



KANEOHE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 30

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2007 WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE HALE ALAKAI

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Yanagihara called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Beatty, Kristopher DeRego, Warren Ditch, John Flanigan, Paul Friel, Marie Gavigan, Steve Jefferies (appointed at this meeting), Wendell Lum, L.C. Morris, Bill Sager, Roy Yanagihara, Larry Zdvoracek

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elizabeth Gaisthia, Glenn Ida, Felipe San Nicholas, Patty Yamashiro – Hironaka.

GUESTS: Senator Jill Tokuda, Mitchell S. Nakagawa, Eryn Nakamon, Ken Kawahara (Governor's Representative – Deputy Director, Department of Land and Natural Resources), Michael Bowles, Tina Bowles, David Primrose, Michael Furuya, Mrs. Michael Furuya, Jessica McDunn, Steve Jefferies, Captain Thomas McKee (Honolulu Fire Department, Kaneohe), Lt. Richard Robinson (Honolulu Police Department, Kaneohe-District 4), Leah Rothbaum, Venus Acoba, Mr. Kanimura, Lt. Binford Strickland (USMC/MCBH), Mike Olson, Les Chang (Mayor's Representative – Director, Department of Parks and Recreation), Representative Pono Chong, Marisa Lum, William Monteilh, Kelli Monteilh, Llewellyn Gay, Travis Loop, Elwin Spray (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

FILLING OF VACANCIES – Chair Yanagihara reported that there were three vacancies on the 17-member Kaneohe Neighborhood Board for the term of June 1, 2007 to May 31, 2009: one seat for At-Large, one seat for Sub-District 2 and one seat for Sub-District 5. He noted that the vacancy for Sub-District 2 was not listed on the evening's agenda and action on it would be deferred until the following meeting.

FILLING OF VACANCY, AT-LARGE (1 Seat) – Chair Yanagihara reported that the June meeting had several volunteers for the at-large seat but that the issue had not been resolved; he asked if there were nominations or volunteers present tonight to fill the seat. Steve Jefferies and Travis Loop (two nominees from the prior month) reported they were interested in filling the vacancy. Loop introduced himself as the former editor of West Hawaii Today (Kailua-Kona), a resident of Kaneohe since February, working in Governor Lingle's Communications Office and committed to making Kaneohe a better community. Jefferies introduced himself as a former Kaneohe Neighborhood Board member, a nine-year resident, an advocate for fiscal responsibility and working for Makai Ocean Engineering. **Chair Yanagihara called for the vote on the two nominees, which was Jefferies-7 and Loop-2**
Jefferies: Beatty, Ditch, Friel, Gavigan, Lum, Morris, Zdvoracek. **Loop:** DeRego, Sager. **Not Voting:** Yanagihara. Chair Yanagihara announced that since no candidate had received the necessary vote of nine (required for all Board actions) that the vote would be held again. Loop stated that he wished to support the community by withdrawing and allowing for the election to occur. **Chair Yanagihara, without objection, accepted the withdrawal and announced that Jefferies was elected.** Chair Yanagihara invited Loop (and other community members) to be active in Board committees and projects and took a two-minute recess to permit Jefferies to be sworn in as a Board member. Jefferies was sworn in; eleven Board members present.



FILLING OF VACANCY, SUB DISTRICT 2 (1 Seat) – Chair Yanagihara asked for volunteers or nominations, and, noting that there were no interested persons present to fill the vacancy, deferred action on the vacancy to the next meeting.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Treasurer Beatty reported that the Board’s Operating/Publicity Account balance was \$2,367, with Beatty and Chair Yanagihara reporting that with the end of the City’s fiscal year the Board’s balances and expenditures will be re-set.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 21, 2007 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Chair Yanagihara asked for corrections or additions to the minutes, with the requested revision of a phrase on page 3, under Fire question number 1, changing from “no” evacuation signage to “too small” evacuation signage. **DeRego moved and Jefferies seconded to accept the June 21, 2007 regular meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously 11-0-0** (Beatty, DeRego, Ditch, Friel, Gavigan, Jefferies, Lum, Morris, Sager, Yanagihara, Zdvoracek).

PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY REPORT:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Thomas McKee reported Kaneohe Fire Station activity statistics for the month period ending in July had no major incidents and included three brush fires and two vehicle fires, as well as forty-six medical assistance responses, assistance to twenty-six EMS calls, one search-and-rescue, two hazardous condition calls, two restore systems calls, four standbys and thirty-nine investigative calls. McKee reported the Fire Safety Tip:

Take time to childproof your home, especially since children are on summer vacation. Check for potentially dangerous situations, such as electrical shock, accidental falls, or poisoning from medications, cleaning fluids and houseplants. Keep matches and lighters in a safe place out of the reach of small children.

McKee reported that Station personnel had, as a volunteer project, painted over the graffiti tags on the old Coast Guard buildings at the back end of Haiku Valley. He also discussed fire prevention signage with Lum, who expressed concern that the Mountain View Terrace would be safer with the posting of large evacuation maps similar to those found on most public buildings. McKee reported to Lum that he would check on the specifics and report back to Lum.

- 1) Beatty asked why HFD trucks race to medical emergency; McKee explained that both HFD and EMS units are dispatched in a medical emergency, with forty-two fire stations and eighteen ambulances, frequently HFD is first unit there but that they are trained to assist if the EMS is on the scene first.
- 2) Chair Yanagihara asked about hurricane season tips, with McKee suggesting that community members each be prepared by having supplies of rations and drinking water, have plans to evacuate the shore lines and, of course, have duck tape (and tape window to protect from flying glass).
- 3) Lum asked about possible terrorism acts; McKee reported that HFD trains with hazmat units, perform monthly drills and have just done an island-wide training at the stadium.

Chair Yanagihara thanked Captain McKee for his report.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lt. Richard Robinson circulated copies of the June 2007 incident statistics and highlighted seven graffiti arrests, eight felony arrests, fifteen misdemeanor traffic arrests, four park closure arrests, twenty-four DUI, forty-five speeding citations, 142 moving violations and towed nineteen abandoned vehicles. As a follow-up from a question last month, he distributed copies of a brochure on false-burglar alarms.

- 1) Lum asked about an current news issue of counterfeiting, with Robinson reporting that the current wave started in Kailua, that's is a normal pattern for a group to come to the state, to start distribution for a couple of weeks and then move on when the community becomes alert to their operation.
- 2) Chair Yanagihara asked about graffiti laws, with Robinson explaining that the arrests were under the old law but that now the new laws are in effect, and reporting that a recent arrestee admitted to thirteen cases of graffiti.
- 3) Ditch asked if the graffiti taggers were from all over Oahu or if they were generally from an area; Robinson agreed that the taggers tended to be marking their own areas rather than traveling around the island.

Chair Yanagihara thanked Lt. Robinson for his report.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) – Lt. Binford R. Strickland reported: the successful completion of the Bay Fest festival, that no birds had been recently injured in the crater nesting area (indicative of continuing efforts and of fire safety concerns in the area), that the Blues on the Bay are scheduled for October 13-14 (with the Blue Angles scheduled to actually arrive on October 6 or 7), and that thirteen F-16s had arrived this day (and would be leaving on Saturday for California with no flight training operations planned). Chair Yanagihara thanked Lt. Strickland for his report.

PUBLIC INPUT & RESIDENTS' CONCERNS – Chair Yanagihara asked if there were residents with concerns not listed on the agenda. Primrose asked about the halfway house issue. Chair Yanagihara asked to defer that to the Mayor and Council reporting positions later in the agenda. There were no other resident issues.

