 30th of this year, the hotel contracts for more than 6,500 union workers in 9 of Waikiki's largest hotels expire.

Tourism is Hawaii's largest and most profitable industry. Last year the industry brought in more than 3 billion dollars in revenue. Our members are asking for protection of their workplace and union rights, and the ability to grow with respect to the growth of the industry here in Hawaii.

Hotel workers deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. Hotels are no longer local. They are national and in many instances international. Hawaii Hotel Workers Rising is about securing Hawaii's future, and Local 5's participation in this national campaign is an attempt to respond to the emergence of global corporations that have entered our local markets.

While hotel corporations have reaped the financial benefits of hotel consolidations, our members, their lifestyles and our State have had to make sacrifices that threaten to change Hawaii's unique and local tourism industry forever.

Hotel workers are an invaluable resource to our local economy, and are extraordinary ambassadors of "Aloha." It is they that truly make Hawaii an exceptional place to visit, and it is they who contribute to our local communities by sending their children to our public schools, filling the pews of our local churches, and bringing to our local communities the cultural nuances that make Hawaii, Hawaii, not the hotel corporations.

Local 5 members are serious about settling a fair contract, and eager to engage in meaningful discussions on the future of Hawaii's middle-class. Our members are interested in one America. The corporations seem interested in preserving two, one rich, the other poor.

Hotel workers are the backbone of Hawaii's hotel industry and recognize that the presence of a strong middle-class here in Hawaii can be achieved through the promotion of good paying hotel jobs and strengthened through and by the growth of union membership.

The issue now is whether the hotel industry is going to do the right thing and support their workers in their drive for good hotel jobs for a good Hawaii. Hotel corporations have a national campaign to isolate each local union across the country, and have attacked our participation in the national Hotel Workers Rising Campaign. Yet, it is Local 5 that is the local entity in this equation and it is Local 5 and its local members that know what's best for our state.

Our members see that they can no longer stand alone, and that is why we are reaching out to the community for support and participating in Hotel Workers Rising. Only when secure jobs become the standard for the hotel industry, can Hawaii residents be comfortable in earning a sufficient livelihood that will support a family in a place where the cost of living is amongst the highest in the nation.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Chair Woods' mentioned weakening federal legislation for social programs such as Medicare. In response to the Chair's question regarding the purpose of Local 5 coming to the Neighborhood Boards, Tan replied, in the future, legislation may be sought, but for now, Local 5 is trying to raise awareness for the Unite Here! campaign while trying to reach its constituents in key districts such as Kalihi.
2. In response to Bob Farrell's question regarding whether Local 5 has approached the Waikiki Neighborhood Board, Tan replied , that it has not yet, but plans to in the future.

The Chair thanked Tan and Watanabe for their presentation and called a recess at 7:25.

Due to a medical emergency, the Chair turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Chester Koga. The meeting resumed at 7:30 p.m.

LIKELY HIGHWAY ROAD SINKING, SEPARATION AND EROSION INTO KUPEHAU PARK –

The Governor's representative, Dana Viola, reported that she is investigating who built the rock wall under the Likely Bridge. Viola stated that DOT was not aware that the wall has been built, so it is not likely that they built it. Viola also reported that due to recent heavy rains and the asphalt shortage, work to repair the sinking Likely Highway will be postponed until September of this year.

KALIHI STREET S-CURVE – Chair Woods previously reported that an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) federal lawsuit on wheelchair sidewalk requirements is given as the reason for the blocking of planning for the correction to the Kalihi Street S-curve. Concerns were raised that the City administration was not going to actually study and improve standards knowing that there is a problem when there are lawsuit based on lack of health and safety. We will never get better policy if this in ongoing policy of this administration and council lack of intervention to establish needed policy and protections of the community.

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – Ken Nakamatsu, Director of the City Department of Human Resources (DHR) distributed a Mayor's newsletter and was available for questions.

Nakamatsu summarized the S-Curve issue and noted that in the minutes, there were legal issues, ADA and right of way acquisitions, preventing the sale of the S-property to the City. Member Watland stated that the property for the right of way acquisition has since been put up for sale. Member Bristol questioned the ADA issue and mentioned it does not pertain to the S-Curve issue. Member Ching raised concerns regarding the line of sight issue created by stockpiling of materials on the S-property. Member Ching also raised concerns regarding the hazardous materials being stockpiled in the S-property and hopes the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) will take action and address the issue. Area resident, Mr. Rodrigues voiced his concerns regarding the safety issues surrounding the S-curve and feels that the issue has been before the community for some time, but nothing has been done about it. raised concerns that no money was appropriated by the City Council in this year's budget for Kalihi Valley improvements. Vice Chair Koga suggested that a letter of be written to the Council and the Mayor reflecting the Board's position on the issue.

Member Watland moved and Bateman seconded that correspondence be sent to Councilmember Tam and the Mayor reflecting the Board's position on the S-curve issue and requesting funds be appropriated to address the S-curve issue. The motion carried unanimously.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Mr. Rodrigues noted he is still waiting for a response on the signage issue on Nihi Street. He also raised concerns regarding a bent one-way sign on Nobrega Street.
2. Vice Chair Koga would like an update on the status of BWS' work on Kam IV Road and the School Street areas. He noted that the work should be completed by now and that the temporary patches should be removed and repaired permanently.
3. Member Wilton Ching noted explained that the patches have been there for over a year and there are specifications for the maintenance of these temporary patches.

