



WAIANAE COAST NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 24

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014 WAIANAE DISTRICT PARK – MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Johnnie-Mae Perry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **A quorum was established with six (6) Board members present.** Note-This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Calvin Endo, Cedric Gates, Mona Neill, Johnnie-Mae Perry, Robert Reed, Albert Silva, and James Cowles (appointed at this meeting at 7:10 p.m.).

Board Members Absent: Robin Grant and Craig McDonald.

Vacancies: There is one (1) vacancy in Subdistrict 1.

Guests: Kiran Polk (Councilmember Kymberly Pine's Office Staff), C Zahn (Neighborhood Commissions Office) Alice Greenwood, Lieutenant David Neilson (Honolulu Police Department), Rita K Martin, Ian Santee (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Office Staff), Jody Willard (Honolulu Police Department), Sergeant Suiso (Honolulu Fire Department), Leolani Oyama (Representative Karen Awana's Office), William Aila (Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative), Al Frenzel (Malama Makaha), BS McEwen, Geanine Kahalewai (Senator Maile Shimabukuro's Office Staff), Todd Rockhold, Cynthia Rezentes, Marlen Sommers, Mike Freitas, Henry Eng, Tesa Ng, Randy Stevens (EURUS Energy), Lieutenant Colonel Derrick Cheng (U.S. Army 25th Infantry Division), Hope Hatton, Cathie Alana, Gladys Peraro, Laurel Mei Turbin, Paul Kepka, Mitchell Tyname, and Daniela Arriaga (Neighborhood Commission Office Staff).

Pule/Pledge of Allegiance/Hawaii Pono'i: Chair Perry welcomed everyone to the Board meeting. Endo led the pule, Neill led Hawaii Pono'i, and Silva led the Pledge of Allegiance.

FILLING OF BOARD VACANCY: Chair Perry opened the floor for nominations and volunteers to fill the vacancy in subdistrict 1. Resident James Cowles volunteered. **Gates nominated and Endo seconded Cowles to fill the vacancy in subdistrict 1.** Cowles delivered a brief introduction. **Cowles was APPOINTED to the Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 6-0-0 (Aye: Endo, Gates, Neill, Perry, Reed, and Silva).**

Chair Perry called a recess at 7:05 p.m.

Neighborhood Assistant Daniela Arriaga verified Cowles residency and administered the Oath of Office.

Cowles joined the Board at 7:10 p.m. **Seven (7) members were present.**

Chair Perry reconvened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

SPECIAL GUEST: Congresswomen Tulsi Gabbard's representative Vandeth Seth presented the community with updates on the Congresswomen Gabbard's recent community outreach visit to the Waianae Coast. Please call Congresswomen Gabbard's Office at (808) 541-1986 for more information.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. **Hawaii Kai Marina Dredging Project:** Chair Perry expressed concern over the recent Hawaii Kai Marina Dredging Project. Chair Perry also reported that the U.S Army Corps of Engineers and the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) had yet to present to the Waianae community on the sludge illegally dumped in Waianae and requested that Congresswomen Gabbard assist the community in taking action on the matter.
2. **Military Cutbacks:** Chair Perry expressed concern over recent U.S Military cutbacks.



MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Sergeant Scot Suiso reported the following:

- February 2014 Fire Statistics: There were two (2) structure fires, five (five) rubbish fires, five (5) vehicle fires, 194 medical emergencies, three (3) search and rescues, and 45 miscellaneous emergencies.
- Fire Safety Tip for Barbeque Grills: Propane and charcoal grills may not be used on apartment or townhouse balconies. Keep children and pets three feet away from grilling areas. Remove grease or fat buildup from the grill trays and ensure your gas grill lid is open before lighting.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Lieutenant David Neilson reported the following:

- February 2014 Crime Statistics: There were 39 motor vehicle thefts, 63 burglaries, 189 thefts, and 64 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (JEMV).
- Vehicle Converter Thefts: Following a recent trend from the mainland there have been several reports of converters being cut from parked vehicles in trucks. Please contact 911 if a report is witnessed.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Waianae Campus: Gates asked for follow up regarding a request made by Endo for an HPD officer to post on the Waianae High School campus to address fights after school. Neilson will follow up. Endo thanked the HPD for providing an officer to help monitor the area in front of the school at night.
2. Thank You: Cowles thanked the HPD for their quick response time and for apprehending an individual responsible for a recent automobile accident that left a victim critically injured and in a coma.
3. Blue Lights: A resident commended the effectiveness of blue flashing HPD vehicle lights
4. Illegal Commercial Trucks: Chair Perry expressed concern over unmarked commercial trucks operating on the roads.