ELECTED OFFICIALS'REPORTS:

Mayor's Representative – Les Chang (Director, Department of Parks and Recreation – DPR) represented Mayor Mufi Hannemann and reported that he had reviewed the files for the "half-way house" at Pahia Road. The facility was named "Abamonga Care Home" and its capacity was increased from 18 beds to 54 beds by 87/CUP2-3 (Conditional Use Permit). The new owners, Po'ailani, modified the approval to reduce the bed count to 47 and to register as new owners of the CUP (Conditional Use Permit). Chang explained that the Mayor's Office is not involved in conditions of CUP approval and that CUP conditions have not been waived. When building applications are submitted, a review is for compliance is conducted. The City's Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) has been informed of the concerns expressed by neighbors, and, DPP has reported this to Po'ailani and directed them to provide evidence of condition compliance, including dialogue with neighbors. He reported that a shuttle was not part of the prior requirement of the CUP and said that the City is unable to comment on the additional question of civil rights legal issues. Comments and questions were addressed to Chang:

- The 1987 proposal was for a 36-bed facility, with Chang reporting that the applications had been for a care home but had changed to a residential apartment with special needs, moving from 54 beds to 47 beds, which is covered in the existing CUP.
- The proposal for the 54 beds was for a new facility that was not built, with the required new road and new fire safety requirements not met; Chang explained that the land use was changed away from a care home to another use and that DPP is working with the owners, saying that some conditions are met and some are not.
- The units are month-to-month; Chang explained that the permits are held up until conditions are met.
- Reports of work being done at the site were made, including landscaping; Chang explained that new permits are awaiting evaluation of the compliance and the discussions.

Chair Yanagihara asked about the current operation, requesting information on the limits; Chang said he would follow-up and repeated that the new permits are being held up. **Morris suggested a presentation from DPP, with Chair Yanagihara proposing he would send a letter to request a presentation at the next meeting; there was no objection to Chair Yanagihara sending the letter.**

- A question was asked if the community would have a chance to review the permits prior to their issuance; Chang said that DPP was requiring the prior conditions to be met before the permits are issued.
- A concern was expressed that the process was secret with no public input, and that as an example, grading is occurring, without a grading permit -- not applied for -- with the community not knowing about compacting and no knowledge of the materials used; Chang said that he was not the expert on all the details of the project, including the landscaping, but that he was presenting a project overview and that the owners were told to discuss the project with the neighbors, and that he expected the meeting with neighbors to occur.
- Morris asked if recent discussions had been had with the neighbors; a resident said that no discussions had been held but that a year ago the community had been promised that there would be no patients outside the building, limiting the people walking on the roadway, which had not happened, and asked that the restriction on the patients use of the roadway be followed-up on.
- T. Bowles commented on the changes in occupancy from 18 to 57 to 46 and said that she was told that a second house was not allowed on her property because the water pressure was not sufficient.
- T. Bowles also commented on the private ownership of the roadway, where she had not been approached to buy or widen; Chang said that the owners were told that they had to meet the conditions of the CUP and that they were told that they need to discuss the project with the neighbors.
- A question was asked about recourse to the neighbors finding answers, with Chair Yanagihara saying that the neighbors should come to the Board and Chang saying that the owners had been told to meet conditions, including the dialogue, and said that he knows that the issue has been open for years but that there is a timeline.
- Olson asked about how the 1987 application was processed, with Chair Yanagihara saying that the discussions needed to wait until the experts can be present. Chang answered that the concerns are neither un-noticed nor forgotten and said that the applicant might be scheduling a meeting before the next Board meeting.
- A comment was that the Board should still hold a meeting to address the many concerns. Chang said that his was a general report but that specifics could still be addressed to him.

