



## WAIPAHU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 22

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** **THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2012** **FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Rito Saniatan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Quorum was established with 17 members present.** Note – This 19 member Board requires 10 members to establish quorum and take official Board action.

**Board Members Present** – Edmund Alfonso, Maureen Andrade, Marty Burke, Cory Chun (Arrived at 7:10 p.m.), Sy Cullen, Daniel De Gracia, Lorraine Duhaylonsod, Connie Herolaga, Darryl Macha, Peter Lee, David O'Neal, Richard Oshiro, Ilalo Parayno, Rito Saniatan, Vai Sua, Blaine Tsugawa, Chuck Wheatley, and George Yakowenko.

**Board Members Absent** – None.

**Vacancies** – There is one At-Large (1) vacancy.

**Guests** – Young Kim, Capt. Aaron Lenchanko (Honolulu Fire Department), Councilmember Breene Harimoto, Maureen Tamashiro (Councilmember Nestor Garcia's Office staff), Aaron Amodo, Michelle Kauhane and Zelda Moleta (Department of Hawaiian Homelands), Allison Andrade and Felicia Durant (Kiewit), Jane Liu, Harrison Peterson, and Norma DeSaegher (Waipahu United Church of Christ), Donna K. and Col. Gus Pagonis (Army), Rock Riggs (Senator Mike Gabbard's Office staff), Keoni Mattos (Board of Water Supply), Pat Lee (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Senator Michelle Kidani, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Representative Sharon Har, Spencer Yim (Representative Sharon Har's Office staff), Sgt. Apollo Chang (Honolulu Police Department), Ron Menor (Senator Will Espero's Office staff), Representative Henry Aquino, and Kazuaki McArthur (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**INTRODUCTION:** Those present introduced themselves.

**BOARD VACANCY:** The Chair opened the floor for nominations to fill the At-Large vacancy on the Board. There being no interested candidates, the item was deferred to the next meeting.

### **FIRST RESPONDER REPORTS:**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)** – Capt. Aaron Lenchanko reported the following;

- **December 2011 Statistics:** Included 22 fires, 407 search/rescues, and 213 miscellaneous calls.
- **Safety Tip:** In an emergency, it is critical that first responders quickly identify the correct location. Fire, Building, US Postal Codes, and City Ordinances state that property owners shall place their house numbers so it is legible and readily visible from the street. This will assist HFD and other first responders to quickly locate your home in the event of an emergency. If your property is difficult to locate and/or access, provide dispatchers with additional information to assist them in locating your property.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. **Merger Cancellation:** It was asked if the proposed HFD/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) merger would be cancelled. Lenchanko noted he had no information on the proposed merger.
2. **House Numbers:** It was asked and clarified that all houses are required to have a house number posted. However, the specific number size was not specified.
3. **Enforcement:** It was asked and clarified that HPD is responsible for issuing citations if a home does not have a number posted.



4. Curb Number: Lenchanko noted that homes are still required to have numbers posted on them even though the number is painted on the street curb fronting the home.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – A representative was not present; a report was not made available.

Weed and Seed – A representative was not present; a report was not made available.

#### CITY REPORTS:

Mayor Peter Carlisle's Representative – Al Tufono reported the following;

Leoku Street Crosswalk: The City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) investigation of the Leoku Street/Farrington Highway intersection revealed that Leoku Street is a multi-lane roadway with multiple driveways in the area. DTS recommends pedestrians utilize crosswalks at the Leoku Street/Leolua Street intersection.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Bike Lanes: It was asked and clarified that DTS is responsible for painting bike lanes. It was reported that bike lanes throughout Waipahu need to be repainted.
2. Highway Lights: It was reported that lights along H-1 are left on during the day.
3. House Number Ordinance: A Board member requested the ordinance requiring house numbers to be posted on homes.
4. Light Update: An update of the street light at the Honowai Street/Waipahu Street intersection was requested.
5. Lifted Sidewalks: It was reported that tree roots are causing sidewalks to be lifted along Lumiaina Street.
6. Monkey Pod Trees: A Board Member noted Councilmember Garcia held a meeting in November to discuss monkey pod trees.
7. Street Lights: It was reported that street lights on Lumiaina Street, between Kamehameha Highway and Paiwa Street do not always turn on at night.
8. Don Quijote Lights: It was reported that lights near the exit of Don Quijote are dim.
9. Homeless Dumping: It was reported that homeless individuals are gathering near the Village Park parking lot and dumping trash into adjacent properties. It was suggested the lighting in the parking lot be repaired to deter the homeless individuals from loitering in the area.
10. Complaint Link: A Board member suggested the community utilize the City website to refer complaints to the City.

