



## WAIANAE COAST NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 24

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 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2009 WAIANAE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jo Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **with a quorum of six (6) members present.** Note—This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members for a quorum and to take official Board action.

**Board Members Present:** Michael Anderson, Calvin Endo, Jo Jordan, Suzanne Leonida, Johnnie-Mae Perry (arrived at 9:35 p.m.), Bob Smith and Fred Saunders.

**Board Members Absent:** Albert Silva and Frank Slocum.

**Vacancies:** There were no vacancies.

**Guests:** Fire Fighter Eric Abella (Honolulu Fire Department), James Manaku Sr., Fred Dodge, Senetenari Fetu, Representative Karen Awana, Lieutenant Jeffery Bruchal (Honolulu Police Department), L. Kamai, Anne Mizuta (Hawaii State Horseshoe Pitchers), John Desoto (Makaha Hawaiian civic Club), Lokana Keliikoa-Pua (Waianae Community Homestead), Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai (Waianae Valley Hawaiian Community Association), Meleana Kamai, Kaleo Kamai, Ron Sullivan, Suzanne Marinelli (State Legislature's Public Access Room), Shuji and Mieko Shintani, Al Awo, Sasha Hernandez and Kandi Agustin (Waianae Community Outreach), Kayla Overton and Rhonda Suzuki (United States Army Garrison Hawaii), Patrick and Erica Stauffer (U.S Army), Dawn Chang (Sandwich Isle Communications), Representative Maile Shimabukuro, Chris Garth (Councilmember Todd Apo's Office), Leland S.M. Ribac (Neighborhood Commission Office).

**Due to Neighborhood Assistant (NA) Ribac's absence, Secretary Anderson took the following minutes.**

#### **WELCOME/PULE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/HAWAII PONO'I:**

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS PART 1:**

##### **Honolulu Fire Department (HFD):**

##### **Honolulu Police Department (HPD):**

##### **U.S Army:**

**Ordnance Reef Update:** No report at this time.

##### **Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP):**

##### **Board of Water Supply (BWS):**

**Board of Education (BOE):** No report at this time.

**Sandwich Isles Communications (SIC):** Reported later in the meeting.

**Kalaeloa Advisory Team (KAT) Update:** No report at this time.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS/ACTION:**

##### **Approval of December 1, 2009 Regular Meeting Agenda:**

##### **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for November 3, 2009:**



**NA Ribac arrived at 8:00 p.m. and recorded the following minutes.**

Authorization of the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO): Chair Jordan explained that through proper protocol and in accordance to the Neighborhood Plan, the Board is faced with the issue to inform Board member Leonida of her three absences this term. The Board may inform Leonida by letter themselves or authorize the NCO to send the letter.

Discussion followed:

1. Willing To Stay on Board: Leonida expressed her apologies for missing the Board meeting due to a family emergency. She is willing to continue service on the Board and wishes to keep her seat.
2. Letter Necessary: It was questioned and clarified that the letter is proper protocol and should be sent to the absentee. The letter also has a response letter that Leonida must send back to the NCO.
3. Issue Brought Up in January: Once the letter is sent to the absentee, the issue will be formerly discussed at the next meeting (January 2010).
4. Other Absent Members: All Board members were reminded to participate at all Board meetings as the Neighborhood Assistant keeps track of Board member attendances.

**Anderson moved and Saunders seconded to authorize the Neighborhood Commission Office to send out the three absence letter to Board Member Suzanne E. Leonida in conjunction to § 2-14-106 of the Neighborhood Plan. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 6-0-0, (Aye: Anderson, Endo, Jordan, Leonida, Saunders and Smith.)**

Discussion to Recess in January 2010: Chair Jordan explained that the Board normally recesses in the month of January due to its closeness to New Years Day. However it was noted that the Board does not have to recess and may meet.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Other Recessed Months: It was questioned and clarified that the Board does not usually fall on or near holiday dates other than January. It was noted that during election years, the Board changes its meeting date in November, but will hold a meeting.
2. Consensus to Meet in January: Board members noted that because the next meeting date is slightly further away from New Years Day in 2010 (Tuesday, January 5, 2010), the Board would like to hold a meeting in January.

Treasurer's Report: Endo read the November 2009 Treasurer's Report highlighting a current expense of \$69.22 due to printing and postage, leaving a current Operating Balance of \$1,020.58 and overall balance of \$2,920.58. The report was filed.

Sandwich Isles Communications (SIC): Dawn Chang reported the following;

1. Project Accepted: The project has been completed and accepted by the City and County of Hawaii, there is a one year warranty on the construction zone, if there are any problems in the future, contact the City.
2. Mahalo Community: Chang thanked the community for their continued support and input throughout the project. Chang wished everyone Happy Holidays as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education: Endo noted there would be no December meeting, however concerns regarding 'Furlough Fridays' continue to be a top priority in the Department of Education (DOE). In December, all weeks are being cut short due to furlough Fridays and scheduled Holidays.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Student Attendance: Concern rose regarding the lack of student participation and attendance when they have school. Parents have noticed a decline in willingness to go to school since furlough Fridays have begun. Students must be urged to continue their education and need to get back in class.

