



## 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, JULY 15, 2010** **WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Scotty Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. **a quorum was NOT present with four (4) members.** Note – This nine (9) -member Board requires five (5) members for a quorum and to take official Board action.

**Members Present** – Scotty Anderson, Stan Fichtman (appointed at meeting), Linda Fulton, Paul Saito, Martin Schiller, Richard Turbin (arrived at 7:43 p.m.).

**Members Absent** – Sylvia Himeda.

**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.

**Guests** – Firefighter's Guy Katayama and Beau Lee (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Arthur Kurosu, Sergeant Stanford Yue, Officer Anthony Kahapea (Honolulu Police Department); Will Oku (Councilmember Lee Donohue's Office); Senator Sam Slom; Craig Nishimura (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Office); Representative Barbara Marumoto; Carol Hoshiko (Kapiolani Community College); Steve Camara (WIRCA); Tony Manzo; Stanley Chang; TJ Lane; Jeremy Low; Terry Yoshinaga; Richard Ito; Ellen Shiraki; F. Fernandez ; Stan Fichtman; and Theona Kapoi (Neighborhood Commission Office).

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

**FILLING OF VACANT BOARD SEATS:** This item was deferred to a later time in the meeting, when a quorum is met.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS / DETERMINATION OF MEETING DAY, TIME AND PLACE:** This item was deferred to a later time in the meeting, when a quorum is met.

### **CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)** – Firefighter Beau Lee reported the following:

- **June 2010 Statistics:** 11 structure, 1 rubbish, and 1 vehicle fire; 81 medical emergencies, 2 search and rescues and 16 miscellaneous emergencies.
- **Community Relations:** Cigarettes and other smoking materials are the leading cause of fire deaths in the United States. The latest fire-related fatality on Oahu was a result of an unattended cigarette. The following are helpful safety precautions: 1) Smoke outside; 2) Use deep, wide ashtrays placed on a sturdy table; 3) Prior to discarding cigarette butts and/or ashes, ensure they are completely extinguished by dousing them with water or sand.
- **Incident in Maui:** In June, a child on Maui was playing with a lighter that destroyed a family home and caused \$350,000 in damages. A child as young as two years old can start a fire. Here are some fire wise safety tips: 1) Keep matches and lighters in a secured area out of a child's sight and reach; 2) Educate children that lighters and matches are tools, not toys; 3) Only use lighters designed with child-resistant features. Remember, child-resistant does not mean child proof; 4) Teach children to tell an adult if they see matches or lighters.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD)** – Officer Anthony Kahapea reported the following:

- **Conserving Paper:** HPD is trying to conserve paper. Board members will receive the report before hand via email and some copies will be made available to members of the audience. If residents would like to



receive the report via email, contact Office Kahapea at [akahapea@honolulu.gov](mailto:akahapea@honolulu.gov) or visit the HPD website at [www.honolulupd.org/patrol/d7](http://www.honolulu.gov/honolulupd.org/patrol/d7).

- Safety Tip of the Month: As a reminder, driving a vehicle requires the driver's full attention. Motorists may be cited for operating a motor vehicle while using a mobile electronic device. This includes using a cellular phone's speaker phone option. The initial fine is \$97.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Crime Decrease: Overall the crime statistics have been decreasing. However, there was a slight increase in property crimes. The reason for the increase during the summer is not known.

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

- 656 Apuwai Place: The City is taking a stand; the issue at 656 Apuwai Place will not be changing the City's original decision and settlement. Chair Anderson stated the Board has tried and will not be able to further themselves in such a specific case.
- City Council: The Honolulu City Council voted to approve an increase of sewer fees on Oahu from 3 to 5 percent every year for the next 25 years.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Kahala Beach: Beach goers are allowing their dogs to roam off leash at Kahala Beach.
2. Median Strip on Hunakai: There are three irrigation points. The middle point does not work as the pictures forwarded will show the grass is brown.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – No representative or report was available.

