



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, APRIL 17, 2014** **HOALOHA KAI MONTESSORI SCHOOL**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Arnold Brady called the Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. **with seven (7) members present**. Note – This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Scotty Anderson, Arnold Brady, Marianne Au, Kenneth Chang, Peter Dudgeon, Sylvia Himeda, John Pyles, and Martin Schiller (arrived at 8:07 p.m.).

Board Members Absent: Richard Turbin.

Vacancies: There were no vacancies.

Guests: Officer Shane Fujitani and Sergeant Gary Sunada (Honolulu Police Department), Captain Rickey Amano (Honolulu Fire Department), Michael Leong (Councilmember Stanley Chang's office), Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Senator Sam Slom, Martin Hsia, Deborah Pope (Shangri La), Wendy Johnson, Edwina Jo Snow, Bill Johnson, Léa Major, Nina Reppun Carney, Jeff Overton (Group 70 International), and Risé Doi (Neighborhood Commission Office).

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Due to a full agenda, Chair Brady skipped over the introductions.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Rickey Amano reported the following:

- Fire Statistics for March 2014: Statistics included 1 vehicle fire, 80 medical emergencies, 2 search and rescues, and 45 miscellaneous calls for service.
- Fire Safety Tip: Make sure that children are not near stoves, ovens, and hot items in the kitchen. Place pots and pans on the back burner. Keep cigarettes, lighters, matches, and other smoking materials out of children's reach or in a locked cabinet.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Sergeant Gary Sunada provided a handout and reported the following:

- Crime Statistics for March 2014: Statistics included 6 motor vehicle thefts, 9 burglaries, 15 thefts, and 17 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV). HPD responded to a total of 6,040 emergency calls.
- Crime Safety Tips for Keiki: Sergeant Sunada advised children not to accept anything from strangers and to tell a trusted adult. Sergeant Sunada also recommended to obey traffic signals and to use crosswalks.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – No representative was present; a written report was provided.

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) – No representative was present; no report was provided.

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative – No representative was present; a written report was provided.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative – Gerald Saito reported the following:

- Road Repairs: There is ongoing rehabilitation of roads in Waialae Nui, Waialae Iki, and Aina Haina. The anticipated construction end date is Monday, February 9, 2015.
- Community for Keiki Month: April 2014 is "Community for Keiki Month" at the Neighborhood Boards. Mayor Caldwell thanked the Neighborhood Board chairs and members for participating in Community for Keiki Month.
- Summer Fun: The City and County's Summer Fun Program is held at various sites across Oahu. The program offers a variety of recreational activities. The Summer Fun Program runs from Thursday, June 12, 2014 to Friday, July 25, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Registration is open to children ages 5 through



13. The registration fee is \$25, which may be waived for eligible children receiving Department of Human Services (DHS) assistance. For more information, go to www.honoluluparks.com.

- **Signage:** There was a previous concern raised regarding having signage at Diamond Head Beach stating that dogs must be leashed. The City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has signs posted at Kuilei Beach Park stating that animals are prohibited, including dogs. There are several beaches where dogs are allowed to enter the ocean with leashes, however, Kuilei Beach Park is not one of those places. The public may call HPD for enforcement to report individuals who bring their dogs to Kuilei Beach Park. DPR does not maintain place signs in front of private residences that could have private beach access.
- **Coconut Tree:** There was a previous concern raised regarding a coconut tree on City property that posed a safety hazard. The City Department of Design and Construction (DDC) Land Division completed a map of the trees and sent it to the Division of Urban Forestry (DUF). DUF requested and received a survey from the Land Division of DDC identifying ownership of the coconut trees growing near 3711 Poka Place. The survey indicated that the coconut trees are growing within the City sidewalk area, however, DUF has no record of planting or maintaining the coconut trees. The concern has been forwarded to the Residential Code Enforcement Branch of the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP).

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. **Plant Overgrowth:** Anderson raised a concern about plant and kiawe overgrowth on the 3900 block of Diamond Head Road.
2. **Dogs:** Pyles raised a concern that a dog had attacked a man at Kahala Beach, and noted there needs to be better signage and enforcement regarding unleashed dogs.
3. **Canal Access:** Resident Edwina Jo Snow noted that Director Ross Sasamura from the City Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) had sent her a letter regarding the Aukai Avenue canal access. Snow reported there is progress being made on the issue, and a letter was sent in reply to Sasamura's letter.

