



EWA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 23

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009 EWA BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Fevella called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m., **with a quorum of 10 members present.** Note: This 11 member Board requires six (6) votes for a quorum and to take official Board action.

Members Present – R. Scott Belford, Tom Berg, Kurt Fevella, Steve Knauer, Celeste Lacuesta, Roger Lacuesta, Coby Lynn, Andrew Purdy, Taetuli Tafai, Mitchell Tynanes.

Members Absent – Gary Bautista.

Board Vacancies – None.

Guests – Shirley Santana, Tanya Tehotu and Sharon Moega (Waianae Community Outreach); Gale Braceros (Weed & Seed), Gary Johnson, Frances Rivero (Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii), Henry Chang Wo, Glenn Oamilda, Samson Reing, Lt. J. Bruchal (Honolulu Police Department, District 8 – Kapolei), Sgt. E. Namoca (Honolulu Police Department/District 8 Ewa Weed & Seed), Tommy Johnson (Governor Linda Lingle's Office/Deputy Director, State Department of Public Safety), Lisa Enanoria (Haseko), Tracy Omori (Council Chair Todd Apo's Office), Senator Will Espero, Representative Rida Cabanilla, Dr. Beatriz Rodriguez (John A. Burns School of Medicine), Nola Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – No representative was present.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lt. J. Bruchal distributed the written May 2009 statistics report and was available for questions.

Questions, comment and concerns followed: The increase in vehicle collisions was not necessarily during graduation time.

Ewa Weed & Seed – Sgt. E. Namoca circulated the written statistics report and noted that there were no significant rises in any particular area.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative – Mayor's representative Ross Tanimoto was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to illness; the report was deferred.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – A written report was provided. Lacuesta mentioned that she is still awaiting answers to questions asked at previous Board meetings.

Councilmember Todd Apo – Tracy Omori distributed the written report and highlighted:

1. Senator Daniel Inouye's office reported that the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" focuses on providing both program benefits to ease the burden of working families and also employment opportunities to stimulate economic growth nationwide.
2. The City budget passed third reading on June 10, 2009.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Private Entity Request for More Cages to Breed Moi Fish – Community concern was raised regarding this request noting that more cages were illegally added to the original amount allotted by the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. It was added that the community had requested that this issue be placed on the Board's June agenda. Chair Fevella replied that this matter was referred to the Marine Environment Committee



who will report an update at a future meeting. It was reiterated that baby moi are being raised and sold by the private sector.

Lynn raised a point of order that the meeting be controlled. Chair Fevella ruled the point of order well-taken and continued with the agenda.

Board Elections – Belford said that four Board members were elected two years ago with honesty, truth, etc., but all have been compromised in the last five months. Filling of vacancies were eight months late.

Traffic Concerns – Knauer expressed concerns that four years ago Representative Kymberly Pine promised traffic relief. The 2007 legislative report said that Fort Weaver Road will be more pleasant to drive upon. In the 2008, it was reported that traffic relief is coming to Ewa Beach by people getting jobs closer to Ewa. He mentioned that Rep. Pine has not attended a Board meeting in four or five months, and wanted to know what she is doing for traffic relief.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 14, 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The regular meeting minutes of May 14, 2009 were APPROVED AS CORRECTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT (10-0-0) (AYE: Belford, Berg, Fevella, Knauer, C. Lacuesta, R. Lacuesta, Lynn, Purdy, Tafai, Tynanes), with the following corrections:

- Page 3, Certificate of Recognition, add “...Gary Bautista was recognized for his years of service as a Board member...”
- Page 6, Treasurer’s Report add, “...Belford resigned as treasurer...”
- Page 7, Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO), this section was deleted – Chair Fevella reported that he received a letter from OMPO noting that the Board’s representative had missed meeting and that a representative must be appointed in order for the Board’s seat to be retained. He announced that he has appointed Coby Lynn to represent this Board at the OMPO CAC meetings.

BOARD BUSINESS:

National Children’s Study by the John A. Burns School of Medicine – National Children’s Study: Dr. Beatriz Rodriguez, Professor for the John A. Burns School of Medicine, presented the following:

- It’s the largest long-term study of children’s health and development ever to be conducted in the U.S.
- It’s a longitudinal study of children, their families, and their environment (before birth through age 21).
- Approximately 100,000 children will enable the study of important but less common outcomes.
- The plan is to survey 9,000 households on Oahu to enroll 1,000 children.
- The priority is health exposures and outcomes.
- Community outreach and engagement include Neighborhood Board presentations, Town Hall meetings, interviews, and revising the community engagement plan.

REPORTS:

Treasurer’s Report – Vice Chair Tynanes reported the Operating Account balance was \$564.49; the Publicity Account balance was \$1,100, pending incoming invoices; and the Refreshment Account remained at \$120.

