



EWA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 23

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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DRAFT – MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008** **EWA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Rich Hargrave called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. NOTE: This eleven member Board requires six (6) votes to have a quorum and to take official action.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Monique Akaka, Gary Bautista, R. Scott Belford, Tom Berg, Ariel De Jesus, Kurt Fevella, Rich Hargrave, Steve Knauer, Mitchell Tynanes.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Clint Gueso, Celeste Lacuesta.

VACANCIES: None.

GUESTS: Amy Hirano (PMCL), Gale Bracerros (Ewa Weed & Seed), Representative Kymberly Pine, Sarah Hunt (Office of Representative Kymberly Pine), Malia Chanel - Benjamin, Annabel Bottlieb (Hawaii Medical Center), Riza Marie Gatdula (U.H. Manoa), Godfrey Manera, Glenn Moir, Mary Auenido, Tracy Omori, Lisa Enanoria (Haseko), Jocelyn M. Gerolaga (U.H. Manoa), Deb Luning (Gentry Homes), Sharene Saito Tam (Haseko), Tommy Johnson (Office of the Governor/Deputy Director, State Department of Public Safety), Darrell Ing (State Department of Hawaiian Homelands), Mark Scalzone (Office of the Mayor), Glenn Oamilda, Sgt. Edgar Namoca (Honolulu Police Department Weed & Seed, District 8-Kapolei) Captain Dwayne Lee (Honolulu Fire Department – Ewa Beach), Nola J. Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office).

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS: The roll call of Board members was administered with nine (9) members present (Akaka, Bautista, Belford, Berg, De Jesus, Fevella, Hargrave, Knauer, Tynanes).

BOARD BUSINESS:

Review and Acceptance of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 2008 – Chair Hargrave asked if there were any corrections/additions to the September 2008 regular meeting minutes. **Fevella moved, seconded by Tynanes to accept the regular meeting minutes of September 2008 as written; the motion was Adopted, unanimously, 9-0-0** (Akaka, Bautista, Belford, Berg, De Jesus, Fevella, Hargrave, Knauer, Tynanes).

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Belford reported expenditures in the Operating Account were \$73.48 leaving a balance of \$1,117.41; no invoice for videotaping leaving the balance at \$2,150; and with no expenditures in the Refreshment Account leaving the balance at \$120.

CONDUCT OF BOARD BUSINESS – Chair Hargrave reminded Board member and guests about the Board's time limit police and read the established limits provided at the top of the agenda.

December Board Recess: Discussion followed – 1) Berg - Due to area pending issues such as the Ewa Development Plan, Haseko Development drainage and marina issues, providing legislative bills (reversing the process), and DR Horton development, the Board should forgo recessing in December. 2) Bautista – Noted that the Board has not recessed in December for the last four years and was in favor of a board meeting. 3) Akaka added that the Board should be able to focus on the four issues without a full meeting. 4) Belford supported a meeting. 5) Knauer said if the Board has a December meeting to eliminate reports and have the elected officials report at the next meeting. **By consensus, the Board will not recess in December 2008.**

REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Dwayne Lee reported:

1. October 2008 statistics - 9 rubbish, 2 vehicle, 82 medical, 2 search/rescue, and 16 miscellaneous calls.



2. Fire Safety Tip - This holiday season consider a fire-resistant, artificial Christmas tree. If you purchase a natural tree, choose one as fresh as possible, keep it hydrated, and keep it away from heat sources in the house. Use noncombustible materials for decorations. Choose only Underwriter's Laboratory – approved electrical decorations and follow manufacturer's instructions for installation and load. Do not overload extension cords.
3. Holiday family gatherings often include extensive food preparation and visiting guests. As a significant portion of home fires originate in the kitchen, do not leave cooking unattended. Have an ABC-rated fire extinguisher 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. If you are hosting overnight guests, share your home escape plan with them, including your designated meeting place outside the home.