Councilmember Lee Donohue – Will Oku reported the following:

- Message of Aloha: Councilmember Donohue gave the message of Aloha at the July 14, 2010 Meeting of the Honolulu City Council. In short, Councilmember Donohue stated The Aloha Spirit Law is more a lesson than a law. By learning and applying the lesson to real life, State and City Officials can contribute to a better world, a world filled with aloha.
- Bill 34 Relating to Fireworks: This Bill passed second reading on Thursday, July 1, 2010 in the Public Safety and Services Committee. This Bill is especially difficult as it would like to incorporate cultural uses of fireworks.
- Recent Fire: The City spent an estimated \$49,000 in expenses and equipment to put out a fire where the cause is still under investigation.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Bulky Items: This Bill has gone back to committee for further investigation.
2. Fireworks: It is likely that the Bill 34, in its current form could pass. Councilmember Tam is opposed to the ban.

#### STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS:

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

- Legislative Issues: There were 32 vetoes from the 2010 Legislative session of which Governor Linda Lingle vetoed House Bill (HB) 444, the Civil Unions Bill. There was no special override session to Governor Lingle's vetoes.
- Gift Certificates and Gift Cards: Two changes were made: 1) The expiration date – where paper certificates will have a minimum of a two year expiration date and plastic cards will have a minimum of a five year expiration date; and 2) Fees – Only an issuance fee is allowed, where the lesser of 10 percent of face value of the certificate or \$5.
- State Department of Transportation (DOT): Marumoto commended Director Brennon Morioka for completing projects in the Waialae Neighborhood.

- Kawamoto Properties: Mr. Kawamoto has listed over 14 of his properties for sale. It was encouraged to have friends purchase the properties as maintenance of the properties is needed.

Representative Lyla Berg – A report was circulated.

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

- Override Sessions: If one were held, the House Representatives and Senators would be ready for it.
- Voting Cards: Voters should have received their yellow cards in the mail. If you haven't, check with the county clerks office. It was suggested to become a permanent absentee voter. The elections office is looking for volunteers.
- Candidate Filing: Some candidates have not filed their candidacy forms. The deadline to do so is 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2010.
- State Capitol Feng Shui: Thomas Wai assessed the Feng Shui of the State Capitol and stated it wasn't its greatest for the State to produce it's best work.
- University of Manoa Fees: All students will be charged an extra \$50 fee and in turn will receive a free concert.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS: No concerns were raised.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: This item was deferred to a later time in the meeting, when a quorum is met.

#### BOARD BUSINESS:

656 Apuwai Place – Richard Ito is requesting the City to take a fair look into Mrs. Ellen Shiraki's issue. Mrs. Shiraki's Lawyer, Terri Yoshinaga stated the Neighborhood Board is a citizen's forum and the people need to stand up for the rights that we have. Ms. Yoshinaga does not want to sue City Hall just to get the support for a community member. It was requested that the City look at the issue based on the merits of common sense. The settlement agreement the City stands by says nothing about refuse pick up.

Bill Oku of Councilmember Donohue's Office stated that he visited the site. The property owners would have to make a gate at an existing wall, which may turn into a zoning situation.

Chair Anderson suggested going to the Department of Environmental Services and making an appointment to speak with director himself. The Board can do nothing further.

Kapiolani Community College Farmer's Market – Carol Hoshiko, Dean of KCC reported the following:

The Hawaii Farm Bureau approached KCC with a proposal to test a seasonal farmers market on Saturdays and Sundays for a three month period. KCC is coming before the Board as a courtesy to let them know about the possibility of having a Sunday Farmer's Market. No decisions have been made; the test will give KCC as well as the Hawaii Farm Bureau feed back on the Sunday trial.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Benefit to KCC: A fee is paid to KCC from the Farmer's Markets. The proceeds go toward a scholarship fund. Additional Farmers Market days may allow for expanding benefits and scholarships.
2. KCC Neighbors: A comment was made that having an extra Farmer's Market day may be both good and bad. On one hand it will encourage buying local, on the other hand there will be more traffic and somewhat of a burden for the neighborhood.
3. Diamond Head Theatre: Hoshiko spoke with a representative from the Diamond Head Theatre to make them aware of the proposal as well.
4. KCC Forum: It was suggested for KCC to host a forum to receive community input possibly before and after the test.
5. Changes of the Neighborhood: It was commented that KCC changes the use of the Neighborhood. Some residents like that the area is relatively quiet and there are many changes especially with the Long Range Development Plan.