Vice Chair Koga thanked Nakamatsu for attending the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER CACHOLA'S REPRESENTATIVE — Elisa Agpaoa distributed the monthly report and highlighted a Bus Stop realignment on King Street will be in effect June 21st and the Sunset in Kalihi will take place this weekend at Kalakaua District Park.

Vice Chair Koga thanked Agpaoa for attending the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER TAM'S REPRESENTATIVE — Al Canopin represented Councilmember Rod Tam and discussed the following: 1) The City Council passed a one time \$200 tax break for property taxes and a bill that reduces the valuation for residences \$0.16 per \$1000. The same bill also increases commercial property taxes. 2) \$680,000 was appropriated for Capital Improvement Projects in Council District 6. Canopin noted that he did not see anything earmarked for the S-Curve. 3) The City Council does not get involved in neighbor-to-neighbor disputes. 4) If there are any issues and/or projects that may require legislation, please give Al or Councilmember Tam a call, and they will be happy to walk you through the process. 5) There will be a huli-huli chicken sale on July 29 to benefit Councilmember Tam. Anyone who is interested, please give Councilmember Tam a call on his cell phone. Canopin acknowledged that City and County time and/or resources should not be used for the purposes of fundraising. 6) Kalihi-Uka Youth Center hopes to increase participants in its summer programs.

Questions, answers, and comments:

Member Watland noted that nothing was appropriated for capital improvement projects in Kalihi despite a total of \$680,000 being appropriated for projects within Council District 6. Watland also noted that the Board took action prior to Al Canopin's arrival to address issues pertaining to the S-Curve. In response, Canopin admitted that he is familiar with the S-Curve issue and in the past, signs were posted but stolen. He referred the issue to the City administration.

Vice Chair Koga thanked Canopin for his report.

GOVERNOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – Dana Viola updated the Board on the status of vacancies at Kuhio Park Terrace (KPT). She noted that KPT has filled eight vacancies in the last week and 20 in the last month. Currently, there are a total of 59 vacant units at KPT. Viola did not have statistics for any other housing projects except KPT.

Questions, answers, and comments:

In response to member Watland's question regarding how many vacancies are filled at KPT each month, Viola replied 20. In response to member Watland's question regarding how many vacancies open up in a week, Viola replied 10. Member Watland questioned the 59 vacancies and noted that the numbers do not add up.

Vice Chair Koga requested a follow up on the issue for the next meeting and thanked Viola for attending the meeting.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY – Vice Chair Koga read BWS' report:

1. There were no main breaks for the month of May.
2. BWS wants to let you know that you can be a part of the conservation effort by starting in your own backyard! In a partnership, the Board of Water Supply, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); the Hawaii State Department of Transportation, Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Forestry and Wildlife, and the University of Hawaii; the City & County of Honolulu's Environmental Service Department and the Big Island and Oahu Resource Conservation & Development Councils have created the Hawaii Backyard Conservation Handbook. The 20-page color pamphlet has a wealth of knowledge for you to use in your home, including grassroots conservation methods like composting and how to utilize native plants and xeriscaping in your yard layout. Information about managing pests and weed control is also included, as well as how to practice day to day best management practices and managing nutrients in the soil. Looking through it, you will be amazed at how many small things you can do to help be more "eco-friendly" as you go through your

everyday life. If you would like more pamphlets, you can come down to the Board of Water Supply, or call the NRCS office (483-8600 ext. 3).

3. Vice Chair Koga expressed the Board's concerns with the temporary patches along School Street and Kam IV Road and would like to see the temporary patches to be fixed permanently. Member Ching noted that the even if the road falls under the State's jurisdiction, it is BWS' responsibility to repair the roads if they are responsible for the work being done.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next meeting of the Kalihi Valley Neighborhood Board will be at 7 p.m. on June 14, 2006 at the Kalihi Valley District Park.

SUNSET IN KALIHI—Ron Jones, President of the Kalihi Business Association (KBA) reported the following:

The Sunset in the Park is coming to Kalihi on Saturday and Sunday June 16 and 17 at Kalakaua District Park from 11 to 10 p.m. on both days. The City seeded the project with \$20,000, and KBA raised \$45,000 for the event. There will be 15 food vendors and 20 booths for arts and crafts and other exhibitors such as Kokua Kalihi Valley (KKV), Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), the Keiki ID Program, and more. There will be a keiki lounge, where there will be movies and other keiki entertainment as well as a teen zone. There will be movies as soon as the sun sets as well as live entertainment on both days. Parking will be available at Palama Settlement, Puuhale Elementary, Damien Memorial High School, Kalihi Kai Elementary, and on Sunday after 3 p.m., at Farrington High School. A free shuttle will be providing service from these designated parking areas as well as Kuhio Park Terrace (KPT). Please note that, KPT is not a designated parking area, but the shuttle will be providing service to KPT along its route. In response to the Chair's question regarding KBA, Ron Jones replied that KBA has been around for 60 years and is made up of area businesses. They have been active in community with events such as the Kalihi Christmas Parade. Your support is appreciated!

ADJOURNMENT- Hearing no objections, Vice Chair Koga adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Joey Manahan, Neighborhood Commission Office staff.

Reviewed by NHB Secretary Kanoa Bristol and submitted for publication as public draft.