Chang reported the Kalaeloa desalinization plant has been deferred for at least ten years as ground water levels remain positive and conservation efforts have resulted in a long-term hold on the project. Chang also reported that asphalt sidewalks are generally a project that the City can commit to but that the building of concrete sidewalks, which need to be designed to conform to building codes, are done through an improvement district which results in costs to the adjoining property owners. Lum said that he felt sidewalks were needed in the shopping center area; Chair Yanagihara asked Lum to initiate the request by drafting a letter for a future meeting, with Chang noting that the project would be expensive for the neighbors. Chang reported the start of the City's Budget for the coming year at \$1.6 billion, with 44% of the funds sewer related and a commitment from Mayor Hannemann that he is restoring order in fiscal affairs. Chang also reported the City's ferry kick-off is September 4th, 2007, which will run from Ewa to the Aloha Tower area where bus service will work in conjunction with the downtown area. Chang reported a new City initiative "DriveAkamai.org" where a web-site and phone message service gives information on Honolulu urban-center construction projects (phone 768-3777). Lum asked about the City ferry surcharges, with Chang explaining that fuel costs were passed on but that the ferry's intent is to be the same as a City bus -- \$2 -- and that a bus would be waiting at the Aloha Tower landing. A comment was made that the "DriveAkamai.org" price tag of \$400,000 seems

excessive, with Chang explaining that also involved is the long-term commitment for people to update the web-site. Kanimura asked about the parking at Kalaeloa, with Chang explaining that some parking is designated but that others are being sought; Chang said that the idea was to start before the UH and schools start up. Kanimura pointed to the expense for only a ridership of fifty to a hundred, with Chang explaining that the hope is that the model will allow people to consider it as an alternative and that by offering several alternatives, people will feel the project is a success. M. Bowles said they liked the idea that the other department would attend the meeting to talk about the Pahia Road facility. Chang noted that there are 32 Neighborhood Boards and that he, as the Parks Director, is asked to speak at many of them, but that this request for a Pahia Road follow-up has been sent to the department and that they are working on it. Chair Yanagihara also referred to Mayor's Concern forms, which are next to the sign in sheet on the back table, and asked that those forms be also used to obtain answers to community concerns. M. Bowles said that the responses were similar to the last month's, with Chair Yanagihara pointing that the issue has not stopped but is being pursued, that the plan is to continue to next month, and that the other agencies of Councilmember Marshall and Governor Lingle are also involved. Sager asked about bicycles on ferries; Chang said that the Kalaeloa ferry would have places for bicycles. Chair Yanagihara thanked Chang for his report.

Councilmember Barbara Marshall – Venus Acoba represented Council Chair Marshall and reported that Marshall had sent a letter to Po'ailani, in which Acoba said questions were asked of the owners. Chair Yanagihara referred to a letter he received, which Acoba said was also sent to area residents, and to which Acoba said there was no reply. Acoba said the office had met with project owners a year ago but that the conditions had changed since, with Acoba saying she could not give any details. Chair Yanagihara asked for Councilmember Marshall to assist in getting a department representative present at the next meeting if the answers had not been secured prior to the meeting. Acoba also distributed a community newsletter and provided information that a form can be filled out to request installation of a wheelchair ramp; she said she did not bring forms but they can be obtained at www.honolulu.gov/parks/civil/curbrampform.pdf or by calling 523-4672. Lum asked how many parking slots would be eliminated with the construction of the transit line stop at the new Middle Street transit center; Chair Yanagihara asked Acoba to follow up with Lum.