**The Board UNANMOUSLY APPROVED an amendment to the agenda to include a report by Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative, 18-0-0 (Aye: Alfonso, Andrade, Burke, Chun, Cullen, De Gracia, Duhaylonsod, Herolaga, Macha, Lee, O'Neal, Oshiro, Parayno, Saniatan, Sua, Tsugawa, Wheatley, and Yakowenko).**

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative – Michelle Kauhane of the State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands reported the following highlights of the Governor's State of the State address;

- A \$1.8 million appropriation to support dialysis functionality in the State.
- A \$1 million appropriation for early childhood development initiatives.
- A \$5 million appropriation to protect and maintain Hawaii's watersheds.
- An initiative to place all islands on a single underground electrical grid.
- Initiatives to improve Hawaii's criminal justice system.
- Improvement of infrastructure and job creation through Capital Improvement Projects (CIP).
- Invitation to citizens to participate on State Boards and Commissions.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

Agenda Item: A Board member requested the agenda include a report from the Governor's representative each month.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Keoni Mattos reported the following;

- Water Main Break: There was a 4-inch water main break on December 20, 2011 at 94-1115 Pulai Street.
- Water Tip: Consider the following tips to help conserve water throughout the year:
  - Turn of water when brushing your teeth and use a cup of water to rinse.
  - Limit showers to five (5) minutes and install water saving shower heads.
  - Fix faucet leaks and toilet leaks.
  - Visit [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com) for additional water conservation tips.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Calcium: It was noted that the Calcium in Oahu's water causes streaks in toilet bowls. It was asked and clarified that BWS is not doing anything at this time to remove the calcium. It was noted that the calcium magnesium is a natural byproduct of water filtering through coral rock. Testing conducted in the past determined that the calcium is not hazardous to health.
2. Water Conservation: It was noted that hotels in Spain posted water conservation signs to encourage patrons to conserve water. It was asked if the City has a similar initiative to encourage water conservation. It was noted that BWS offers "Water Upon Request" placards to restaurants. However, BWS is not able to mandate that hotels or restaurants post water conservation signage. BWS also offers free water leak detection tabs.

Councilmember Nestor Garcia – Maureen Tamashiro circulated a report and noted that the next full City Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2012, at Kapolei Hale.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

Town Hall Meeting: A Board member requested a report of what was discussed at a recent town hall meeting regarding monkey pod trees called by Councilmember Garcia.

Councilmember Breene Harimoto – Councilmember Harimoto circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Budget: The Mayor's proposed budget is due by Friday, March 2, 2012.
- User Fees: The City is considering charging user fees for certain City services. Koko Head shooting range was used as an example. Funds generated by the fees would be used to maintain City facilities.
- Tax Exemptions: Tax exemptions will be reviewed.
- Bulky Item Collection: Complaints have been received regarding the tardiness of bulky item collection by the City. It was noted that the Pearl City garbage fleet is aging and is in the process of being renewed. The new trucks should have less maintenance problems and improve the reliability and scheduling of collections. Residents were encouraged to adhere to bulky item collection rules by only putting out bulky items the night before the scheduled collection.
- Complete Streets: The Complete Streets initiative will be introduced soon. The initiative would create streets that are safe for all modes of transportation.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Garbage Collection Fees: The councilmember was asked if he supported garbage collection fees. The councilmember noted he preferred promoting recycling as an option for generating money.

2. District Lines: it was asked and clarified that City district lines have been set. A Board member noted that people have already started posting campaign signs. A Board member requested maps of the newly drawn district lines.
3. Pearl City Trash Yard: A Board member praised the workers at the Pearl City Trash Yard for doing their best to provide trash collection services with an aging fleet.
4. Hawaii Authority on Rail Transit (HART): It was asked and clarified that Carrie Okinaga is the HART Chair.
5. Petition: A Board member noted a Carpenters Union sent out a representative to gather signatures for a petition in support of the rail project. Another Board member reported the representative illegally trespassed on Federal property to solicit signatures.
6. Ties: A Board member noted that Bank of Hawaii has ties to the Ansaldo Hawaii's parent company. It was further noted that HART Board members Carrie Okinaga and Don Horner also have ties with Bank of Hawaii. It was clarified that Don Horner was the former Chief Executive Officer of First Hawaiian Bank. It was also noted that Ansaldo's parent company does not control the activities of First Hawaiian Bank.
7. General Excise Tax (GET): Citing a recent newspaper article, it was asked why the City Council allowed the Mayor to extend the GET for the rail project. It was clarified that there was an error in the newspaper article, and the Mayor would not be extending the GET.
8. Illegal Dumping: A Board member reported residents living in a private community association property are leaving bulky items on public streets for City collection. It was clarified that bulky item pick up is reserved for homes on public streets only.
9. Resolution 11-30: It was asked and clarified that Resolution 11-30 would allow insurance companies to share insurance information with the City in an effort to identify uninsured vehicles.
10. Koko Head User Fees: It was asked and clarified that user fees assessed at Koko Head shooting range would be intended to be used to maintain the range.

Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project – Pat Lee reported the following;

- GET: The StarAdvertiser incorrectly implied that the mayor is considering asking for an extension of the General Excise tax surcharge. There are no plans for requesting that the legislature increase or extend the GET surcharge for rail. GET collections for the rail project were \$179.1 million for the past fiscal year, which was 9 percent ahead of the amount the city had projected. The project has received a total of \$810.4 million in GET surcharge revenue to date. The State began collecting the half-percent excise surcharge on behalf of the city in 2007, and the City expects to receive a total of \$3.532 billion from the rail surcharge during the 16 years the extra tax is in effect. The surcharge applies only on Oahu, and expires at the end of 2022.
- Final Design: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has accepted the Honolulu rail transit project into Final Design – the final phase of the project's development before executing a Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) with the Federal Government. The Fiscal Year 2012 Transportation Appropriations measure includes a total of \$510 million for transit New Starts projects that will enter into an FFGA in calendar year 2012. When Honolulu enters into an FFGA with the FTA, it will become eligible for a portion of the funds. HART has also awarded a \$38.8 Million contract to AECOM Technical Services to design the airport segment of the rail transit project which covers a 5.2 mile stretch between the Aloha Stadium and Middle Street transit stations. Design work is expected to be completed by early next year. Following the design, a separate contract will be put out for bid for the construction work. Rail station design and construction for this segment will also be awarded as separate contracts which will be forthcoming.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Alternate Use of Funds: It was asked and clarified that funding appropriated for rail may not be used for any other purpose. It was reported that by city ordinance in 2006, the City Council selected the elevated guideway system as the preferred alternate transportation method.

2. Change: It was noted that much of the money has yet to be granted, and it was also noted that it would take legislation to reverse the current decision of the City Council.
3. Infrastructure: It was asked and clarified that certain infrastructure improvements have been set in motion due to the rail project. It was noted that overhead power lines along the rail route will be placed underground.

Patsy Mink Central Oahu Regional Park/Waipio Soccer Complex – Marty Burke reported the following;

- Next Meeting: The next Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park/Waipio Soccer Complex Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 2, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at the park's aquatic complex.
- Recommendations: The mayor has received the park improvement recommendations for the FY 2013 capital budget.
- Tsunami Evacuation: the park has been added to the tsunami evacuation list.
- Repairs: The faulty irrigation system along the Waikele wall, adjacent to the makai portion of the park has been repaired and the hibiscus plants are recovering.
- Testing: A test installation of the new roadway barriers is underway. A couple of issues still need to be resolved. Estimated cost of the project is \$300,000.
- Position: Recruitment is in progress to fill one secretarial position and the pool manager's position as well.

Waipahu Community Foundation – No report.

**There being no objection, the Chair moved the agenda out of order to hear the HPD report.**

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Sgt. Apollo Chang circulated crime statistics and reported the following crime statistics for December 2011;