Health and Safety: No report at this time.

Parks & Recreation/Parks Beautification: Chair Jordan reported there will not be a December meeting due to several committee members being off island; however a January meeting will be held.

Night Closure of Papa Kahau Horseshoe Facility by Signage: Chair Jordan reported that as a request by a community member, the Parks Committee undertook the closure of the Horseshoe Facility, but was unable to get a Board motion of support due to quorum issues. Anne Mizuta of the Hawaii State Horseshoe Pitches Association explained that the facility is a fenced off section of the Papa Kahau Park. The facility has been subject to vandalism and human defecation in recent months. The association is requesting that the facility be closed nightly by signage and will be regulated by the Pitchers Association.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Current Status: It was noted that the facility is currently the only State sanctioned horseshoe pits on the islands. Recently homeless residents have been utilizing the park for their own personal use; the Pitchers Association has adopted the facility and performs all of the needed maintenance on a monthly basis.
2. Ownership: The facility is located adjacent to the Papa Kahau Beach Park and owned by the State; the adjacent parking lot is owned by Honolulu Community Action Program.
3. Public Use: Residents are allowed to use the pitching mounds for their personal use The Pitchers Association does hold tournaments there on a regular basis. It was noted that for parties greater than 25 a permit must be required to use the facility.
4. Health and Safety Concerns: Residents voiced concern that vandalism and defecation have become a health and safety concern, and they would like to see it stopped.
5. Closure Recommendations: Mizuta explained that the closure would coexist with most beach closure time periods. The facility does not have light and therefore should be closed at sunset. It was suggested that a regulatory time frame of 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. be utilized.

**Saunders moved and Smith seconded to support night closure of the Papa Kahau Horseshoe Facility by signage. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 6-0-0, (Aye: Anderson, Endo, Jordan, Leonida, Saunders and Smith.)**

Planning & Zoning: Smith noted there would be no December meeting and will hold one in January 2010.

Economic & Development: Anderson noted there was no meeting in November and he will not be holding one in December. The next meeting should be held in January 2010.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Local Eye Sores: Concern raised regarding the increasingly large amount of structures or old buildings that have become decrepit and are an 'eye sore' for many; Anderson noted that he will begin to look into the issue and encourage proper economic and development at the next meeting.
2. Trash Build Up: Concern raised with the abundance of illegal trash sites in the district, this issue is of health and safety concern as much as it affects proper economic development in the area.

Transportation: No report at this time.

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO): Smith reported;

1. H-1 Westbound Afternoon Contraflow: The contraflow aims to reduce congestion west bound and east bound in the morning and afternoon. The contraflow headed westbound will begin at Radford Drive to the Waiawa Interchange. Bids to be released in December for completion in early 2012.
2. Middle Street Widening Project: The widening will reduce bottleneck in the Middle Street area. An Environmental Assessment (EA) is needed for this project. Bids to be released in late 2010, for completion in 2014.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Several announcements were made at this time;

1. Nanakuli Community Baseyard: Tropic Land LLC proposes to develop a light industrial park on 96 acres in upper Lualualei Valley. The project will consist of approximately 41 units averaging two acres each. The 45 day comment period ends January 5, 2010.
2. Waianae Baseline Environmental Study: Interested residents may visit [www.hawaii.gov/dlnr](http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr).
3. Hazardous Waste Disposal: Residents that would like to know more of regarding hazardous waste disposal by the City and County of Honolulu, visit [www.opala.org](http://www.opala.org), or call 768-3201.
4. Hawaii Schools Support: Residents were urged to visit [www.helpahawaiischools.com](http://www.helpahawaiischools.com) for more information on how to volunteer and donate to local area schools.
5. Maunalahilahi Beach Park: Makaha residents have scheduled a meeting with City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) representatives to discuss the adoption of Maunalahilahi Beach Park
6. Adult Literacy Program: The Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP) is looking for interested residents willing to help in the upcoming adult literacy program on Saturday, December 5, 2009.
7. Waianae Kai Community Center: The Center is currently focusing on proper economic development while working on the regional plan as well. The Center is striving towards five goals including; going green, energy efficiency, and possible use of solar power.
8. Joint Education Forum: The Nanakuli-Mailii Neighborhood Board will be holding a joint Education Forum on Saturday, December 12, 2009, location to be announced at 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
9. Happy Holidays: Several residents and Board members wished everyone Happy Holidays, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Residents were also urged to be safe this season.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS: Several concerns were voiced at this time;

1. Makua Valley and Keaau Beach Park: Concerns with the cleanliness of both locations, this is an ongoing issue for local residents, and is shameful for tourists.
2. Proper Education: Residents are concerned with the lack of a proper education for students in the district, residents suggested closing down entire schools and re-structuring them from the ground up. It was also suggested that parents look into use of emergent schools.
3. Mailii Clean-Up: The Waianae Community Outreach (WCO) is working with the State Department of Transportation (DOT) to clean up Mailii on Saturday, December 19, 2009. Residents welcomed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No unfinished business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hawaii State Legislature Public Access Room: Suzanne Marinelli reported;

1. Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB): The Public Access Room is a non-partisan branch of the LRB located at the State Capitol. Although the office has been affected financially by the economic crunch, residents are still allowed to visit the LRB on a daily basis.