U.S. Army 25th Infantry Division: Lieutenant Colonel Derrick Cheng reported the following:

- Malama Makua Cultural Access Dates: The next access dates to enter Makua Valley are Saturday, March 8, 2014 and Wednesday, March 12, 2014.
- Hawaii Education Week- Military Appreciation Day: The U.S Army will be participating in the Hawaii Education Week's Military Appreciation Day event, Wednesday, May 21, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Hawaii State Capitol Rotunda. Army representatives will be on hand to highlight the School Partnership Program.
- Marine Resources Study Update: The U.S. Army is continuing to work with local fishermen and individuals from the University of Hawaii (UH) to complete the Makua Marine Resources Study. Dry season sampling occurred in September 2013 in waters off Makua Beach and the North Shore. Sampling was completed in October 2013. Wet season sampling began on Monday, January 14, 2014 at Makua Beach and is still in progress at the North Shore, weather permitting. The field team continues to assess ocean conditions daily to complete wet season sampling of the same species from the same waters. For more information, go to www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/schofieldplant.
- Volunteer Opportunities: There will be upcoming Army Volunteer Service trips through the month of March in the Waianae area. Each educational trip offers an opportunity to care for Hawaii's natural resources such as removing invasive weeds from native habitats or planting seeds.
- April is Earth Month: Army programs and events in support of Earth Month will be announced soon and will include a variety of service projects around the islands and in local Waianae neighborhoods.
- Live Fire at Makua: Cheng noted that the U.S. Army is still looking at using Makua Valley as a live-fire site.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Live-Fire at Makua: A resident expressed concern over live fire training in Makua Valley and noted that the training would result in unsafe heavy military vehicles commuting on Farrington Highway.
2. Military Cutbacks: Cheng answered for Neill that military cutbacks will reduce the number of the entire U.S. Army force from 570,000 to 450,000; Cheng indicated the potential impacts for Hawaii would be assessed in the upcoming year.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): No representative was present; no report was provided.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: Ian Santee reported the following:

- Biking Infrastructure: Mayor Caldwell has proposed \$1.4 million in the upcoming budget to improve the island's biking infrastructure which would include a proposed bike share program in Honolulu.
- LED Street Lights: The City has replaced 180 previous streetlights with new LED street lights. The new LED lights were reported as brighter and save 40% more energy.
- New City Website: The City and County of Honolulu has recently launched a new website. Items such as licenses and street paving schedules can be easily accessed by visiting www.honolulu.gov.
- Mayor Caldwell's Statement on Bill 69: Santee read Mayor Kirk Caldwell's statement regarding Bill 69 which was recently deferred by full council. The statement indicated that Bill 69, relating to advertising on City buses, was drafted with the intention of finding new revenue to support bus service improvements.
- Refuse \$10 Fee: Santee noted that under the proposal residents would be charged an additional \$10 fee per month for single residents and \$314 per month for multi-unit residential properties. Fees proposed would directly impact refuse fee services rather than a property tax increase. Maui charges \$18 per month for refuse services; Kauai charges \$12 per month. The \$10 amount is a user fee and not a tax.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Speeding Near Leihoku Elementary School: Endo expressed concern over speeding on Leihoku Street near Leihoku Elementary School; Cowles concurred. Cowles noted that students crossing at the crosswalk are endangered by speeding vehicles. Chair Perry requested HPD address the issue.
2. Refuse Fee: A resident expressed concern over the refuse fee; Chair Perry clarified the fee did not pass.
3. Ala Wai Park Baseball Field: A community member expressed concern regarding reports of \$3 million dollars in funding budgeted for the Ala Wai Park Baseball field. The resident indicated that Kaupuni Park has not received their fair share of improvements compared to upgrades for the ball field.
4. Low Income Housing: A resident supported Mayor Kirk Caldwell's plan to address the island's homeless problem and suggested more low income housing for residents.
5. Bus Funding: A community member expressed concern over the \$7 million City Bus budget decrease and noted that the Rail would further negatively impact the Bus system.
6. Sand Island Waste Water Treatment/ Pellets: Chair Perry expressed concern over manure pellets being spread along local West Oahu public parks. Chair Perry suggested burning the pellets in dry form instead of spreading them. Santee will follow up.