- Beat 350: Included 2 auto thefts, 3 burglaries, 4 criminal property damages, 5 thefts, 3 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV), and 346 total calls for service. Beat 350 accounted for 4.85 percent of the district's total calls for service.
- Beat 351: Included 3 auto thefts, 1 auto theft recovery, 9 burglaries, 15 thefts, 7 UEMV, and 596 calls for service. Beat 351 accounted for 8.36 percent of the district's total calls for service.
- Beat 353: included 5 auto thefts, 2 auto theft recoveries, 4 burglaries, 29 criminal property damages, 17 thefts, 2 UEMV, and 377 total calls for service. Beat 353 accounted for 5.29 percent of the district's total calls for service.
- Beat 360: Included 4 auto thefts, 8 burglaries, 5 criminal property damages, 19 thefts, 4 UEMV, and 686 total calls for service. Beat 360 accounted for 9.62 percent of the district's total calls for service.
- Beat 362: Included 6 auto thefts, 4 auto theft recoveries, 5 burglaries, 9 criminal property damages, 17 thefts, 11 UEMV, and 644 total calls for service. Beat 362 accounted for 9.03% of the district's total calls for service.
- Beat 363: Included 8 auto thefts, 1 auto theft recovery, 2 burglaries, 6 criminal property damages, 8 thefts, 8 UEMV, and 426 total calls for service. Beat 363 accounted for 5.97 percent of the district's total calls for service.
- Safety Tip: Pedestrians should be alert when crossing the street near exits. Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and be ready to move if necessary. Drivers should be alert when driving and should avoid activities that would draw their attention away from the road.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Right Turn on Red: It was asked and clarified that drivers are required to come to a complete stop at red lights and observe vehicular and pedestrian traffic before making a right turn. Violators can be fined \$97 for failing to come to a complete stop before proceeding into the intersection.
2. Exact Areas: Community members were advised to call the police office to pinpoint exact areas where crimes occurred.
3. Illegal Parking: It was noted that students have been parking vehicles on a private road adjacent to Waipahu High School due to a lack of parking at the school. The road does not have a sign restricting parking along the road; however, students have reported that their cars have been towed. HPD noted that it was the private association who called the towing company for cars parking on their road. It was suggested the association work with the High School to resolve the issue. It was noted that parking on the road has been a problem for a long time.

**Following the report by HPD, the agenda resumed order.**

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) – Chair Saniatan reported there is currently no representative from the Board attending the OMPO meetings. It was reported that OMPO meetings are scheduled for every 3rd Wednesday of the month, at 3:30 p.m., at Honolulu Hale.

Military Services – Col. Gus Pagonis reported the following;

- Current Deployments: The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade and 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade are currently deployed to Afghanistan. 3,500 of the approximate 6,100 soldiers from the 25th Brigade will be returning in spring.
- Kunia Road Closures: One (1) lane in each direction on Kunia Road will be closed due to wastewater treatment plant upgrades. The closures will be from Monday, January 23, 2012 to Tuesday, February 21, 2012, and from Tuesday, April 17, 2012 to Wednesday, May 16, 2012. Closures will be between 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.
- Tropic Lighting Museum: The Tropic Lighting Museum will be closed for renovations on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 and will reopen in the spring. Call 655-0438 for more information.
- Hotline: Call 656-3478 for aviation noise complaints. For other noise or dust complaints, call 656-3159.
- Ohana Day: View Pro Bowl practices, preview the Pro Bowl halftime show, and see NFL cheerleaders and mascots at the 2012 Pro Bowl Ohana Day on Saturday, January 28, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., at Aloha Stadium.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

Gas Prices: It was asked and clarified that military gas stations take a survey of gas prices in surrounding areas and adjust prices on a monthly basis.

**There being no objections, the agenda was moved out of order to address agenda item 10.1 Waipahu United Church of Christ Permit to Operate Adult Day Care.**

Waipahu United Church of Christ Permit to Operate Adult Day Care – Dr. Norma DeSaegher and Harrison Peterson reported that the congregation at the Waipahu United Church of Christ had raised enough money to build an adult day care center at 94-330 Mokuola Street. The Central Oahu Senior Day Care Association has worked with the church for the past five (5) years and will run the proposed facility.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Site: It was asked and clarified that the center would be located on the site of a former pre-school.

2. Services: It was asked and clarified that services will be offered between 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and include breakfast, lunch, and a snack. Service will cost \$59 per day.
3. Adjacent Property: It was asked and clarified that the property adjacent to the proposed site was an adult health center. Rent at that particular property is currently \$100,000 per month.
4. Support: A Board member noted that the center is not in the middle of a residential area and praised the church for their positive influence in the community.

**Burke moved, and Andrade seconded to support a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) minor to operate an adult day care center at 94-330 Mokuola Street. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, 18-0-0 (Aye: Alfonso, Andrade, Burke, Chun, Cullen, De Gracia, Duhaylonsod, Herolaga, Macha, Lee, O'Neal, Oshiro, Parayno, Saniatan, Sua, Tsugawa, Wheatley, and Yakowenko).**

**Following the presentation, the agenda resumed order with agenda item 6 RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS.**

RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

1. Negative Image: It was expressed that the misuse of funds at Waipahu High School gives Waipahu A negative image. It was noted that the Board of Education (BOE) and State Department of Education (DOE) had conducted an audit in the past; however, there was no legislation or regulations that regulated the audit report.
2. Credit Card: Mystery charges were reported after using a credit card at Royal Kunia Golf Course. Community members were advised to use cash when paying for items at the golf course.
3. Museum: Tools were reported stolen from the Hawaii Plantation Village Museum. Community members were invited to donate any unused tools to the museum.
4. Irene Elston: A Board member recognized the late Board member Irene Elston for her many years of service on the Waipahu Neighborhood Board. Elston was also recognized for organizing the first Waipahu community clean up.