Questions, comments, concerns followed: 1) the cost for the new Ocean Pointe fire station is about \$7.3 million and should take two years to complete. 2) Overgrown grass concerns at the following locations: Renton Road and Kolowaka Street; near Verona Village (City owned property); and Renton Road near St. Francis. Follow up will be done. It was suggested that contractor Kobayashi do the community a service and cut the grass near Verona Village.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – No representative was present.

Ewa Weed & Seed Unit (HPD) – Sgt. Namoca announced that an HPD's representative was unable to attend tonight's meeting and that he would relay any concerns. Sgt. Namoca circulated the monthly statistics and reported no major spikes in arrest cases.

Questions, comments, concerns for HPD followed: 1) Concern was raised regarding speeding on Kapolei Parkway, Keone`ula Boulevard and Kaileolea Street. Questions posed if it is true that Kapolei Parkway is yet to be turned over to the City by Haseko. Sgt. Namoca replied that the entire length of Kapolei Parkway is enforced. Some of the suggested solutions to curb speeding are speed bumps, traffic calming, etc. 2) 3) HPD was thanked for having their bike patrol out in Ewa Beach yesterday issuing speeding citations.

Questions, comments, concerns for Weed & Seed: Increased patrols were requested for Ewa Beach Road; a Neighborhood Security Watch program is being considered for the area. Sgt. Namoca replied that the problem will be addressed.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Keoni Mattos announced that he will be replacing Cal Sueoka as the new BWS board representative, and reported:

1. No water main breaks for the month of October.
2. Holiday Workshops at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden:
 - Tillandsia Holiday Craft, November 15, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 - Two Xeriscape Holiday Wreath Making workshops, November 22 and 29, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 - Pre-registration and a nominal fee are required to join in these family-friendly and fun-filled events.
 - For additional information or to register, call 748-5363 or email tours@hbws.org
3. BWS will have Christmas trees and a ginger bread house at both Honolulu and Kapolei Hale. BWS will also be participating in the December 6 Honolulu City Lights parade and the December 13 Kapolei parade.
4. Due to electricity conservation, the BWS Christmas light display on Beretania Street will be displayed until midnight.

Questions, comments, concerns followed:

1. De Jesus asked for a Board copy of the history of the age of the water main and when the last time was it was upgraded or replaced for the whole 96706 Ewa Beach, so that causes of water main breaks could be monitored. Follow up will be done.
2. Belford thanked Sueoka for his service to the board and community for the last eight years.

Military – LTCMDR LeConte Coleman – No representative was present. The neighborhood assistant was asked to contact Ltcmdr Coleman and see if he would continue to give reports at the board meetings since he had not attended several meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Chair Hargrave read a reply letter to the Board from Governor Linda Lingle regarding the Ft. Weaver Road bus stop relocations.

Comments followed: a) It was noted that consideration would be given about not relocating the bust stop near Blockbusters because of the huge community impact. b) Bautista commented that the State does not want to make an issue a win/win situation.

2. City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) bus route 44 change to Ocean Pointe – An informational handout was distributed with the weekday proposed bus 44 Route.
3. Legislative Committee Chair Berg announced a Legislative Committee meeting, Monday, December 1, 2008, Ewa Beach Library, 7:00 p.m. Agenda items to be discussed are the Ewa Development Plan, Haseko, Gentry, DR Horton, and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). **Without objection the agenda provided to the Board from the City Department of Planning and Permitting regarding the Ewa Development Plan would be mailed out with the Legislative Committee agenda notice.**

Discussion followed: a) Fevella mentioned that January 2009 is the deadline for comments to the review plan, and the Board would possibly need to take action prior to that date. b) Chair Hargrave noted that Gentry would be discussed at the Board's December meeting. c) It was suggested that the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 members be invited to the meeting; Chair Hargrave added that this Board would consider it.. Berg asked that Chair Hargrave draft an invitation letter. d) Berg requested that a draft invitation letter be sent to Bob Stanfield regarding the December 2008 meeting asking him to bring information on the first, second, and five year area projects. Chair Hargrave asked community member Oamilda to assist with drafting the letter.

