



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, FEBRUARY 19, 2015 WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Arnold Brady called the Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **with four (4) members present. A quorum was not established.** Note: This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action. Brady reported that he had moved out of the district recently and therefore had to resign from the Board. Since a quorum was not established, Pyles volunteered to run the rest of the meeting. Brady sat in the audience as a community member.

Board Members Present: Marianne Au, Arnie Brady (resigned at this meeting), Kenneth Chang (arrived at 7:08 p.m.), Peter Dudgeon, Sylvia Himeda, John Pyles, Martin Schiller (arrived at 7:58 p.m.), and Richard Turbin (arrived at 7:02 p.m.).

Board Members Absent: Scotty Anderson.

Vacancies: There were no vacancies.

Guests: Helen Price, Kenny Amazaki (Councilmember Trevor Ozawa's Office), Lieutenant Clint Sukekane (Honolulu Police Department), Lorna Heller (Board of Water Supply), KC Carlberg, Dan DeFries and Firefighter I Dean Calistro (Honolulu Fire Department), Shelley Simpson, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Elise Anderson (Senator Sam Slom's Office), Les Fukuda, Martin Hsia, Chris Conger, Michele Nekota (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's representative), Representative Mark Hashem, and Risé Doi (Neighborhood Commission Office).

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

Turbin arrived at 7:02 p.m. Five (5) members were present. A quorum was established.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Firefighter 1 Dean Calistro reported the following:

- **January 2015 Fire Statistics:** There were 3 rubbish fires and 96 medical emergencies.
- **Hiking Safety Tips:** HFD often responds to hikers who are lost or injured. When planning for a hike, inform others of hiking plans and let someone know the name of the trail and estimated time of return. Plan to have enough time and daylight to return from the hike. Have a cell phone that is fully charged. When hiking, stay on the trail.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lieutenant Clint Sukekane reported the following:

- **January 2015 Crime Statistics:** Statistics included 5 motor vehicle thefts, 16 burglaries, 32 thefts, and 15 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV). There were 6,679 calls for service.
- **Home Security Safety Tips:** Lieutenant Sukekane provided a handout that listed home security tips.

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

- **January 2015 Main Break Report:** There was one (1) main break on Kilauea Avenue.
- **New Customer Parking Procedure at BWS:** Starting March 2015, there will be new parking procedures at the BWS headquarters on Beretania Street. To enter the lot, press the intercom button and state the purpose of the visit.
- **Bank of Hawaii:** Effective April 1, 2015, customers will have the option to drop off water bill payments at any Bank of Hawaii location, excluding store branches. First Hawaiian Bank will no longer be accepting payments after March 31, 2015.
- **Telephone Scams:** Heller reported that there have been recent telephone scams. Heller shared some tips on identifying telephone scams. Call 748-5030 for accurate information on account services and to make

credit card payments. BWS does not call customers outside of business hours, Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Safeguard personal information. Hang up on suspicious callers.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Bank of Hawaii: Himeda asked and Heller answered there is no fee to make a water bill payment at Bank of Hawaii.

Chang arrived at 7:08 p.m. Six (6) members were present.

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) – Les Fukuda reported that there is a bill in the legislature that will require OahuMPO to be part of the decision making process in project planning to get transportation funding from the federal government. Fukuda reported that traffic construction has been completed in the Waialae-Kahala area.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. OahuMPO: Turbin asked and Fukuda clarified that OahuMPO is a planning organization that provides input to transportation improvement projects and makes recommendations to the policy board.
2. Projects: Turbin asked and Fukuda answered that currently the bus is Honolulu's mode of public transportation. Fukuda noted there will be bus drop off areas and park and rides once the rail is completed. Fukuda noted there will be a bill from Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) to extend the duration of the general excise tax (GET) surcharge. Fukuda recommended visiting OahuMPO's website for a full list of projects.

Governor's Representative – No representative was present; no report was provided.

