



## WAIALAE-KAHALA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 3

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2010 WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Scotty Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. **a quorum was NOT present with four (4) members.** Note – This nine-member Board requires five (5) members for a quorum and to take official Board action.

**Members Present** – Scotty Anderson, Linda Fulton, Sylvia Himeda (arrived at 7:45), Paul Saito, Chris Williams.

**Members Absent** – Kelly Roberson (Resigned as of February 18, 2010), Richard Turbin.

**Vacancies** – There are two (2) vacancies in sub-district 1 and one (1) vacancy in sub-district 4, for a total of three (3) vacancies. Boards are now able to fill vacant seats due to the recent amendment to the Neighborhood Plan Section 2-14-104(a).

**Guests** – Firefighter Jay Shimabuku (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Arthur Kurosu (Honolulu Police Department); Lorna Heller (Board of Water Supply); Kainoa Kaumeheiwa-Rego (Councilmember Charles Djou's Office); Senator Sam Slom; Craig Nishimura (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Office); Representative Barbara Marumoto; Nina Reppua Carney; Jeremy Low; Terry Yoshinaga; Richard Ito; Ellen Shiraki; and Theona Kapoi (Neighborhood Commission Office).

**INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND GUESTS:** Those present introduced themselves.

**FILLING OF VACANT BOARD SEATS:** No candidates interested at this time.

#### **CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)** – Firefighter Jay Shimabuku reported the following:

- **March 2010 Statistics** – 3 structure fires, 12 medical emergencies and 6 miscellaneous emergencies.
- **Easter Season Fire Safety Tip** –
  - 1) Scald burns are the most common injury among children under the age of four. When boiling eggs for a coloring activity, be attentive to your cooking and children. Do not leave any cooking unattended.
  - 2) If candles are used, do not leave them unattended or near ignitable materials, such as artificial grass, commonly used as filler for children's baskets. Ensure your candle holder is the proper size for the type of candle being used.
  - 3) Familiarize yourself with the contents of your children's Easter baskets, especially if they contain small toys, and be aware of the manufacturer's warning for choking hazards for young children.
- **Fireworks** – It seems as if the Legislature has left the ban of fireworks up to individual counties. Shimabuku will follow up with the exact result of the legislature's decision.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD)** – Lieutenant Kurosu circulated the report indicating it was for February 17, 2010 through March 17, 2010. It includes HPD contact information and safety tips. This month's safety tip focuses on disaster preparedness. Visit the HPD website at [www.honolulupd.org](http://www.honolulupd.org) to find more information regarding the statistics within the Board's area.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. **Area Thefts** – The district map indicates there is a particular area of focus for burglaries. Lieutenant Kurosu stated that area is one of the better areas with the least crime statistics.



2. Calling 911 – Chair Anderson stated that if residents are in need of the police and do not have their cell phone, a 911 call is free on pay phones.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative – Craig Nishimura reported the following:

- City Budget – It is a stressful time for all city departments. The review of department budgets is strict and everyone is fighting for every dollar possible.
- Road Construction – Many of the roads have been paved around the area. The City is working to get the bad roads fixed as it is going through a “catch up” phase. The City will be making it's way from the Kahala area into Waikiki.
- Medal of Honor Park – Chair Anderson met with Tara, from the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to address his concerns for the park. Chair Anderson stated Tara understands the Boards concerns and DPR will work to maintain and fix the problem. Chair Anderson stated as they were at the park, discussing the issue, George Clooney drove toward Diamond Head, to film an upcoming movie.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

Pedestrian Crosswalks – Chair Anderson requested the crosswalk at Malia Street and Ainakoa Avenue be painted in the future to look as if the road is narrowing. This optical illusion will automatically have drivers decrease their speed. It was requested to have the optical illusion piloted at that intersection. Nishimura stated two (2) elite crosswalks are going to be installed on Pali Highway. One crosswalks will have lights imbedded in the road way and the other will have lights overhead indicating someone is in the crosswalk.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – No representative available at this time.

Councilmember Charles Djou – Kainoa Kaumeheiwa-Rego distributed a report and highlighted the following:

- Full Council Meeting – Met and discussed Councilmember Rod Tam's ethics violation. The Resolution 10-76 Bill changed to an FD1. The next full council meeting will be on April 21, 2010.
- Budget Process – On the City website, it was advised to look over Council Bills 14-19. Some of the bills are all related to the funding of Oahu's rail system.
- Bill 19 – Relating to real property tax rates passed first reading and has been referred to the budget committee. Rates shall be the respective rates at which real property in the various general classes in the City and County of Honolulu are taxed per \$1,000 of assessed value for the fiscal year July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. The non-homeowner rate is \$3.72 and the homeowner rate is \$3.42.
- Bill 78 – Relating to Bulky Item Pickup is waiting to be heard for second reading.
- Bills 7 and 8 – Relating to tents and shopping carts respectively in City parks each passed with a 7 to 2 vote and will be effective immediately.