2. Legislative Process: One of the main goals of the public access room is to educate Hawaii residents on the legislative process. Other duties include Bill drafting and status updates, as well as drafting of testimony on particular bills.
3. Community Outreach: Throughout the access room's history community outreach has also been a top priority for its workers. Recently the access room has been able to provide informational courses on the outer islands.
4. Community Always Welcomed: Residents are welcomed to utilize this office's great resource ability. There are several internet ready computers that resident are also able to utilize.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Great Resource: Chair Jordan thanked Marinelli for her information and several resource handouts that were also provided. It was noted that during session this office is a great resource for keeping residents updated.
2. Available to Public: It was re-iterated that this is a service to the public and there are no finance charges for the information.
3. Bill Status Search: It was clarified that due to the legislature's biennium (two-year) structure, Bills that were introduced last session are technically still alive and may be re-introduced this upcoming 2010 session. Bills may also be re-introduced in the beginning of a two year biennium.

Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Nanakuli: No report at this time.

#### MONTHLY REPORTS PART 2:

Mayor's Representative: No report at this time.

Councilmember Todd Apo: Chris Garth reported;

1. Committee Week: Council is currently in its committee week, during this time legislation will be going through the reading and public comment process. For a full committee calendar visit the Council website.
2. Full Council: The next full Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, 2009.
3. Landfill Legislation: The Councilman continues to look at the closure of Waimanalo Gulch and the immediate relocation of a landfill. Bills of interest include Bill 76 and Resolutions 345 and 346.
4. Holiday Wishes: The Councilman wishes everyone a Happy Holiday season and prosperous New Year.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Agriculture Taskforce: It was questioned why the Agriculture Taskforce was formed and what they plan on discussing; Garth to follow-up.

Governor's Representative: No report at this time.

Senate President Colleen Hanabusa: No report at this time.

Representative Maile Shimabukuro: Representative Shimabukuro reported;

1. Rental Assistance: Assistance for Waianae's transitional shelter residents and homeless persons are available. The federal 'Rent-to-Work' program is holding an orientation on Wednesday, December 16, 2009. For more information call Oahu Worklinks at 969-7067.
2. Bills of Interest: Residents that may have legislation ideas are welcomed to contact the Representative's office with ideas.

3. Keaau Beach Park: A letter was produced by Leslie Young of Young's Island Gem Production. The letter addresses the concern of items that may be donated to help the less fortunate. All items will be distributed on Saturday, December 19, 2009 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at Keaau Beach Park.
4. Keep Your Library Open: Waianae Library is holding a 'Keep Your Library Open' fundraising regarding Furlough Fridays. Visit the library on December 4, 11, and 18, 2009 between 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. For more information call the library at 697-7868.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Residents' Concerns: Concerns raised regarded the homeless near the canal and the fact that residents are catching and eating fish from the canal.
2. Educational Mandate: Residents suggested that the State should mandate the DOE to regulate the number of school days in a school year. Shimabukuro agreed with the idea, noting that many legislators will be introducing some sort of educational legislation this upcoming session.

Representative Karen Awana: Representative Awana reported;

1. Veterans Day Activities: Mahalo to several agencies that participated in the many different Veterans Day activities in the community. The parades were a great success in the communities.
2. School Visits: The Representative continues her school visits throughout the district. She and the Principals have been in discussion of needed capital improvement projects (CIP) and concerns regarding furlough Fridays.
3. Maili Clean-Up: The Waianae Community Outreach (WCO) was thanked for their continued work with the State DOT. The cleanup will be held on Saturday, December 19, 2009.
4. Legislative Ideas: Residents are encouraged to contact the Representative's office with any legislative ideas for the upcoming session.
5. DOE Audit: The Representative will be requesting a full audit of the State DOE in the upcoming legislature; it has not been completed in over 10 years.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Charter Schools: It was questioned and clarified that Charter Schools have also taken a cut in the education system while Public Schools have also suffered.
2. Proper Hawaiian Spelling: It was suggested that all Hawaiian words be properly spelt out with okina and kahakou. This may be a good idea for possible legislation.
3. Kamehameha Schools Presentation: Regarding last month's State Department of Hawaiian Home Land and Kamehameha Schools, it has been noted that a Community Board will be established for interested members of the district.
4. Kapolei Hale/Christmas Greetings: Residents were invited to the festivities at Kapolei Hale City Lights on Saturday, December 12, 2009. Residents were wished a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Submitted By:

Leland S.M. Ribac  
Neighborhood Assistant