



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, AUGUST 16, 2007 WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE AKOAKOA HALE

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, John Flanigan, Paul Friel, Marie Gavigan, Glenn Ida, Steve Jefferies, Wendell Lum, L.C. Morris, Bill Sager, Felipe San Nicholas, Patty Yamashiro-Hironaka, Roy Yanagihara.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Warren Ditch, Elizabeth Gaisthia, Larry Zdvoracek.

GUESTS: Senator Jill Tokuda, Ken Kawahara (Governor's Representative – Deputy Director, Department of Land and Natural Resources – DLNR), Michael Bowles, Tina Bowles, Battalion Chief James K. Skellington (Honolulu Fire Department – HFD – Kaneohe), Lt. John Cheong (Honolulu Police Department – HPD, Kaneohe – District 4), Venus Acoba (Councilmember Marshall's Office staff), Lt. Binford Strickland (USMC Marine Corps Base Hawaii – MCBH), Les Chang (Mayor's Representative – Director, Department of Parks and Recreation – DPR), Sereena Santos, Donna Cordero, Debbie Koki, Jonelle Kaaihue, LeeAnn Kobayashi, Tracy Parker, Cindy Parker, Kyle Plemostose, Jared Yurow, Gene Kridler, Michael Furuya, Erin Furuya, Jenny Bitauga, Rudy Bitauga, Eleanor Bitauga, Diane Moses (Board of Water Supply – BWS), Henry Eng (Director, Department of Planning and Permitting – DPP), Louis Erteschik, Nancy Black, John Leary, Eric Apilando, Pek Apilando, Llewellyn Gay, Kelli Monteilh, William Monteilh, Scott Ezer, Rich McCredy, Grant Yashimori, Corky Dillman, Michelle Hill (Behavioral Health Administration Deputy Director, State Department of Health – DOH), Ted Kanemori, Janice Lai, Bruce Lee, Tracy Kaneko, Cheryl Callaham, Darilyn Thomas, Teena Kaneshiro, Alejanra Portillo, Donny Hernandez, Roxanne Leanfo, Pamela Ritchy, Byron Bright, Laura Hall, Bearnie Barendra, Alatasi Alafasi, Jikuu Chun, Hy Kuhn, M. Nei, M.J. Kapahu, Abby Paredes, Jade Paredes, Jackie Fautt, Lou Hepes, Benjamin Naumuu, Joanna Muraoka, Jane Opilando, Franasco Opilando, Earl Maeda, Randolph Kalahiki Jr., Garren Lo, Elwin Spray (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

Welcome – Chair Yanagihara welcomed the community to the meeting and explained that this evening's meeting of the third Thursday of the month was the Kaneohe Neighborhood Board's regular monthly meeting date of the third Thursday, and invited residents to attend future meetings. Thirteen Board members were present (Beatty, DeRego, Flanigan, Friel, Gavigan, Ida, Jefferies, Lum, Morris, Sager, San Nicholas, Yamashiro-Hironaka, Yanagihara).

Filling Of Vacancy – Chair Yanagihara reported that there was one vacancy on the 17-member Kaneohe Neighborhood Board (for the term of June 1, 2007 to May 31, 2009) for Sub-District 2, which he described as generally "Crown Terrace" and referred to Board maps which were on the back sign-in table. 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.

Approval Of July 19, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes – Chair Yanagihara asked for corrections or additions to the minutes, noting submitted requests for corrections:



1. Page 3, under Marine Corps, change aircraft identification to thirteen "F-18s" had arrived.
2. Page 6, under Councilmember, delete reference to a letter sent.
3. Page 6, under Councilmember, delete reference to Acoba following up with Lum.

DeRego moved and San Nicolas seconded to approve the July 19, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes as corrected. Chair Yanagihara announced the motion carried unanimously 13-0-0.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Beatty reported that the Board's Operating/Publicity Account balance was \$3,954.06, with July 2007 expenditures of \$52.94 for printing and postage.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY REPORT:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Battalion Chief James Skellington reported Kaneohe Fire Station activity statistics for the month period ending in July had no major incidents and included eleven total fires (four brush fires, two vehicle fires, and five rubbish fires) and one-hundred-five emergency calls (sixty-seven medical assistance calls, three search-and-rescues, and thirty-five miscellaneous calls). Skellington reported the HFD monthly Fire Safety Tip:

August is in the start of a new school year, be careful while driving near schools and mindful of students crossing the street. Take the time to teach your children how to cross the street safely and remind them to call 911 for emergencies.