Councilmember Kymberly Pine's Representative: Kiran Polk reported the following:

- Kahe Point Solar Panel Farm Proposal: Councilmember Pine is not in support of the Kahe Point Solar Panel Farm's proposal or further industrialization of the mountainside area. It was indicated that the solar farm would result in panels covering the entire surface of the Keone'oio Gulch. Councilmember Pine is in support of preserving the subject mountainside and ocean side landscape for the benefit of the Waianae community.
- Stop Signal at Waianae High School: The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) is working on correcting the stop signal at Waianae High School; Councilmember Pine's Office thanked the Makakilo/ Kapolei/ Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 for bringing the issue to the attention of the community.
- Environmental Justice Coalition: Councilmember Pine's Office thanked Chair Perry for information received on the Environmental Justice Coalition. Councilmember Pine is in the process of looking to introduce environmental justice legislation. Councilmember Pine is in support of designating Waianae as an environmental justice zone and initiating environmental court hearings.
- Queens Medical Center Opening: Queen's Medical Center will be opening on Sunday, May 27, 2014.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Nanakuli Avenue Traffic Light: Neill reported timing of the traffic light at Nanakuli Avenue causes traffic to back up; Chair Perry concurred and noted that the Nanakuli Neighborhood Board No. 36 has also expressed concern over synchronizing of lights along Farrington Highway.
2. Correcting problems at City Parks: Chair Perry expressed concern that the recently reported Hawaii Kai Firing Range problems were corrected by the City within months compared to years for problems at Waianae parks. Polk will take concerns back to Councilmember Pine.

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative: William Aila reported the following:

- Appointments: The Governor recently announced the following appointments: Judge Michael D. Wilson for associate justice to the Hawaii Supreme Court and Dr. Linda Rosen as director of the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH).
- Council of Governors: Governor Abercrombie was recently reappointed by President Obama to the Council of Governors to focus on matters of national security and matters of interest pertaining to the National Guard.
- Economic Growth: The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism's (DBEDT) first quarter 2014 economic forecast projects continued economic growth. The department also noted Hawaii's low unemployment rate. It was reported that personal income is growing faster than inflation and higher than the national rate.
- Construction Industry Growth: DBEDT expects the construction industry to lead as Hawaii's overall economy grows each year through 2017. As construction continues to accelerate in growth from 12.4% in 2014 to 8.3% in 2015, residents can expect increased jobs, strong revenue and continued economic improvement. More report information is available at governor.hawaii.gov.
- Invasive Species: The Fire Ant is an invasive species and was introduced in Hilo; recent sightings have been reported in Oahu. Please also report sightings of the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle; the beetles can devastate coconut trees and palms trees.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Photo Voltaic Panels: Aila indicated for Endo that problems with Photo Voltaic Panels and HECO should be directed to the Public Utilities Commission.
2. Oahu Regional Transportation Plan: A resident requested that the State Department of Transportation (HDOT) brief the community on Project 50 and Project 54. Project 54 would turn half of Farrington Highway from four (4) lanes to six (6) lanes; Project 50 relates to roads near Makaha Beach. A letter was drafted for the board to review and send to the HDOT. Chair Perry requested HDOT present at the July 2014 Waianae Board Meeting; Aila will follow up.
3. Affordable Housing: A resident encouraged Governor Abercrombie to implement future affordable housing in Oahu.

Senator Maile Shimabukuro: Geanine Kahalewai reported the following:

- Hawaiian Immersion Programs: The Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) and the Department of Education (DOE) recently approved policy changes that support Hawaiian language, culture and history as part of Hawaii's educational standards for students grade K-12.
- Applications for Preschool Open Doors Program: The application period for 2014 Preschool Open Doors Program is Saturday March 1, 2014 to Wednesday, April 30, 2014.
- Hawaii Hazards Awareness & Resilience Program (HHARP): The aim of HHARP is to help communities prepare to be self-reliant during and after natural hazard events and to reduce the negative impacts of disasters.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Community Demands: Chair Perry thanked Senator Shimabukuro for the support of SB 632 SD 1 relating to the environmental court as well as for supporting the community's demands over the Hawaii Kai dredging issue.