PUBLIC GENERATED ISSUES/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

1. Belford announced computer literacy classes at the Ewa Beach Public Library, Mondays and Wednesdays.
2. 2008 Extreme Passion Event – Naval Air Museum, December 5, 9:30 a.m. and December 6, 9:30 a. m. - 4:30 p.m. at Barbers Point in Kalaeloa. Tickets are available for purchase.
3. Bautista announced the following Honolulu Rail Transit community meetings schedule:
 - December 6, 2008 – Hale O Kapolei (949 Kamokila Blvd), 9-11 a.m.
 - December 8, 2008 – Ala Moana, Neal Blaisdell Center (777 Ward Ave.), 6-8 p.m.
 - December 9, 2008 – Salt Lake District Park (1159 Ala Lilikoi Pl.), 6-8 p.m.
 - December 10, 2008 – Waipahu FILCOM Center (94-428 Mokuola Street, 6-8 p.m.
 - December 11, 2008 – Bishop Museum (Kalihi-1525 Bernice St.), 6-8 p.m.
4. Fevella recommended that the Board provide testimony relative to the Hoopili project in January 2009.

5. Belford stated that a recent request by the Honolulu Advertiser seeking off the record backgrounds on candidates running in the election from neighborhood board chairs is petty politics, reprehensible, and disgraceful.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Chair Hargrave reported the following unfinished business from the September 2008 meeting:

1. Follow up letter of request to Oahu Raceway Park.
2. Attempts will be made to contact Civil Defense (absent at the September meeting) to report on the new siren system at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cascadia Verizon Wireless – Thomas Johnson, representing Cascadia Verizon Wireless, reported that a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is being applied for and one of the requirements is a presentation at the neighborhood board. He gave the following highlights:

1. Location of site is 91-1472 Renton Road/Corner of Ft. Weaver Road and Renton Road; the fee owner is the City and County of Honolulu. Current use is a vacant lot next to the City residential housing. The zoning is agriculture 1.
2. Proposed is a 60' stealth mono-palm pole, 500 square foot concrete pad within a fenced compound. The fence will have green slats to conceal equipment in the compound. Equipment consists of five weatherproof cabinets and emergency backup generator.
3. Other sites considered but declined by the owners were Zippy's and 7-Eleven, Hawaiian Telcom Central Office on Renton Road, Kulana Malama on Karayan Street, Gentry Properties (Makai side of proposed site), Child and Family Services on Ft. Weaver Road (T-Mobile has existing pole there), DR Horton Schuler Homes, Hui Kauhala/Ewa Homes, and Ewa Post Office on Renton Road.
4. Location of existing Verizon sites now serving Ewa are the new Ewa Golf Course on North Road in the maintenance area and by the Coral Creek Golf Course.
5. With more people replacing their home phones with wireless phones, and the advent of high speed data services (internet, email, photo-sharing, audio and video stream, there is a need to increase wireless coverage capacity in order to keep up with projected wireless growth in the area.

Questions, comments, concerns followed: 1) Berg asked the benefit to Ewa Elementary School. Johnson answered income goes to the landlord. The negotiated area is dictated to evenly distribute coverage. Berg added that the school is a short distance away from the site and could use the money. 2) Belford asked if the money paid go to the City or the City Department of Information Technology (DIT). Per Councilmember Apo there is free WiFi at city parks, and Belford wondered if the money could remain in Ewa Beach. 3) Fevella commented that the money should go to restoring Asing Park or Holomua Villages and recommends that the money to the City be kept in the area; if not he is in opposition. 4) Bautista relayed that it should be a win/win situation money to the school, restoration of the park, Holomua Villages, and a portion to Board member Belford's non-profit. If the money stays in Ewa he is in support. 5) A suggestion was made that a letter be sent to Mayor Mufi Hannemann recommending that money earned from the antenna site not be put into the general fund. 6) In response to Chair Hargrave, the tower range is about one and a half to two miles.