Mayor's Representative – Michele Nekota reported the following:

- Neighborhood Board Elections: Candidate registration for the 2015 Neighborhood Board elections has begun. The deadline to apply is Friday, February 20, 2015. Paper applications are available, or apply online at www.honolulu.gov/nco. For more information, visit the website or call 768-3708.
- Ti Leaves: The Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA) and the Honolulu Zoo are asking for donations of ti leaves to help repair the hale la'i. Green, yellow, or brown ti leaves with the stems may be dropped off in plastic bags at the Honolulu Zoo entrance.
- "Sew A Lei for Memorial Day" Poster Contest: All Hawaii school students grades kindergarten to 12 are invited to enter the City and County of Honolulu's "Sew a Lei for Memorial Day" poster contest, which runs from January 26, 2015 through February 27, 2015.
- City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Advisory: The DTS Traffic Signals & Technology Division will begin placing stickers on crosswalk signal poles as they go out to inspect or repair crosswalk signal poles island-wide. Nekota reminded the public not to cross the street once the red hand traffic signal starts flashing or the traffic signal begins counting down.
- Bulky Items: There was a previous concern raised regarding bulky items not being picked up on Farmer's and Pueo Street. Bulky item collection in Kahala was reported cleared by Honolulu Refuse Yard on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 and no calls of missed bulky collections were received in December 2014 or January 2015. Bulky items are scheduled for pickup on the fourth Monday of the month in the Waialae and Kahala area. Residents are encouraged to call the Refuse Division at 768-3200 to report missed bulky item collection.
- HART Director Salary: The salary of the HART chief executive officer and executive director Dan Grabauskas is in line with heads of transit authorities across the country.
- Aloha Stadium: Aloha Stadium is under State jurisdiction.
- Green Waste: There was a previous concern raised regarding green waste not being picked up on Elepaio Street and Kahala Avenue in January 2015. A Honolulu Refuse Collections supervisor at the Honolulu Refuse Yard reported that there were delays in January 2015 due to the amount of green carts that were required to be picked up. The refuse truck driver returned the next morning to complete the route. The supervisor also reported that some carts on Kahala Avenue are not being set out for collection by 6:00 a.m. For more information regarding collection delays or missed refuse and/or recycling cart collection service, contact the Refuse Division at 768-3200.
- Car Washing Business: There was a previous concern raised regarding a power washing car business at a residential address of 1257 Ainakoa Avenue. On Friday, January 30, 2015, Corporal Henry Robinson and Officer Chad Gibo visited the site and observed tools and equipment in the garage that are used in auto

detailing. No one was in the garage at the time and no one answered the door when Robinson knocked. Gibo cited a vehicle for blocking a driveway and another for parking within four (4) feet of a driveway. A neighbor who was interviewed indicated that the business operates during the days and evenings, and also pointed out cars that had been detailed earlier that day. Wallace Carvalho of the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) was notified of this complaint. Carvalho will assign a DPP investigator to further investigate this matter and to take enforcement action as necessary.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Waipio Soccer Park: Dudgeon raised a concern that there are no doors on the stalls in the women's restroom at Waipio Soccer Park. Nekota noted that DPR wanted to install doors, but the restrooms are on Navy property, and therefore doors cannot be installed.
2. Bulky Items: Chang raised a concern that there is confusion about the bulky item pickup date on Wahinekoa Street. Turbin noted that there were bulky items left out for six (6) weeks on Pueo Street.
3. Pedestrian Injuries: Turbin noted that Hawaii is the worst in pedestrian injuries and deaths. Turbin raised a concern that in accidents, pedestrians are blamed instead of the drivers. Turbin recommended that DTS propose ordinances to the City Council that protect pedestrians.

Councilmember Trevor Ozawa –Kenny Amazaki reported the following:

- Domestic Violence Task Force: A domestic violence task force was formed to make recommendations to HPD on issues regarding domestic violence.
- Affordable Housing: There is a bill that proposes using large storage containers as an affordable housing option.
- Kapahulu Avenue: There will be lane closures on Kapahulu Avenue due to construction beginning this month.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Washington, D.C.: Au asked and Amazaki answered that four (4) Council members are going to attend the National Association of Counties conference in Washington, D.C., and will also meet with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to secure federal funding. Amazaki noted the Council is very concerned with the cost overruns of rail.
2. Lane Closures: Turbin asked how long there will be lane closures on Kapahulu Avenue. Amazaki will follow up.
3. Illegal Vacation Rentals: A resident asked about a bill regarding illegal vacation rentals and noted that the Board has opposed legalizing bed and breakfasts in residential areas since 2005. Amazaki noted the bill still has to go through another reading and there will be other opportunities to testify. The resident noted that the City and State officials need to work together to have this issue resolved.