**With no objections, the agenda was taken out of order to hear the Board of Water Supply report.**

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Lorna Hellar reported the following:

- February Statistics – There was one water main break in the month of February.
- General Water Announcements – Water main breaks are an unavoidable factor in the water utility industry. BWS works diligently to reduce the amount of breaks that happen every year. With more than 2,000 miles of pipeline across the island of Oahu, that is a large undertaking.

Main breaks occur for many reasons. Aside from people accidentally hitting the mains, a primary reason for main breaks is the age of the water main. BWS has taken several proactive steps towards reducing the amount of breaks: 1) As a part of the Quality Infrastructure Conservation Initiative (QUINCI), BWS field

crews gather data at the main repair site to determine why different pipelines failed. The data collected can be used to develop solutions for later pipeline design, installation or maintenance; 2) BWS also has a team dedicated to detecting leaks within the water system. When leaks are detected, a BWS crew will execute a planned repair job, before it turns into an emergency main break; and 3) BWS is also working on corrosion control methods in an attempt to extend the life of its waterlines.

In an ongoing effort to provide a safe and dependable water supply, BWS carefully plans for the renewal and replacement of its infrastructure. For more information about main breaks, visit the "publications" section of the BWS website, [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com).

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Accident on Kalaniana'ole Highway – A car hit a fire hydrant on Kalaniana'ole Highway causing the water to go all over the road way. BWS and HFD were on the scene to fix the situation.

#### STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Representative Barbara Marumoto – Representative Marumoto circulated a report and highlighted the following:

- Legislative Issues – Lucinda Pyles of Kahala testified successfully to allow the Department of Land and Natural Resource (DLNR) to require waterfront owners to trim their "enhanced" vegetation which grow below the high water mark into the public beach area. The Senate held its first hearing March 12th and is passing the bill with amendments to the Judiciary Committee, pending the definition of "shoreline."
- Bills on the Move – State law not prohibits aerial fireworks, but a new bill would allow counties to enact stricter ordinances or a ban. A bill proposes that the Governor appoint the Board of Education and the Superintendent. Many bills propose to dip into a myriad of special funds. An expedited bill to somewhat reduce unemployment insurance taxes for two years has passed.
- Schools – Various district schools will receive repair and maintenance in the fiscal year 2010-2011.
- Save the Queen Theater – Monday, April 5, 2010 at the Kapiolani Community College (KCC) Ohia Building Room 118 there will be an information session as to how to save the Theater.
- Marumoto Activities –
  - Kahala School 4th grade fun run.
  - Waialae Charter School fundraisers.
  - Kaimuki Project Graduation.
  - Her staff attended a joint meeting of the Kahala Business Association, Kaimuki Business and Professional Association and the Diamond Head Advisory Committee.
  - She attended the swearing in ceremony for State Circuit Judge Edward Kubo.
  - Kahala residents and Bale Bakey and Sandwich Shop owners Thanh Quoc Lam and Rodney Weddle appeared on *Time with Barbara Marumoto* that airs on Olelo.

Representative Lyla Berg – A report was circulated, no representative present.

Senator Sam Slom – Senator Slom circulated a report and highlighted the following:

- Legislative Session – Senator Slom noted the legislature is past the midway point of session. April 29, 2010 is the final day of session. He also noted no bill is dead until the final day of session.
- Tax Increases – There will be a 4 percent to 5 percent rise in the general excise tax, actually resulting in a 25 percent tax increase, which passed the Economic and Commerce Committee. A new tax bill is being introduced known as a streamline tax. This will tax all internet purchases. Barrel tax bill will raise the tax on a barrel of imported petroleum which affects all electricity and gas bills.
- Election Bill – The State of Hawaii will have to move its primary election up from the third Saturday in September to the second Saturday in August with the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 2819. The bill was

drafted to put Hawaii into compliance with the new National Defense Authorization Act. The new law requires that states mail absentee ballots to uniformed and overseas voters no later than 45 days prior to the elections for federal office. The current Hawaii law allows for only 45 days between the primary and general elections, which makes it impossible for the State to meet the federal deadline. If the bill passes, the filing deadline for candidates seeking office for the next primary election cycle will be moved up from mid July to the first Tuesday in June.

The Hawaii State Office of Elections has announced that the special election for the First Congressional District to fill the vacancy in the U.S. House of Representatives created upon the resignation of Congressman Neil Abercrombie, will be held on May 22, 2010 through a mail-in ballot only.