Governor's Representative – Ken Kawahara (Deputy Director, Department of Land and Natural Resources) represented Governor Linda Lingle, distributed a community newsletter, and highlighted that the Governor had executed a joint civil defense agreement with Indonesia and that Hawaii had been awarded a grant from the National Governors' Association. He reported following up on the Po'ailani issue, noting that construction is not under the State's responsibility, but that the State Department of Health's (DOH) Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) is involved, having started an inspection procedure on April 30, 2006, which they finished in March 2007, resulting in the site being certified as meeting their "group home" standards. Kawahara said that the AMHD was prepared to come to the next meeting and to make a presentation on the general program if the Board was interested. He explained that "group homes" have tenants – stressing that this is a "group home" not a "licensed facility" – under the "fair housing act," similar to other defined groups and suggested that the City's Fair Housing Officer would be the place to ask any legal questions that were referenced to in some prior comments. A question was asked about group homes being "contracted" by the State for "mental" care; Chair Yanagihara asked Kawahara to follow up. M. Bowles asked about right-of-way and firearms issues; Chair Yanagihara said that the issues were getting too detailed for Kawahara's presentation and suggested questions could be deferred. Lum asked for a status report on the Kahekili Highway Beautification Project; Kawahara said he would follow up. Sager expressed concern about community care facilities being formed without community input and ask for an update on the legislation's procedure (reporting that the basic law was passed three years ago but recent changes were made); Chair Yanagihara noted that the legislation was passed over the Governor's veto and suggested that the legislators should be asked for an evaluation; Kawahara referred to the number in the Governor's handout for more information on the legislation. Ditch asked that the AMHD be advised of the request for a definition of a "group home" as part of their presentation the next month. Chair Yanagihara asked about Kawahara's specialty; Kawahara said his responsibility is for

the area of water resource management. Lum asked for attention to be paid and to have a follow up on a Dillingham air field area lake and its possible use as a water resource for agriculture; Kawahara said he would research the lake. Chair Yanagihara thanked Kawahara for his report.

U.S. Representative Maizie Hirono – No representative was present.

Senator Jill Tokuda – Senator Tokuda circulated her written community report and highlighted that a Sustainability Summit was planned for September, with a series of meetings taking place leading up to the summit. She also reported that she is on an investigative committee assigned to work with the Department of Education, unions and businesses intending to focus on school curriculum to insure that Hawaii's children are prepared for future job markets. She reported working with DeRego on the Hawaii Memorial Park issue, including jointly with Representative Ito making a mailing to 700 adjacent households about the next week's community meeting. Chair Yanagihara thanked DeRego for taking the lead for the Board on the issue. Chair Yanagihara asked about the Po'ailani issue, with the report that she discussed the issue with Ito and Senator Hee, as well as the modifications Sager asked about, reporting that the legislature did amend the law to limit houses by requiring a house with over 18 individuals to have a major permit. Tokuda said that the legislation was supposed to provide for community input so that continues to be an unanswered point to discuss next month. Chair Yanagihara thanked Tokuda for the report. Lum recommended Tokuda review House Bill 70, which was titled to provide private partnership opportunities for transportation, for consideration and asked for her thoughts on the issues.

Senator Clayton Hee – No representative was present.

Representative Ken Ito – No representative was present.

Representative Pono Chong – Representative Chong reported continuing to work on transportation issues and seeking repaving of area roads. Chair Yanagihara asked about the Po'ailani issue, which Chong reported agreeing that the bringing of the agencies together would be important, in order that the community be educated in the process. He also suggested that nuisance abatement issues could be pursued through the Attorney General's office and 911 should be called to address suspected drug or violence issues, with Chair Yanagihara asking about restraining orders, and Chong saying that the process might lead to seizure of property. Chair Yanagihara and Chong agreed that the tools mentioned were generally available and where not specifically applicable to this situation. Chair Yanagihara thanked Chong for his report.

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

Hope Chapel – No new items were reported.

Hawaii Pacific University – Jessica McDunn represented HPU and reported that the school was on summer break and that she would report on school plays as the fall semester started. She welcomed calls for information to 543-8034. Chair Yanagihara thanked McDunn for her report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chair Yanagihara reported no items of unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Honolulu Century Bike Ride – Mitchell Nakagawa represented the Honolulu Century Bike Ride and the Hawaii Bicycling League, distributed maps and description of the September 30, 2007 cycling event and highlighted the following:

- The Honolulu Century Ride is Hawaii's oldest and largest cycling event. It is a ride, not a race, first established in 1981 and goes from Kapiolani Park around the Makapuu Point to Kaaawa and returns around Makapuu to Kapiolani. Not all starters make the full 100 mile course but are welcome to return as appropriate.
- There are no road closures, detours or street coning.
- 3,500 riders are expected to come through Kaneohe.
- Course – the ride comes up Kaneohe Bay Drive from Kailua and turns right onto Kamehameha Highway.
- Possible modification to course -- Turn right on Puohala Street and left on Pua Inia Street to Kamehameha, avoiding the Likelike Highway / Kaneohe Bay Drive / Kamehameha intersection.