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi – Representative Kobayashi introduced George West, Chair of the Diamond Head/ Kapahulu/ St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board No. 5. Representative Kobayashi distributed a newsletter and reported the following:

1. House Majority Package: Representative Kobayashi referred to the newsletter, which listed long-term goals of the House Majority. These goals include fixing public infrastructure, facilitating business, and increasing citizen participation in government.
2. Historic Preservation: There is currently a historic preservation bill alive in the legislature. Currently, there is a two-level permit review process for homes that are over 50 years old. Representative Kobayashi raised a concern that the permit review process has slowed down construction of homes and the sale of real estate.
3. Extension of General Excise Tax (GET): There is a bill in the legislature relating to rail and the 0.5% extension of the GET.
4. Teacher of the Year: A Waikiki Elementary School teacher, Catherine Caine, was named a National Teacher of the Year finalist.
5. Scams and Fraud: Representative Kobayashi referred to the newsletter, which listed tips about preventing scams and fraud against seniors.

Schiller arrived at 7:58 p.m. Seven (7) members were present.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Historic Preservation: Au asked and Representative Hashem explained the history behind the historic preservation bill. Representative Hashem noted that many homes built in the 1970s now fall under the historic preservation bill. Representative Hashem offered to discuss the issue further with Au after the meeting.
2. GET and Rail: Turbin asked and Representative Kobayashi noted the current chair and vice chair of the House Finance Committee and the current Majority Leader of the House voted no in the previous consideration of the GET bill. Turbin raised a concern that the design for rail is anachronistic. Representative Kobayashi noted that rail works in many cities, however, there have been unforeseen problems with cost and implementation in Honolulu's rail. Representative Kobayashi noted if the GET is not extended, taxpayers will have to foot bills for current obligations and returning over \$1 billion to the federal government, and the existing two (2) miles of rail line may have to be torn down. Turbin commented the rail design is outdated. Representative Kobayashi noted that there was never a public vote on the design of the rail. Both Pyles and Turbin raised concerns regarding the funding and maintenance of rail. Chang asked where to get non-bias information regarding the extension of the GET. Representative Kobayashi noted that the City provided information and clear reasons to extend the GET, but the opposition has not provided anything.
3. OahuMPO: Turbin asked about the OahuMPO bill and Representative Kobayashi answered that OahuMPO is a federal requirement. Representative Kobayashi noted that in order for transportation projects to receive funding, the project needs OahuMPO approval. Representative Kobayashi noted that OahuMPO does not determine if and when a project gets funded.

Representative Mark Hashem – Representative Hashem reported the following:

- Housing First: There was a housing media release this afternoon. Representative Hashem noted there is a bill for Housing First. The Housing First program encourages chronically homeless people to get housing first then get help for mental illness or drug abuse treatment. Representative Hashem noted that putting homeless into housing is cheaper than paying for the costs of the uninsured. A resident asked and Representative Hashem answered that homeless that need more services and treatment are separated from the homeless populations that do not need as much assistance.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Housing: Au asked and Representative Hashem explained the rent-a-housing trust fund and subsidized rentals. Representative Hashem noted that Honolulu has a shortage of 64,000 units. A resident commented that there is no housing available due to vacation rentals.

Senator Sam Slom – No representative was present; a written report was provided. Pyles noted that Senator Slom usually attends the Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3 meeting.