Approval of November 17, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes – The November 17, 2011 regular meeting minutes were UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED as corrected, 18-0-0 (Aye: Alfonso, Andrade, Burke, Chun, Cullen, De Gracia, Duhaylonsod, Herolaga, Macha, Lee, O'Neal, Oshiro, Parayno, Saniatan, Sua, Tsugawa, Wheatley, and Yakowenko). Corrections included;

- Page 2 – Under Rail should read...banana patch, **eminent** domain, condemnation...

Treasurer's Report – Lee read the Treasurer's report and noted a beginning balance of \$4,691.00, and expenditures of \$53.45 in July 2011, \$31.30 in August 2011, \$53.45 in September 2011, and \$59.78 in November 2011 for printing and postage. A total of \$665.28 was spent in October 2011 to pay for the meeting location, and printing and postage. A total of \$829.15 was spent in December 2011 to pay for videotaping of Board meetings, and printing and postage. The Board has a remaining balance of \$2,998.59. The report was filed.

Chair's Report – Chair Saniatan reported the Waikele Club House has applied for a liquor license for live entertainment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Formation of Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to Change Waipahu Neighborhood Board to All At-Large Seats – Yakowenko reported that the Waipahu Neighborhood Board has a total of 19 seats. It was noted that though only 17 candidates applied for the most recent election, not all of them were able to fill a Board seat because they were competing for sub-district seats. It was suggested the Board organize a PIG to consider the concept of changing all Board seats to at-large.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Current Arrangements: It was asked and clarified that it took three (3) to four (4) meetings to organize the current Board seat structure. It was noted that prior to the current arrangement, there were 11 sub-districts. Of the 11 sub-districts, one (1) sub-district seat remained vacant for over five (5) years.
2. Cost Saving: It was asked and clarified that the having all at-large seats would save money by eliminating the need for an election if the number of Board seats is greater than the number of candidates.
3. Equal Representation: Concern was raised of equal representation throughout the district. It was noted that the Neighborhood Plan states that Board members shall represent the entire district. It was noted that residents from Waikele came out to meetings in the past to discuss problems in the area; however, none of the residents volunteered to fill the vacant sub-district seat at the time.

**The Board UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) comprised of Board members Yakowenko, Wheatly and Sua to investigate the concept of changing all Board seats to at-large, 18-0-0 (Aye: Alfonso, Andrade, Burke, Chun, Cullen, De Gracia, Duhaylonsod, Herolaga, Macha, Lee, O'Neal, Oshiro, Parayno, Saniatan, Sua, Tsugawa, Wheatley, and Yakowenko).**

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Senator Will Espero – Ron Menor circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Kapolei Sustainable Energy Park: Senator Espero visited the Kapolei Sustainable Energy Park. The park includes 4,200 solar panels that will generate 1.18 megawatts of electricity from the sun. Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) is a partner in the development.
- Broadcasting: Senator Espero sat down and interviewed with Waipahu Intermediate students to help them practice their training in broadcasting.
- Bills: Listed on the newsletter were bills introduced by Senator Espero. Suggestions for bills are also welcome.

Senator Mike Gabbard – Rock Riggs circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Listen Story: The next listen story meeting will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., at the Kapolei Starbucks.
- Kamehameha Highway Intersection: The Kamehameha Highway/Lumiaina Street intersection will include a double left turn lane from Lumiaina Street, and signal modification to accommodate the double left. The State Department of Transportation (DOT) is in the process of amending a contract to include the re-design of the intersection. The earliest the project would be completed is by the end of 2013. A pedestrian safety project is also ongoing to relocate the existing sidewalk from the north side of Lumiaina Street to the south side.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

Re-Timing: A Board member expressed that re-timing of the intersection would resolve the problem. It was noted that sidewalk removal would make it difficult for bus riders. It was suggested the State look at cheaper and easier ways to fix the problem.