Nakagawa asked for Board support in making the modification, which is his group's recommendation from evaluations of prior events that it would be safer to avoid the major intersection. Nakagawa asked that the Board author a resolution supporting the modification. Friel reported that the roads are his and Senator Tokuda's neighborhood and expressed concerns: 1) single lane roads, 2) high traffic, and 3) poor road conditions (sewer line depressions). He noted that the road is used as a short cut by the whole windward side. Senator Tokuda also expressed safety concerns, mentioning a manhole sink (at the roadway dip) and the need for more officers along the route, but stressing that the hill beyond the dip is a blind view plane. Nakagawa stressed that the group's commitment is for safety, saying that he can add more officers (currently 88 HPD officers) and he will follow up by driving the route. Morris asked if other options have been considered; Nakagawa said he welcomed suggestions and he would take these comments back to his group and asked to return in August, saying that the City had requested Board action. Chair Yanagihara said that the Board's usual practice is to make comments and recommendations since the approval process is with other agencies but welcomed Nakagawa if he wished to return. Sager offered suggestions of: 1) Nakagawa riding the side street routes, 2) making assessments as if the event involved 500 more riders, same number of volunteers and 30 more HPD, and 3) making sure that as many questions as possible were answered to insure safety.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chair Yanagihara announced that he would make the Board committee chair appointments as listed on the agenda, asking for agreement from Ditch and Jefferies to volunteer to serve in vacant positions of Planning and Transportation. Beatty volunteered to do Publicity and to take responsibility from Friel for the Board Website. Chair Yanagihara announced the Board Committees:

1. State Legislature Committee – Chair Roy Yanagihara/Kristopher DeRego
2. City & County Ordinance Committee – Chair Paul Friel
3. Public Health & Safety – Chair John Flanigan
4. Mental Health Committee – Chair (vacant)
5. Public Safety Committee – Chair Felipe San Nicolas
6. Planning Committee – Chair Warren Ditch
7. Transportation Committee – Chair Steve Jefferies
8. Education Committee – Chair Patty Yamashiro-Hironaka; Vice Chair Felipe San Nicolas
9. Environmental Committee – Chair Bill Sager
10. Windward Civilian/Military Committee – Chair John Flanigan
11. OMPO Citizen Advisory Committee – Chair Wendell Lum
12. Neighborhood Board Website Contact Committee – Chair Mark Beatty
13. Publicity Committee – Chair Mark Beatty
14. Haiku Stairs Special Task Force – Chair L.C. Morris
15. Hawaii Memorial Park Committee – Chair Kris DeRego

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Chair Yanagihara announced the next agenda Planning & Committees' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 7, 2007, Kaneohe Community and Senior Center, 7:00 p.m.
 2. Chair Yanagihara announced the next Regular Board Meeting will take place at the Windward Community College, Akoakoa Room on Thursday, August 23, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
 3. Sager announced that a Hawaii Conservation Conference would occur the next week and invited attendance (at a cost of \$250 for admission).
 4. Kanimura suggested the Board publicize that the schools would be going back into session and that motorists should adjust their driving times to avoid the school periods.
 5. Acoba invited community attendance at monthly district meetings with Councilmember Marshall.
- A. Sager reported a quarterly Kaneohe Bay Regional Council meeting on July 11, 2007 where Bay rules were proposed on issues: 1) illegal to walk on live coral, 2) jet-skis prohibited in the Bay, and 3) to tighten gill net laws. Chair Yanagihara thanked Sager and suggested a full report at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further Board business, Chair Yanagihara adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Submitted by, Elwin Spray, Neighborhood Commission Office Staff