East Kapolei Brownfields – Darrel Ing, representing the State Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL), presented the following:

1. Notice of intent to apply for grant funds – On or about November 14, 2008, DHHL will submit an application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a \$200,000 "Brownfields Cleanup Grant". If awarded the grant would be used as part of the budget for remediation of potentially hazardous materials associated with a site known as East Kapolei Pesticide Mixing and Loading Area.

2. Soil samples collected from the site indicated elevated levels of dioxins, ametryn, atrazine, simazine, pentachlorophenol, and other pesticides above action levels. Common agricultural practices for sugarcane production in the area included the use of various pesticides.
3. The project site is situated in an undeveloped area currently zoned for agricultural that is being used intermittently for agriculture purposes. The lands immediately surrounding the site are owned by the State, and access to neighboring properties is not required to conduct cleanup activities.
4. The site is currently vacant and the mixing plant area has been fenced and locked, with warning signs posted. The surrounding area is used for diversified agriculture, or is fallow.
5. Results of assessments taken confirmed that the site poses a threat to human health and the environment. Cleanup will be performed by a licensed contractor in compliance with all Federal, State and City laws.
6. DHHL will notify the community of its intent to apply for EPA Brownfields cleanup grant by means of a newspaper ad, which will include and comply with all of the requirements specified in the "Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Cleanup Grants."

Questions, comments, concerns followed: 1) Berg commented that the site has value, history, and connectivity to the community. He noted that the community should be allowed more discussion. 2) The application is due November 14, 2008. 3) Knauer expressed opposition and urged the Board to make sure that this area is safe no matter what is done and should take a firm stand to defer a decision for now; more investigation is needed. 5) In response to Fevella, the grant application notice should be out mid next year. No opinion has been received from the Ewa Historical people.

REPORTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Without objection the agenda was taken out of order to 10.C Board of Education.

Board of Education – Breene Harimoto was unavailable to be in attendance tonight; copies of the BOE Highlights were distributed.

Mayor Mufi Hanneman's Representative – Mark Scalzone, substituting for Joyce Oliveira this evening reported the following:

1. The City Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) will be replacing signage at both ends of Manakuke and Haakei Streets.
2. Crosswalk request at Renton Road and Tenney Street – DTS has completed their study and found that a marked crosswalk is not justified because of minimal pedestrian volume. A review of the area's traffic history found no reported pedestrian related incident at that subject intersection in the past three years. DTS will continue to monitor the area and ensure that appropriate traffic controls are installed once they become warranted.
3. Renton Road, cracked sidewalk at Asing Park – awaiting a response from DTS.
4. Street Light Fixture Improvements (Verona Village) – The street lighting improvements for the area should be planned and designed when the Varona Village infrastructure is upgraded. The existing street lights are of open lamp design that was installed in most plantations in Hawaii. The design is not a safety hazard since it was designed for rugged use and is out of the reach of the general public.
5. Fernandez Village Morning Traffic Backup – Contact the State DOT Highway Division at 587-2150.
6. Foreclosures – We are going through a major economic downturn locally and nationally. Oahu's real estate market saw its home and condo prices slump their lowest points in several years in September; median sales price for a single-family home dropped.

7. Broken delineators on Renton Road – DTS is still conducting their investigation which may require a field and site inspection and traffic assessment and analysis of the area. Finding will be reported at the December 2008 meeting.

Councilmember Todd Apo – Tracy Omori circulated the written report and was available for questions.

Governor Linda Lingle's Representative – Tommy Johnson reported:

1. Per the State Department of Transportation Hawaii (DOT) s a new inter-island carrier is Mokulele Airlines.
2. More clarification is needed from the noise detection equipment at Campbell High School.
3. The golf course on North Road with overgrown weeds is City-owned.
4. Governor Lingle and Lt. Governor Aiona will travel separately this week to promote travel to Hawaii as well as business investments and partnerships with the State.
5. Administration moves forward on five-point economic action plan – Increased tourism outreach and marketing; investing in improvements to our infrastructure and state facilities; lowering business fees and providing tax relief; attracting outside investment, especially in energy; and maximizing federal dollars and partnerships.
6. A total of \$20,104,000 Capital Improvement funding has been released for four of Hawaii's major airports, including \$9.7 million to replace approximately 30 escalators at Honolulu International Airport to be completed by June 2010.
7. In January the legislature will take up the issue of the Kahana Valley evictions