Senator Michelle Kidani – Senator Kidani circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Bullying: Senator Kidani met with students at Kaleiopuu Elementary School to discuss bullying and cyber-bullying.
- Tevita Apina: Tevita Apina was recognized for becoming KZOO Radio's 31st annual Karaoke Grand Champion.

- Senate Bill (SB) 2012: SB 2012 seeks \$500 million in Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding to provide economic stimulus through the creation of jobs and completion of repair and maintenance jobs. The bill also includes revisions to the State's Procurement Code to raise the cap on some contracts to expedite the awarding process.
- SB 2481: SB 2481 would require motorists to move over and slow down when approaching an emergency vehicle parked on the shoulder or side of the road.
- Teacher's Tax Credit: A bill is being drafted to provide a tax credit for teacher's who use personal funds to purchase classroom supplies.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

Bullying Bill: A Board member asked if the Senator would continue to advocating the Anti-Bullying bill. The answer was yes. It was noted that the bill was a hold over from the last legislative session.

Senator Clarence Nishihara – Senator Nishihara circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- School Audit: Senator Nishihara spoke on the school audit process and noted that there needs to be a way to see if persons are following the guidelines contained in the audit.
- SB 2027: Establishes the Hawaii Good Agricultural Practices Program with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (DOA). The bill encourages the consumption of local produce and safer handling during production and distribution.
- SB 2023: The bill provides a disabled parking placard holder with the option to either hang the placard on the rear view mirror or display the placard on the front dashboard of the vehicle.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Placard Placement: It was noted that placards are required to be hung on rear view mirrors because they cannot be seen while passing by.
2. SB 2024: It was asked and clarified that SB 2024 creates a waiver program to exempt from income taxation gambling winnings legally obtained outside the state during a five (5) day period conditioned on pre-payment of an as-yet-to-be-determined fee to the State Department of Taxation. It was noted that Hawaii residents spend \$300 million on gambling in Las Vegas per year. It was also noted that 90 percent of Hawaii residents lose money in Las Vegas. The bill is aimed at recapturing a portion of the money before it leaves the state.

Representative Henry Aquino – Representative Aquino circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Lodging Management Program (LMP): Waipahu High School is the only school in the State that offers the Lodging Management Program (LMP). Students in the program will compete in the American Hotel and Lodging Association National Lodging Competition in Orlando Florida.
- Pearl City Urgent Care: Pearl City Urgent Care has extended its hours to help alleviate the long wait periods in many emergency rooms created by the closure of Hawaii Medical Center (HMC) West. The center will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.
- Driver's License: Visit [www.hawaii.gov/dot](http://www.hawaii.gov/dot) for information on new driver license renewal requirements.
- House Bill (HB) 2410: HB2410 requires the Governor to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the United States Department of Defense to provide continued support for the military's presence in Hawaii.
- HB 2436: HB 2436 relates to appropriation of funds for Capitol Improvement Projects (CIP) for schools within the district.

- Restitution: Representative Aquino is working to ensure that funds that were improperly used by a Waipahu High School staff member are given back to the school and not put into the general fund.

Representative Ty Cullen – Representative Cullen circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Ekahi Wall Mural: The Ekahi Wall Mural was unveiled on Sunday, November 20, 2011 on the wall of the Highway Inn. The mural was designed by the 808 Junior Urban Board.
- Anti-Bullying: Kaleiopuu Elementary School's received a grant of \$6,000 to put together a musical theater on anti-bullying named "P-O-P: The Power of Positive Words".

Representative Sharon Har – Representative Har circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Organ Transplant: A bill is being drafted to support the organ transplant center at Queen's Hospital.
- Concussion Awareness: A bill is being drafted to spread concussion awareness. The bill would apply to high school sports and provide stricter rules regarding athletes returning from a concussion.
- Medication: Representative Har is advocating for increased access to affordable medication.

Questions, comments, concerns followed;

1. Congratulations: Representative Har was congratulated on her recent marriage.
2. HMC Facility: It was suggested the State utilize the vacant HMC facilities. It was noted that the foreclosures are currently in bankruptcy court. Following the court case, the assets will be turned over to the Sisters of Saint Francis. The Sisters of Saint Francis may look for a local buyer interested in buying the assets and reopening the hospital.

Representative Ryan Yamane – A representative was not present; a report was not available.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Meeting – The next Waipahu Neighborhood Board regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 23, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at the Filipino Community Center, 94-428 Mokuola Street.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Submitted by: Kazuaki McArthur, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Rito Saniatan, Chair