Committees:

Legislative & Capital Improvement Program: Committee Chair Berg reported that at the June 9, 2009 committee meeting three items was discussed. At that meeting it was requested that the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) be placed on the Board’s July agenda and suggested that committee assignments be done in concurrence at a Board meeting.

Traffic & Transportation: Committee Chair Belford reported that the Legislative & Capital Improvement Program and the Traffic & Transportation committees had a joint meeting on June 9, 2009. Fort Weaver Road should be completed in the coming months. Response from the State Department of Transportation (DOT) is that completion of the North-South Road should be in September 2009; Kapolei Parkway near the State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) will soon be completed.

Questions, comments and concerns followed: DOT held a Town Meeting on June 18, 2009 at Holomua Elementary School to discuss the design for the Farrington Highway Bridge overpass. It was requested that this matter be placed on the July agenda.

Berg moved, and Purdy seconded, that the Board draft a letter to DOT stating their position about the proposed three-lanes over the Farrington Highway Bridge, which was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 10-0-0 (AYE: Belford, Berg, Fevella, Knauer, C. Lacuesta, R. Lacuesta, Lynn, Purdy, Tafai, Tynanes). Berg offered to write the letter.

Marine Environment: Committee Chair Knauer reported that he contacted the State Department of Land and Natural Resources and the University of Hawaii about the blue fin moi being raised in ocean cages in Ewa Beach. He is looking for a credible critic for the process, effects, scientific problems, etc., relative to this program, which will be discussed in committee, and an update given at a future Board meeting.

Discussion followed: A) Berg gave a brief history of the Kapolei Parkway signals back plan and the North-South Road phases; \$30 million was approved for the extension of the North – South Road. Now is the time to reconfigure the intersection. B) Making the request now would cost the taxpayers more than previously budgeted. Phases should be planned accordingly.

Elected Officials:

Board of Education: No representative was present.

- Campbell High School – Tafai reported that the Campbell High School Project Graduation was a success. Regarding education, the school received \$2.2 million for college scholarships. Concern was expressed about budget cuts to education by the State Board of Education (BOE). An example given was that the school will be cutting teaching positions and shuffling students into already overcrowded classrooms.

Governor Linda Lingle's Representative: Tommy Johnson reported –

1. The issue regarding school closures has been solved.
2. To find accomplishments of Governor Lingle, visit www.hawaii.gov/gov/news/releases.
3. To the \$2.73 million budget shortfall, Governor Lingle is considering a three-day furlough per month for State workers starting July 1, 2009.
4. The BOE is an autonomous organization, and 13.8% has been withheld from the State Department of Education's (DOE) budget.
5. The DOT Public Affairs Office has initiated the Freeway Service Patrol. This pilot program in collaboration with HPD, the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS), Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and HFD, is designed to help motorists who are stranded on the H-1 and Moanalua (H-201 and Route 78) freeways. This free Freeway Service Patrol will cover approximately 15 miles of freeway, including a 10.4 mile stretch along the H-1 Freeway and 4.8 miles along the Moanalua Freeway. Services offered are changing flat tires, jump starting dead batteries, radiator refills, making temporary repairs, providing a gallon of gasoline (no diesel). Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., except for holidays.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. It was suggested that the University of Hawaii starting times before 9:00 a.m. be staggered.
2. Due to the elected officials accepting their raises and the lack of funding and cutbacks, it was suggested that State departments that are not needed be cut.
3. The DOE will decide which programs will be cut.

4. The raise for elected officials was decided by the Salary Commission. In November or December 2008, the Governor requested not to accept a raise. However, the Governor signed into law a bill for elected officials to receive a 36% raise, but the salary increase was reduced by 5%.
5. It was reiterated that children are the future and it is wrong to close libraries.
6. Questions were raised about stimulus money directed to higher education.
7. It was asked if the Governor's staff will be furloughed as well as other state workers.
8. Regarding the downsizing of departments, a bill to dismantle the State Department of Business, Economic, Development, and Tourism, failed. The Executive Branch plans to consolidate departments to be more efficient.
9. Relative to the budget shortfall, there is no money, and the decision is a tough one to make by the Governor. Three unions have filed lawsuits with Circuit Court. If the deficit continues to grow, there may be possible layoffs starting July 1, 2009.

