



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, JANUARY 15, 2015 WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Arnold Brady called the Waiialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3 meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. **with seven (7) members present. A quorum was established.** Note: This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Scotty Anderson (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Marianne Au, Arnie Brady, Kenneth Chang, Peter Dudgeon, Sylvia Himeda, Martin Schiller, and Richard Turbin.

Board Members Absent: John Pyles.

Vacancies: There were no vacancies.

Guests: Councilmember Trevor Ozawa; Kenny Amazaki (Councilmember Trevor Ozawa's Office staff); Lorna Heller (Board of Water Supply); Edwin Kimura; Lieutenant Maurice Asato and Officer Shane Fujitani (Honolulu Police Department); Peter Ahlo; Senator Sam Slom; Representative Bertrand Kobayashi; Martin Hsia; Nina Reppun Carney (KCA); Kathy K.; Representative Mark Hashem; Captain Tim Turgeon (Honolulu Fire Department); and Kazuaki McArthur (Neighborhood Commission Office).

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Board members introduced themselves.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lieutenant Maurice Asato reported the following:

- December 2014 Statistics: Statistics included 3 motor vehicle thefts, 11 burglaries, 12 thefts, and 12 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV).
- Pedestrian Safety: Lieutenant Asato provided handouts containing pedestrian safety information in various languages.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Pedestrian Accidents: Brady asked where Hawaii ranks in regards to pedestrian deaths. Turbin noted that Hawaii is the worst state for pedestrian deaths.
2. Pedestrian Testimony: Turbin raised concern that officers are often able to only get a testimony from drivers and not from the pedestrian involved in pedestrian related accidents. Turbin noted that drivers will typically place blame on the pedestrian when filing a report with HPD. Turbin suggested HPD not file an accident report until the pedestrian has had an opportunity to provide their testimony. Asato noted that HPD also gathers testimony from witnesses. Asato further noted that the report is handled by the traffic investigation division if the pedestrian is incoherent when HPD arrives. Asato noted that HPD's first priority is to care for the injured parties first.
3. Police Lights: Chang asked if HPD is required to keep the lights atop their vehicles lit at all times. Asato noted that lights atop HPD vehicles are typically lit at all times unless the officer is performing special duties.

Anderson arrived at 7:12 p.m.; eight (8) members were present.

4. **Law:** Turbin suggested the law be changed to implement stricter measures that prohibits drivers from entering into a pedestrian crossing while a pedestrian is anywhere in the crossing.

Himeda moved and Anderson seconded to move the agenda out of order to allow Senator Slom give his report. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0 (Aye: Anderson, Au, Brady, Chang, Dudgeon, Himeda, Schiller, and Turbin). The Board moved the agenda out of order to Senator Slom's report.

Senator Sam Slom – Senator Slom circulated a newsletter and reported the following:

- Session Opening: The 2015 legislative session begins on Wednesday, January 21, 2015.
- Legislative Issues: The operating budget through 2017 will be the biggest issue in the upcoming legislative session. Other hot topics will include legalized marijuana, legalized gambling, and assisted suicide. Only legalized marijuana is expected to be considered for passage.

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

- 2015 Water Conservation Calendar Contests: Copies of the 2015 water conservation calendars are now available to the public. Artwork and poetry inspired by the theme “Water Matter-Conserve It” were submitted by Oahu students in grades K through 12.
- Olelo Youth Xchange Video Competition: The Olelo Youth Xchange is an opportunity for students grades K through 12 to create a 30-second public service announcement on the theme “The Value Of Water” which depicts the journey of water from the source to the tap. The submission deadline is Tuesday, March 3, 2015. For more information, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com or call 748-5041.

Mayor's Representative – Michele Nekota introduced herself as the new Mayor's representative and reported the following:

- Neighborhood Board Elections: Candidate registration for the 2015 Neighborhood Board Elections has begun and the deadline to apply is February 20, 2015. Residents may apply online at www.honolulu.gov/nco. More information on the boards and the election are also available on the website or by calling 768-3708.
- Keep Hawaii's Heroes: Mayor Caldwell co-sponsored a petition named Keep Hawaii's Heroes to urge the Army to maintain its military presence in Hawaii. The proposal by the Army would reduce over 16,000 personnel at Schofield Barracks and 4,000 personnel at Fort Shafter. The considered proposal would eliminate 19,800 soldiers and approximately 30,000 civilians. Mayor Caldwell has asked the community to join him in signing the petition and encourages anyone to sign up and testify at the Army's Listening Session held Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at the Hale Koa Hotel.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Stadium Funding: Schiller noted that there is a proposal to allow for advertising at public stadiums to generate funds for the upkeep of the stadium. Representative Hashem noted that funds raised through concessions at local high schools go toward the upkeep of the hosting high school. Schiller asked if a bill is necessary to allow advertising at school stadiums.
2. Bulky Items: Turbin noted that bulky items on Pueo Street were not collected by the City. Turbin noted that the items have been out since Christmas. Anderson noted that the bulky items were placed there after the December pickup date. Turbin suggested the property be cited. A community member noted they had already contacted The Department of Environmental Services (ENV) about the property.

3. Illegal Business/Noise: A community member raised concern of noise emanating from a neighbor on Ainakoa Avenue. It was noted that the neighbor is pressure washing, cleaning, and vacuuming in their carport late at night. It was noted that people have been picking up vehicles from the location late at night. Turbin suggested contacting the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP).