RESIDENTS' AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- Coconut Trees: A resident who lives at the end of Koko Place raised a concern regarding three (3) coconut trees that are City property and may be a safety hazard due to falling coconuts. The resident would like the coconut trees removed. Turbin noted that there are many coconut trees that are on City property, and commented that the City has a contract to inspect the coconut trees periodically. Turbin suggested contacting DPP, the State Department of Health (DOH), or the Mediation Center of the Pacific. Pyles suggested that Amazaki follow up. Nekota will follow up. Brady commented that the coconut trees should be maintained or cut down.
- Encroachment: A resident raised a concern that there is overgrown vegetation on the sidewalk at the end of Farmer's Road, and people are walking in the street.
- Vacation Rentals: A resident requested that the Board take a position on the bill regarding vacation rentals on next month's agenda.

BOARD BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS

Hawaii Pacific Health Women's 10K Race: Race director KC Carlberg announced that the Hawaii Pacific Health Women's 10K race will be held on Sunday, March 1, 2015 at 7:00 a.m. beginning at Kapiolani Park. Carlberg noted this is an all-women's event that supports the community. The route goes over Diamond Head and through Kahala, and back to Kapiolani Park. Carlberg also announced that the Na Wahine Triathlon will be held on Sunday, September 13, 2015. Proceeds from both events will help support the community and hospitals in the Hawaii Pacific Health system.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Time: Pyles asked and Carlberg answered that the race is expected to end around 9:00 a.m.
2. Road Closures: Himeda asked and Carlberg answered there will be temporary road closures. Carlberg noted that the makai side of Diamond Head Road will be closed for about an hour, but traffic will be diverted.
3. Route: Turbin asked and Carlberg explained the route of the 10K. Carlberg noted the route will go through Kahala Avenue.
4. Inconvenience: Dudgeon commented that road closures affect residents who live along the route. Carlberg apologized for the inconvenience, noted road closures will only be for a short period of time, and thanked the public for supporting the women of the community. A resident suggested beginning the race earlier so that the hours would be less inconvenient for residents. Carlberg noted there are safety considerations for the racers.

Special Management Area (SMA) Use Permit and Shoreline Variance at 4465/4469 Kahala Avenue: Chris Conger delivered an update regarding the application for a SMA use permit and shoreline variance at 4465/4469 Kahala Avenue. The properties were acquired from A&B who had previously acquired the properties from Kawamoto. The properties were in disrepair. Conger reported that the owner of the properties had removed the sea wall and the shore line moved back. Erosion barriers were installed. There is more beach near the properties. Nourishment sand was added. The SMA and shoreline set back variance have been finalized and reviewed, and that DPP is supporting the SMA and set back variance with some caveats. The Council will review the application in March 2015.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. State Property: Pyles commented that the property owners gave back what belonged to the State. A resident noted that there was an unauthorized sea wall.
2. Variance: Chang asked and Conger clarified why a variance was required. Conger noted liability issues needed to be resolved. Conger displayed a diagram of the certified shoreline and noted the sea wall was removed without a variance, and was removed with special permission from the City and State. Conger noted the variance contains side walls, a walkway, and a set of stairs. Conger noted that the DPP variance process has strict guidelines and the owner of the properties needs to prove why the proposed plan has the least impact on shoreline access and aesthetics. A resident commented that she was not in favor of sea walls, but the proposed plan is the best compromise. Brady noted support for the proposed plan.
3. Mahalo: Resident Walter James commended Group 70 for their work and welcomed the property owner, Mr. Lee. Turbin noted appreciation for the presentations and Group 70 was proper and transparent. Pyles noted that Mr. Lee tried to work with the community.

OTHER REPORTS

Chair's Report – None.

Approval of the January 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes – **Schiller moved and Turbin seconded to approve the January 15, 2015 regular meeting minutes as amended. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0 (Aye: Au, Chang, Dudgeon, Himeda, Pyles, Schiller, and Turbin).** Corrections included the following:

- Page 4 – “CONERNS” should read “CONCERNS”

Treasurer's Report – Dudgeon read the Treasurer's report and noted a remaining balance of \$309.98. The report was filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Meeting: The next Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3 meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., at Wesley United Methodist Church.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Submitted By: Risé Doi, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed By: Lori Snyder, Neighborhood Assistant, Reviewed and Finalized By: Scotty Anderson, Vice Chair