Turbin arrived at 7:43 p.m.; **Quorum now met with five (5) members present.**

Variance Issue Relating to Private Elevator Installation – Resident Tony Manzo reported he is having a difficult time receiving a permit from the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). Manzo's request is to put an elevator at his residence that would not disturb anyone. There are 52 stair steps to his front door and he does not feel he can climb the stairs as he used to. Manzo stated he is willing to spend what is necessary to have the elevator installed because he loves where he lives and would not like to move.

**Turbin moved, Schiller seconded that the Waiialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board support resident Tony Manzo's request for the necessary permits to install a private elevator at his residence. The Board ADOPTED the motion by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 5-0-0 (AYE: Anderson, Fulton, Saito, Schiller, Turbin).**

Representative Marumoto and Bill Oku of Councilmember Donohue's Office support Mr. Manzo's request as well.

Mayor's Representative Nishimura suggested that Mr. Manzo should make sure that he acquires a certification for the elevator before it is installed.

With no objections Agenda Item III ELECTION OF OFFICERS / DETERMINATION OF MEETING DAY, TIME AND PLACE was heard at this time.

**With no objections, the Board Officers remained the same with the exception of the vacant Vice-Chair seat.**

Turbin nominated Paul Saito to fill the Vice-Chair seat. No other nominations were made. **By UNANIMOUS CONSENT Paul Saito was elected to Vice-Chair, 5-0-0 (AYE: Anderson, Fulton, Saito, Schiller, Turbin).**

With no objections Agenda Item II FILLING OF VACANT BOARD SEATS was heard at this time.

Stan Fichtman requested to fill the vacant seat in sub-district 4. Fichtman told residents a little about himself. **Turbin moved, Saito seconded that Stan Fichtman be appointed to fill the vacant seat in sub-district 4. By UNANIMOUS CONSENT Stan Fichtman was appointed to the Board, 5-0-0 (AYE: Anderson, Fulton, Saito, Schiller, Turbin).**

Kapoi administered the Oath of Office to Fichtman.

Fichtman appointed 8:07 p.m.; **Quorum of six (6) members present.**

Leaf Blowers on Pueo Street – A resident was concerned with the use of gas leaf blowers. They had requested to neighbors not to cut their grass on a certain day because it was the resident's only day he is able to stay home during the day hours. The fumes make it difficult to breathe in the resident's house. Bill 38 relating to banning gas powered leaf blowers has to go before City Council. It was suggested the resident testify for the Bill.

**Turbin moved, Fulton seconded to support appropriate regulations of gas leaf blowers, weed eaters and lawn mowers. The Board ADOPTED the motion by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 6-0-0 (AYE: Anderson, Fichtman, Fulton, Saito, Schiller, Turbin).**

#### OTHER REPORTS:

Chair Reports/Correspondence – Chair Anderson stated if there were no objections, the board will continue to recess in August and December.

Treasurer's Report – Item deferred.

#### Committees –

- Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Traffic – Wednesday, July 21, 2010 there will be a Citizens Advisory Committee. Chair Anderson stated if residents were interested, he has a copy of the agenda.
- Land Use and Zoning – Seawall is going to be built along three lots on Kahala Avenue. Chair Anderson has more information if residents are interested.

Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) – None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Recess – The Board will not meet in August 2010.
- Next Board Meeting – On Thursday, September 16, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Wesley United Methodist Church on 1350 Hunakai Street.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Submitted by: Theona Kapoi, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Scotty Anderson, Chair