Councilmember Trevor Ozawa – Councilmember Ozawa introduced Kenny Amazaki, circulated a newsletter and reported the following:

- Collaboration: Councilmember Ozawa noted that he will work with department directors to get things done.
- Budget: Councilmember Ozawa noted that he would scrutinize the budget to ensure that budget items are necessary. Ozawa noted that he does not understand why the rail project has cost overages and would not sign off on a memorandum of agreement until he is provided additional information.
- Parks: Councilmember Ozawa placed an emphasis on caring for Kapiolani Park and other parks.
- Council Assignments: Councilmember Ozawa will serve as Chair of the Executive Matters Committee, Chair of the Kapiolani Park Trust, and Vice-Chair of the Committee on Zoning and Planning. Councilmember will also serve as a member of the Budget; Business, Economic Development and Tourism; Public Health, Safety and Welfare; Public Works, Infrastructure and Sustainability; and Legislative Matters Committees.
- Attendance: Councilmember Ozawa noted he will try to make as many Neighborhood Board meetings as his schedule permits, but noted that a representative should be present if he is not.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Comment: Turbin praised Councilmember Ozawa's commitment to be involved and to scrutinize the rail budget.
2. Salary: Councilmember Ozawa was asked if Dan Grabauskas is the highest paid City employee. Ozawa noted he would have to check with the City administration.
3. Budget Influence: Other than setting the budget, Au asked if there is any other way the City Council could influence the Honolulu Authority on Rapid Transit (HART). Ozawa noted that HART is a semi-autonomous agency and noted that the City Council has little influence on decisions made by HART.
4. Shoreline Setback Variance: A community member asked about Ozawa's position on an application for a private shoreline setback variance. Turbin noted that the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) has some oversight. It was noted that the application needs both City and State approval. Brady noted that the State may have already approved the application.

Representative Mark Hashem – Representative Hashem reported that the big issue facing the legislature this year is the City's proposal to make the .5% General Excise Tax for the rail a perpetual. Hashem also raised concerns of stadium infrastructure costs.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Stadium: Schiller asked if it would be feasible to rebuild the stadium closer to the University of Hawaii campus. Schiller noted that most universities have their stadium within walking distance from the campus to accommodate the students from the school. Schiller opined that event turnout would improve if the stadium were closer to the school. Schiller also suggested turning the current stadium property over to a developer to develop. Hashem opined that the current stadium is in an ideal location. Hashem also noted that a deed restriction makes it difficult for a developer to develop the area if the stadium is vacated. Hashem suggested the stadium stay at its current location for now.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Tim Turgeon reported the following:

- December 2014 Statistics: Statistics included 3 structure fires, 1 wild land fire, 88 medical emergencies, 2 search and rescues, and 43 miscellaneous incidents.
- Safety Tip: Purchase a microwave oven that has an independent testing laboratory label. Complete and submit the product registration card so the manufacturer can notify you in case of a product recall. Always supervise children who are operating a microwave oven.

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi – Representative Kobayashi circulated a newsletter and reported the following:

- Governor's Cabinet: Included in the newsletter was a list of Governor Ige's cabinet. It was noted that Governor has yet to appoint a DLNR director.
- Bill Introduction Deadline: The last day for bill introductions is Thursday, January 29, 2015.
- Representative Johanson: Representative Johanson has switched to the Democratic Party.
- Hawaii: Next 50 Contest: Hawaii lawmakers are inviting students to answer the question: "What do you think needs to happen in the next 50 years for Hawaii to be the best place to work and live?" Students between grades 4 and 12 are invited to submit their answers in essay, poster, or video form.
- Keep Hawaii's Heroes: If Hawaii loses the soldiers as currently proposed, it will account for a \$1.3 billion loss to the State. It was noted that other states affected by the proposed cuts have already submitted thousands of signatures opposing the cuts.
- Fort Ruger Pathway: The new Fort Ruger pathway is 95% completed.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Keep Hawaii's Heroes Petition: Brady asked when the petition is due. Kobayashi noted that the deadline for the petition is Tuesday, January 20, 2015.
2. Fort Ruger Pathway Extension: It was asked and Kobayashi noted that there are no plans to extend the Fort Ruger pathway towards Waikiki.
3. Cemetery Fence: A community member noted that the fence atop a rock wall at a cemetery on Waialae Avenue has been taken down. It was suggested the fence not be replaced.
4. Maintenance: A community member suggested City maintenance crews remove hale koa trees around Kahala Mall instead of just cutting them back. Concern was also raised regarding trash around the mall.

RESIDENTS' AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

1. Weeds in Planters: A community member noted that freeway planters are only growing weeds and are unsightly.
2. Keawe Trees: A community member noted that keawe trees are puncturing tires around Diamond Head. It was suggested that City crews do a better job of maintaining the trees.

BOARD BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS: None.

OTHER REPORTS:

Chair's Report – None.

Approval of the November 20, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes – **Schiller moved, and Anderson seconded to approve the November 20, 2014 regular meeting minutes as amended. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, 8-0-0 (Aye: Anderson, Au, Brady, Chang, Dudgeon, Himeda, Schiller, and Turbin).** Corrections included:

- Page 2 – Under Homeless Sightings should read...the **Waiialae-Kahala** area.
- Page 2 – Under Construction Storage should read...assigned to **the Department of Design and Construction (DDC)**.
- Page 2 – Under Last Meeting should read...last **Waiialae-Kahala** Neighborhood...
- Page 3 – Poka Place Keawe Trees should read: **Poka Place Keawe Trees**

Treasurer's Report – Dudgeon read the Treasurer's report and noted expenditures of \$12.06 and a remaining balance of \$322.86. The report was filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Meeting: The next Waiialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., at Wesley United Methodist Church.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Submitted By: Kazuaki McArthur, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed By: Risé Doi, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed By: Arnold Brady, Chairperson