Councilmember Stanley Chang – Michael Leong provided a handout and reported the following:

- **Alleged Business:** There was a concern raised regarding an alleged business on the 900 block of Kealaolu Place that had vehicles blocking the roadway. The issue was assigned to DPP. The owners were engaging in a one-time family video, so no Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued.
- **Waialae Beach Park:** There was a concern regarding the stream mouth of Waialae Beach Park and sand collecting to one side. The issue was assigned to DFM to get a permit from Army Corps of Engineers to begin clearing the stream mouth.
- **Unleashed Dogs:** There was a concern last meeting regarding unleashed dogs at the beach access near Hunakai Street and Kahala Avenue. Leong noticed that the signs have been defaced and signage prohibiting dogs was missing. The issue was assigned to DPP and DPR. Police may cite dog owners if the dogs are not leashed while on the beach.
- **Bed and Breakfasts:** There was a concern raised regarding two (2) bed and breakfasts on the 2100 block of Hale Koa Drive advertising via airbnb.com. The issue was assigned to DPP to do inspections.
- **Kahala Community Association (KCA):** Leong noted that KCA reported that there is an alleged bicycle repair business and plant overgrowth on a property on the 1000 block of Koloa Street. The issue was assigned to DPP. KCA also reported an alleged temporary vacation unit (TVU) on the 1000 block of Kolohala Street. The issue was assigned to DPP to do an inspection. KCA reported a sinkhole on Ahina Street. The issue was assigned to DDC.
- **4500 Papu Circle:** A constituent had raised a concern that permits had expired for a two (2)-story renovation and animal cages for a property on 4500 Papu Circle, and there was a concern about a six (6)-foot seawall. The issue was assigned to DPP.
- **Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA):** Leong provided the DEA for the 4600 block of Kahala Avenue seawall.

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi – Representative Kobayashi provided a handout and reported the following:

- **Conference:** Bills are in conference committees.
- **Green Energy Infrastructure:** A bill has passed for an appropriation of \$50 million for a special fund for green energy infrastructure. This bill will allow people to take out a loan to be repaid on a monthly basis based on projected energy savings from the solar unit.
- **Kakaako:** There is a bill that allows high rise development on the makai side of Kakaako.

Representative Mark Hashem – No representative was present; no report was provided.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS: None.

BOARD BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS

Shangri La: Deborah Pope delivered a presentation about Shangri La and the fence that will be erected to deter illegal activity and diving and jumping from the shoreline walkway into shallow water. Shangri La is owned and operated by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art. There are safety concerns due to people diving and jumping from the shoreline walkway, and an increase in the number of gatherings due to social media. Injuries have occurred, including two (2) young men suffering from permanent quadriplegia. Shangri La has added signage warning about the dangers of diving and has a hired guard at the shoreline during peak activity. A six (6)-foot aluminum fence will be built along the stone walkway to prevent diving and jumping into the basin. Ocean access and lateral access along the coastline will remain. Swimmers, snorkelers, fishermen, and other recreational users will still have access to the water and can continue to enjoy Cromwell's. The construction will start next week and take approximately four (4) weeks to complete.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Building Maintenance: Himeda expressed disappointment that Shangri La did not provide an update about the building maintenance. Pope noted that Shangri La can report back at a future meeting.
2. Fence: Dudgeon asked about the sturdiness of the fence. Pope answered the fence was designed to withstand force and that the fence will include signage. Chair Brady commented that kids may still try to jump over the fence. Pope commented that intent of the fence is to deter jumping, and if people jump, it is at their own risk. Himeda noted people can still jump from the jetty. Community member Wendy Johnson commented that she is the adjacent property owner expressed her support for the fence. Pope noted that Shangri La will continue to monitor the area and to look out for public safety.

Hearing no objection, Chair Brady took the agenda out of order to item 4.10, Senator Sam Slom.