Questions, comments, concerns followed: 1) De Jesus asked if the governor could release the approximate \$12 million for senior services, disabled people and the homeless. 2) Knauer stated that political corruption, fraud, misuse of taxpayer money, and the school system must all be cleaned-up. In exactly those three areas, he asked what has been accomplished to boost Hawaii's economy.

Senator Will Espero – Senator Espero circulated his written report and highlighted:

1. He will chair the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee.
2. He is awaiting answers regarding the Ewa field matter.
3. The 2009 Legislative Session starts in January and everyone is invited to Opening Day Ceremonies.
4. Water from lava – He attended a Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Symposium on the Big Island that included aerospace experts. In the first ever field test, oxygen and water were extracted from lava dust and rocks proving it is possible to replicate the process on the moon.
5. 2008 Leeward Young Artists Award finalists – Ewa Elementary School - Robin Alcoran (Gr. 5), Josh Paat (Gr. 6), Kainoa Simpson (Gr.4); Iroquois Elementary School – Sofia Benachour (Gr. 2), Hailey Paschel (Gr. K); Ilima Intermediate School – Kristen Calamayan (Gr. 8), Carlo Miguel Escaner (Gr.8); James Campbell High School – Kelley Bachiller (Gr.!2), Daniel Remigio (Gr. 12).

Questions, comments, concerns followed: 1) It was announced that James Campbell High School won the OIA Division. 2) Knauer asked for completed acknowledgements by Sen. Espero in writing.

Representative Rida Cabanilla Arakawa – Representative Cabanilla Arakawa distributed her written report and noted:

1. She will chair the Housing Committee and is a member of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee.
2. Included in the written report is a letter to DR Horton requesting that property from their development be donated for a graffiti park and a dog park for the community.

Questions, comments, concerns followed: 1) It was asked that the contra-flow lanes be extended to 9:00 a.m. 2) It was noted that dust from Gentry Properties is blowing into neighboring areas. 3) It was asked that DOT restripe the Farrington Highway Bridge that goes into three lanes. 4) Ft. Weaver Road widening – Concern was raised about the contractor working in one designated area while having other areas dug up, coning all areas being worked on, and backing up traffic; an update to the community from the State and the contractor was requested. Follow up will be done. 5) Knauer asked for a written list of the representative's accomplishments. 6) A comment made was made about the negative affects impacts on the community regarding the Hoopili project.

Representative Kymberly Pine – Representative Pine reported the following:

1. She thanked everyone who voted for her and commended Kurt Fevella for doing a great job with his campaign.
2. She has been promoted to Caucus Floor Leader, and is yet to decide on other committees she would like to serve on.
3. She met with DHHL regarding the Kroc Center asking that jobs are provided for Ewa residents.
4. She's concerned about U.H. West Oahu regarding zoning, retail and industrial shops, parks, etc.

Questions, comments, concerns followed: 1) Berg commented that per Sen. Espero the Board should not focus on the East/West connector road and asked if the Board could count on her to get the private developer to expedite the East/West connector road. 2) Knauer requested Rep. Pine's completed accomplishments in writing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Legislative & Capital Improvement Program – Reminder: Legislative Committee meeting, Monday, December 1, 2008.

Executive – Chair Hargrave commented: 1) In the future all elected officials were requested to keep to the time limit policy set by this Board so that the meeting can be finished in a timely manner and adjourn no later than 10:00 p.m. 2) Congratulations to all re-elected and new legislators and councilmember. 3) Board focuses on the Ewa community and actions and getting results that benefit this community. 4) Asked the support of the elected officials and support for the Department of Education

There were no other committee reports.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Submitted by Nola J. Frank
Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by Rich Hargrave
Chair