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

1. He presented Chair Fevella with a certificate of appreciation for his community service.
2. The Fort Weaver Road and Kolowaka Street widening will be completed next month. The complete widening of Fort Weaver Road will be finished in December 2009.
3. DOT plans to have three lanes from Fort Weaver Road to the H-1 Freeway over the Farrington Bridge.
4. He is trying to push the Kapolei Parkway and the North-South connector road project forward to open in two to three months.
5. Care packages were mailed to soldiers containing letters and drawing from students of Kamiloiki, Ewa Beach, and Ewa Elementary Schools.
6. Regarding his inquiry about House Bill 2009 (HB 2009 – the 2009 budget bill), it did not include the \$4.5 million requested by the BOE/DOE in additional funds for the Campbell High School eight-classroom building. Because some level of redesign is needed, the original timetable to put the project out to bid next month will be delayed.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Leeward Bikeway Revision #13 – Regarding OMPO, it was noted that Representative Pine's report includes a report on the Leeward Bikeway revision #13. Per Senator Espero, eight years ago federal funding was available, but was not made a priority by this Administration. He will do his best to make it happen, and suggested that the Governor, DOT Director Morioka, bicycling enthusiasts, etc., be contacted to support this project.

Berg moved and seconded by Purdy that a letter from the Board be sent to OMPO requesting that the Leeward Bike path not be delayed. The motion was ADOPTED 9-0-1 (AYE: Belford, Berg, Fevella, C. Lacuesta, R. Lacuesta, Lynn, Purdy, Tafai, Tynanes; ABSTAIN: Knauer). Berg volunteered to draft the letter.

2. Concrete Barriers – It was reported that concrete barriers with new reflectors from the DOT freeway project were donated to parcel 24, leased to a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) by DHHL. A Board member reported that according to DOT Director Morioka, the concrete barriers were donated verbally. It was stated that the community could use those barricades for parks, etc., but was told that would be a liability issue. It was noted why donate to a LLC, by right they should be donated to a non-profit organization; and there is no paperwork relative to the donation. It was requested to have someone from the DOT attend the July meeting. Follow up will be done.
3. Restriping of Honowai Street – A comment was made that Honowai Street will become a safety hazard and the exit should be shutoff; for verification, it was asked if it is legal to drive across solid lines.

Representative Rida Cabanilla: Representative Cabanilla circulated her written report and highlighted –

1. House Bill 1632, relating to the Ewa Development Plan was not heard by the Senate. Per the City Department of Planning and Permitting chair, a Town Meeting will be planned regarding this matter.
2. The legislature voted to take a five percent cut in pay.
3. District 42 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) include Ewa Elementary School \$334,000 to replace floor tiles, water lines, concrete walkways parking lot lighting and roofs; Ilima Intermediate School \$1,087,000 for replacement of intercom system, asphaltic pavement, stair railings, chain link fence and gate, and renovate bathrooms; and Campbell High School \$907,000 to replace waterlines and roof, repair electrical and termite damage, and modify building gates.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Legislature Pay Raise – The legislature received a 36% raise this year, but has not gotten a raise in the last eight years.
2. Furlough of State Employees – Concern was raised that employees that may be furloughed make less than the legislators do for their part-time job as a legislator. It was recommended that the legislature vote to decrease their 36% raise. The community's concerns will be shared with her constituents. She agrees with the Governor to furlough rather than lay off 10,000 state employees.
3. Hoopili Project – There are personal concerns about this project. Testimonies were provided at the hearing. The key for the Land Use Commission (LUC) is that the land was purchased as agriculture lands and not promised to be converted to residential. Representative Cabanilla favors housing moratorium because she supports agriculture land and preserving Hawaii. Both she and constituents want responsible development. A community meeting concerning Hoopili impacts to the Ewa Development Plan, etc., is scheduled for Tuesday, June 30, 2009, at Asing Park at 7:00 p.m.

Representative Kymberly Pine: The written report was distributed. A request was made for Representative Pine to attend Board meetings.

Other Reports – There were no reports.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2009, at the Ewa Beach Public Library (91-950 North Road) at 7:00 p.m.
- Broadcasts of meetings are played on `Olelo Channel 54, Sundays at 9:00 p.m.

Board Member Announcements –

- Haseko: Haseko was thanked for completing the work fronting Ewa Beach Elementary School.
- Ewa Beach Lions Club Meeting: Lynn announced the meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.
- Community Based Meeting: A meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2009, at the Ewa Beach Boys & Girls Club at 6:30 p.m.
- Campbell High School Media: Oscar Ramiscal and the Campbell High School Media were thanked for doing a great job videotaping the Board's monthly meetings.
- Ewa Pony League Tournament: The tournament will run from June 26 to 29, 2009 at the Central Oahu Regional Park; opening day ceremonies will take place on Saturday June 27, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
- Sunset on the Plains: The first meeting for this event is being held this evening at the Kapolei Hale conference room. The event is scheduled for September 5, 2009 at Mahiko Park. Other meetings are scheduled for August 13 and 27, and an all-vendors meeting will be held on September 2, 2009. Volunteers are welcome.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Submitted by:
Nola Frank
Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:
Kurt Fevella, Chair