Senator Sam Slom – Senator Slom reported the following:

- Conference: Conference hearings are convening. Senator Slom is on 175 conference committees. No public testimony is accepted. Thursday, May 1, 2014 is the last day of the legislative session. Controversial bills include bills relating to Kakaako, minimum wage, land and development bills, and hiking bills.
- Associate Supreme Court Justice: Senator Slom attended the swearing in of Associate Supreme Court Justice Mike Wilson.
- Budget: The budget is still being discussed and debated.
- Hawaii Health Connector: Senator Slom voted against the creation of Hawaii Health Connector due to a lack of a business plan and inaccurate figures and projections.
- Economy: The state is not producing revenue or jobs.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Preserving Homes: Anderson raised a concern that any home that is older than 50 years needs to go through a lengthy review process for a renovation. Senator Slom noted there is a bill addressing the issue that he hopes will make positive changes.

The agenda returned to item 6.2, Seawall Construction at 4465 & 4469 Kahala Avenue.

Seawall Construction at 4465 & 4469 Kahala Avenue: Jeff Overton from Group 70 International delivered a presentation regarding constructing a large home and guest quarters at 4465 and 4469 Kahala Avenue and building a seawall on the oceanfront. The old wall will be removed and replaced with a new, permitted seawall. The shoreline setback will be reconstructed. A draft environmental assessment was submitted. Overton noted that studies from University of Hawaii (UH) indicate that about one (1) foot of beach erodes per year. Overton commented that the seawall would not affect the erosion rate.

Schiller arrived at 8:07 p.m.; **eight (8) members were present.**

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Permitting: Pyles asked for clarification regarding the permitted seawall. Overton answered that some seawalls need to go through the entire permitting process. One part of the existing seawall had proper permitting, while the other added part of the seawall did not.
2. Densities: Chang asked if densities are affected by the consolidation of the properties. Overton noted that density cannot be added and the owner and construction group is abiding by the rules.

3. Size of the Property: Board members and community members noted the large lot coverage. Overton noted that the elderly owner is building a residence and not a retreat, and will not cause disturbance to residents in the area.
4. Seawall: A resident raised concern that building the seawall will destroy the beach and have an adverse impact, and commented that the beach should be left alone and given time to allow for less of the beach to be eroded. The resident commented the residence should be built further back from the beach. Community member Nina Reppun Carney noted there was more beach before the seawalls were built. Overton noted that when the wall is removed, the beach would be at the narrowest five (5) feet and at the widest 27 feet, and that depending on the design of the seawall, there could be more beach. Representative Kobayashi noted the long term community value of having the beach, and commented that there is likely less beach with a seawall. Representative Kobayashi suggested not having a seawall at the property and over time, having no seawalls on adjoining properties.
5. Meeting: Anderson noted there will be a meeting with Sam Lemmo from the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) regarding the issue. Chair Brady commented that he would like to be invited to that meeting.
6. UH: Pyles noted that he supports University of Hawaii's past work and research regarding Kahala Beach erosion and invites UH's involvement and recommendations.

Board Member Peter Dudgeon's Four (4) Absences: No action was taken by the Board.

New Meeting Location: Chair Brady noted that Hoaloha Kai Montessori School will be closing, and the Board needs to find a new meeting location. Chair Brady commented that Wesley Methodist Church has a \$50 fee. The Board discussed other suggestions, including Kahala Community Park, other elementary schools, and Sylvan Learning Center. Private organizations may charge fees. Schiller noted that Sylvan Learning Center would be free, and the timing of students' lessons can be worked out with the Board. Chair Brady noted that there is ample parking at Kahala Mall, but parking might become a problem once Ross opens. A resident noted that DPR charges \$15 per hour for its facilities. Neighborhood Assistant Risé Doi reminded the Board that the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO) should initiate the contract for a location, not the Board members. Schiller suggested offering to pay Wesley Methodist Church \$25 on a month-to-month basis until the Board finds a permanent location. Schiller noted that Sylvan Learning Center could also be utilized on a month-to-month basis. Chair Brady noted that the meeting location will remain to be determined.

OTHER REPORTS

Chair's Report/Correspondence: None

Approval of Minutes: **Schiller moved and Anderson seconded to approve the March 20, 2014 regular meeting minutes as published. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0, (Aye: Anderson, Au, Brady, Chang, Dudgeon, Himeda, Pyles, and Schiller).**

Treasurer's Report: Pyles reported spending in March 2014. The remaining balance was \$268.11.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Meeting: The next regular Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board meeting location is to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Submitted By: Risé Doi, Neighborhood Assistant II
Reviewed By: Lori Snyder, Neighborhood Assistant I
Reviewed and Finalized By: Arnold Brady, Chair