- Voted Against – Senator Slom voted against having State “special funds.” He also voted against giving more money to the Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) union. There are 80,000 people on the Hawaii State Department of Education (DOE) payroll and only 12,000 are teachers. The State has to look into decentralization to have one person in charge and accountable.
- Hawaii Foodbank – A survey announced 14.5 percent of Hawaii’s population depends on the Foodbank.
- Gas Leaf Blowers – Senator Slom is against the banning of gas leaf blowers due to the exception of government leaf blowers and time exemptions being able to still use the device.
- Bill Signed into Law – Governor Linda Lingle signed Act 2 (House Bill 2169) into law. This relates to the unemployment tax relief (reduces the amount of tax increase from \$1000 to about \$630 per employee). The law does not provide businesses with enough relief from the sharp tax increase.
- Joint Session – The legislature will be convening in joint session on March 23, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the House Chambers to award 28 families with the Hawaii Medal of Honor. The medal is given out to families of veterans who have lost their lives.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Hawaii Schools – It is difficult to “just make a change” in the State of Hawaii school system. Detroit has closed 25 percent of its schools because they are losing tenants and to use it as a cost saving method. However, Detroit is its own district. Because all public schools in Hawaii are under one entity it cannot just close schools or make changes. There is a process that has to be followed, which is why the decentralization of schools would help with meeting the State standards.

**Himeda arrived at 7:45 p.m.; Quorum now present with five (5) members.**

**With no objections the agenda was taken out of order to Filling of Vacant Board Seats.**

FILLING OF VACANT BOARD SEATS: There were no interested candidates at this time. Vice-Chair Roberson resigned leaving his seat available. **Saito nominated Chris Williams to be the Neighborhood Board No. 3 Vice-Chair. The Board UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED Chris Williams to Vice-Chair, 5-0-0 (AYE: Anderson, Fulton, Himeda, Saito, Williams).**

RESIDENTS’/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Refuse Pickup passing through Private Property – Richard Ito and Terry Yoshinaga are representatives of Kahala resident Mrs. Ellen Shiraki. Mrs. Shiraki is concerned with the on-site private property collection of refuse by the City. Several issues were presented to the board with the request for review by the Waiialae/Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3 whether the use of Mrs. Shiraki’s private driveway for refuse pickup is proper based upon the City and County Rules and Regulations.

The private property collection is happening at 3/4 acre “flag lot.” The City refuse trucks back onto Mrs. Shiraki’s private driveway to get to a privately owned commercial property. This “special service” is hazardous to surrounding neighbors, all of whom have to roll their trash bins out to the public street.

Councilmember Djou has responded to Mrs. Shiraki's concern with a written statement stating Mrs. Shiraki accepted a "...settlement allowing the City to use the private roadway easement over her property." This settlement is irrelevant to the issue.

Questions, comment and concerns followed:

Key Issue – Yoshinaga stated the key issue is for the City to discontinue it's special service of refuse pick-up for private property collection.

**Saito moved, Williams seconded the Waialae/Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3 support a meeting between the Department of Environmental Services and Mrs. Ellen Shiraki to meet a resolution or an understanding of the situation. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, 5-0-0 (AYE: Anderson, Fulton, Himeda, Saito, Williams).**

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of the February 18, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes – **The February 18, 2010 regular meeting minutes were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED as circulated, 5-0-0 (AYE: Anderson, Fulton, Himeda, Saito, Williams).**

#### BOARD BUSINESS:

U.S. Census – Chair Anderson stated that if you received the Census packet in the mail to fill it out and mail it back.

Honolulu Fire Department Position on Fireworks – Previously addressed during the HFD report.

#### OTHER REPORTS:

##### Chair Reports/Correspondence –

- Triangle Park (Medal of Honor) Update – Chair Anderson reiterated on the meeting with Tara from DPR to discuss the issues and understands the Boards concern and will follow up on the maintenance of the park.

Treasurer's Report – Himeda reported for February 2010 the Board spent \$27.81 for printing and postage. The Boards operating balance is \$1,296.65 and the publicity balance \$936, leaving a total board balance of \$2232.65. The report was filed.

##### Committees –

- Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Traffic – Chair Anderson stated he has not been able to review the statistics for the transportation improvement report. For more information, contact him or the Board's OMPO representative Lester Fukuda.
- Land Use and Zoning – No report.

Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) – None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next Board Meeting – On Thursday, April 15, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Wesley United Methodist Church on 1350 Hunakai Street.
- Other Announcements – The City is helping with the Hawaii Foodbank Drive. If residents would like, they may bring canned goods or a monetary donation (checks preferred and payable to the Hawaii Foodbank) to the next board meeting. Kapoi will be able to take the items donated back to Honolulu Hale.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Submitted by: Theona Kapoi, Neighborhood Assistant  
Reviewed by: Scotty Anderson, Chair