Representative Jo Jordan: Representative Jo Jordan was in session: no report was provided.

Representative Karen Awana: Leolani Oyama reported the following:

- Introduced Bills: The following bills introduced by Representative Awana have passed the House of Representative and are now on their way to the State Senate for action: HB 2038 relating to human trafficking; HB 2116 relating to sentencing for juvenile offenders; HB 2518 relating to the State Planning Act; HB 2562 relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion School Task Force; HB 2563 relating to the Transportation Feasibility Study and HB 2565 relating to Coastal Memorials.
- House Bill 1911: Representative Awana sent an urgent notice to the community regarding HB 1911, which would allow DLNR to conduct a study to establish a non-commercial fishing licensing program for

residents and non residents; Representative Awana does not support this measure because the licensing fees impede on the rights of native Hawaiian fisherman. Please contact elected representatives with input regarding HB 1911.

BOARD BUSINESS/ACTION

Approval of February 4, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes: **Endo moved and Gates seconded to approve the February 4, 2014 regular meeting minutes with the following corrections.**

The February 4, 2014 minutes were ADOPTED as amended by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 7-0-0 (Aye: Endo, Gates, Neill, Perry, Reed, Silva, Cowles).

Page 1: Under guest, Cathie Awana should read Cathie Alana.

Treasurer's Report: Endo read the February 2014 financial statement. A total of \$19.41 was spent in February 2014, leaving a remaining balance of \$321.86. The report was filed.

Secretary Position Vacancy: Chair Perry indicated that there was a vacancy open in the Board secretary position and asked for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Neil nominated and Gates seconded James Cowles to fill the Board Secretary position. Cowles was **APPOINTED** as the Board Secretary **by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 7-0-0 (Aye: Endo, Gates, Neill, Perry, Reed, Silva, Cowles).**

COMMUNITY/ BOARD CONCERNS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Military Bases: Laurel Mei Turbin from the University of Hawaii at Manoa reported that on Friday, March 13, 2014 there would be a documentary film screening at the Leeward Community College Waianae Campus; research on the military presence in Waianae will also be discussed. Turbin indicated that 30% of the Leeward Coast contains military bases.

Charter School: On Sunday, March 16, 2014 there will be a community educational meeting at the Waianae District Park from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. regarding expansion of a new charter school to expand in the Waianae area.

NEW BUSINESS:

HPD Marijuana Fact Sheet Presentation: Officer Jody Willard provided handouts and presented a slide show relating to facts on marijuana. HPD does not support the decriminalization and legalization of marijuana due to the high potential abuse of the classified schedule one controlled substance.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E): Willard answered for Neill that HPD continues to work with the D.A.R.E program to educate students on the negative effects of marijuana.
2. Support: Endo supported HPD's position and noted that decriminalizing the substance could lead to harmful results for the community; a community member concurred and expressed concern that residents with medical marijuana cards are allowed to drive under the effects of marijuana.
3. Medical Studies: Several residents noted that medical studies have found marijuana can assist patients with terminal illnesses.
4. Alcohol: A resident noted that alcohol had more harmful effects than marijuana and was associated with more crimes.
5. Regulation and Enforcement: Several community members expressed support of medical marijuana providing that there were strict regulations.
6. Industrial Hemp: A community member commented that marijuana was different than industrial hemp; industrial hemp was noted to have beneficial properties.

Endo moved and Cowles seconded to support HPD's position on marijuana.

Discussion followed:

- Industrial Hemp: Gates reported not to support the measure because of potential limitations that the measure could place on industrial hemp. Gates indicated that industrial hemp was used to produce oil, clothing and housing materials; it was noted that industrial hemp farming could offer future growth for the community.
- Recreational versus Medical Marijuana Use: Silva indicated that the measure was about recreational use restrictions and not about medical marijuana use restrictions.

The motion to support the HPD's position on marijuana was ADOPTED, 6-1-0 (Aye: Endo, Neill, Perry, Reed, Cowles, and Silva; Nay: Gates).

EURUS Energy America Corporation Proposal of a 200 Acre Photovoltaic (PV) Farm: Randy Stevens highlighted the following:

- EURUS Energy: EURUS Energy is owned by Toyota and Tokyo Electric Power and has been developing global solar energy for over 20 years.
- Proposal: Photo voltaic (PV) solar farm to be built on 200 of the 800 acres of conservation land owned by the Olson Trust. Zoning for the property is on Ag-2 land.
- Location: The proposed project will be located on abandoned property in Waianae in back of Kamaile Academy School.
- Energy Power: The solar farm plans to provide power to 10,000 homes. The energy from solar will be sold to Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO).
- Community Benefits: Plans include a rubbish clean-up of the area in April 2014. EURUS plans to work with the community to gather input throughout the proposal process.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Solar Panels: Cowles, Neill, and Endo inquired into HECO's response to oversaturation of solar panels in residential neighborhoods; it was reported that the oversaturation has restricted residents from buying private rooftop solar panels. Stevens indicated that HECO lines for roof top panels use different voltage lines than solar farms.
2. No Benefits: Several residents expressed concern that there would be no community benefits for the Leeward Coast residents; Perry, Neil and Gates concurred. Perry indicated that Waianae should not have to house the solar farm and added that 200 acres was an extreme amount of land to be developed.
3. Kamaile Academy: Silva requested that benefits from the project be returned to the community or to Kamaile Academy. Stevens indicated that EURUS was working with Kamaile Academy and proposed a community pathway near the property. The Kamaile Academy Principal indicated support of the solar project and noted that EURUS would be a good future neighbor.
4. Visibility: Stevens answered for Chair Perry that solar panels would be situated 10 feet off the ground in compliance with Hawaii building codes.
5. Hire Local: Stevens answered for Neil, Gates and several concerned community members that EUROS would attempt to hire local employees.
6. HECO: Stevens clarified for Cowles that HECO had requested applications for the solar farm. Endo expressed concern that HECO would pay EURUS for the solar and that EURUS would be profiting from the transaction; Stevens indicated that financial gains would be moderate. Neill requested HECO present at next month's meeting. Several community members requested that HECO give back to the community and offer reductions on the price of electricity to the Waianae residents.
7. Oil: Stevens answered for Endo that the added solar panels would mean less oil burned by HECO.
8. Solar Roof Panels: Several residents indicated they would rather have solar panels for their rooftops than solar farms. A resident indicated not to support the proposal because it would take away from local homes being able to install their own solar panels.
9. Analysis/ Reports: A resident requested analysis reports from HECO and BWS and asked about projected environmental impacts.
10. Radiation: A resident expressed concern over potential radiation.
11. Keko'o Springs: Several community members expressed concern that the farm would be located next to Keko'o Springs and BWS wells.
12. Archeological sites: A resident expressed concern over archeological sites being potentially disrupted.
13. Shelf Life of Panels: Several community members inquired over the shelf life of the panels and what would happen once the panel's life span ended. There was concern over illegal dumping that could result.
14. Agriculture Land: Many community member expressed concern that the solar farm would impede on

farming and agricultural land; a resident indicated part of the area was pristine Ag B land.

Chair Perry requested that EURUS brief the community with a response to the many community concerns relating to the proposed solar farm at the April 2014 board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/NOMINATION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Education Committee: Endo reported concerns over the implementation of Pono Choices curriculum and indicated there was a complaint form for concerned community members to fill out. Endo also reported that preschool applications were available for the months of March 2014 and April 2014.

Silva departed at 9:26 p.m. Six (6) members were present.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Gates reported to be creating a resolution for community gardens along City and County parks and beach properties. This would allow for non-profit organizations to provide fresh fruits and vegetables for the youth in the community.

Public Safety and Economic Development Committee: None.

Public Works and Sustainability Committee: None.

Transportation Committee: Al Frenzel reported there was a recent town hall meeting on bike share. Frenzel asked for an alternate to attend the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) meetings; Perry will follow up.

Zoning and Planning Committee: None.

CHAIR'S REPORT: Chair Perry reported that in November 2013 HECO was invited to give an overview of the proposed solar project at Kahe Point. Chair Perry noted the Neighborhood Commission Office's Conference of Chairs gave out a new membership guide book that can be review by Board members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 meeting is Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at Waianae District Park.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Submitted by: Daniela Arriaga, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Risé Doi, Neighborhood Assistant II
Reviewed and Finalized by: Johnnie-Mae Perry, Chair