Skellington said he would follow up on Lum's request for information (and request for corrective action if warranted) about emergency directional signs (building evacuation maps) required for multi-level buildings. Chair Yanagihara thanked Chief Skellington for his report.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lt. John Cheong circulated copies of the July 2007 incident details statistics and highlighted district wide totals of 1961 calls, reporting lower violence and property crimes, twenty-two graffiti arrests. As a follow-up question last month, he responded that the counterfeiting group that was discussed as operating at the end of June-beginning of July has moved on, with the pattern being nine days maximum here in Hawaii, and said that the lead agency in counterfeiting cases is the US Secret Service. He reported that a call to 911 about abandoned vehicles should have been already acted upon but that he would follow up this evening on an abandoned vehicle reported on William Henry Road (identified as under a mango tree with no plates). Chair Yanagihara noted that a past report format of a single page area summary rather than the detailed every-beat (for the six Kaneohe beats) incident types report with the monthly percentages would be a better report for the Board; Cheong explained that the five page report presented to the Board showed every 911 call but that he would try to secure the other format. Chair Yanagihara thanked Lt. Cheong for his report.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) – Lt. Binford R. Strickland reported continued planning for the Blues on the Bay (scheduled for October 13-14, with school events planned for October 12). He reported that the Blue Angels are now scheduled to actually arrive on October 8 and would be departing on October 15. He reminded the community of free admission to the Base and that information is on the MCBH website at: <http://www.mcbh.usmc.mil/airshow/> or off a special link entitled: <http://www.bluesonthebay.org/> Sager had a concern about helicopter over flights, which he did not say were military but more likely civilian, but asked about prior agreements that military flights would follow the H3 Freeway routes, with Chair Yanagihara saying that there used to be a phone number to report flight concerns. Strickland asked those with concerns to call his office where the concerns would be addressed by the Community Relations Chief Sargent Carter 257-1132. An audience comment offered thanks for bring the Blue Angels and for the sound of freedom. Chair Yanagihara thanked Lt. Strickland for his report.

PUBLIC INPUT & RESIDENTS' CONCERNS – Chair Yanagihara asked if there were residents with items not listed on the agenda. Janice Lai said she would like the City to place a tennis back board at the Kaneohe Park, asking her tennis instructor Bruce Lee to be involved in planning for the project. Lee suggested a hollow tile wall be placed in a grass area with half courts on each side. Chair Yanagihara asked Les Chang, Director of the City's Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (Mayor's Representative to Kaneohe Neighborhood Board) to respond, with Chang reporting that to place a backstop something would have to be taken away and explaining that the experience has been that a hollow tile wall has become a palate for some other people's vision so there will be an asking for help from Lee's tennis class on keeping the site untagged, but that he would take the request back to the park planning section. Chair Yanagihara asked for Lai, Lee and Chang to get together outside of the meeting and come back with a report. 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 on issues from the prior meeting:

- Lilipuna Road pothole (at the drain inlet) had been filled on July 27.
- Lilipuna Road pothole (at the road edge) had been repaired on July 27.
- A wooden guardrail (Kamehameha Highway) had been repaired on July 23.
- Concrete gutter (Kamehameha Highway) repair (by masonry crew) has been scheduled.
- Any cars observed parking on asphalt sidewalks should be called in to 911.
- The Middle Street Intermodal Center will have 700 stalls for park-and-ride and 300 for City operation, with a total of 1000, all of which will be available for park-and-ride when the rapid transit system starts.

Chang also reported on the call in (or log in) Drive Akamai program, demonstrating with his cell phone that by calling 768-3777, information on drive-route construction projects, which would likely cause a motorist to be delayed in travel, could be obtained. He pointed out that many of us are called upon to drive a route or time we don't normally travel and a real 'frustration' savings could be obtained by checking this new City service. Lum reported on a bus station site shown on the Kaneohe town plan and proposed the site be relocated; City Department of Planning and Permitting Henry Eng reported that the plans are not finalized, what they are with a consultant prior to them being reported to the City and that Lum's concerns should directly to the consultant. Jefferies reported a traffic signal timing problem on Kamehameha at William Henry Road; Chair Yanagihara asked for a Mayor's concern form to be filled out and given to Chang, with Chang reporting he would follow up. Chair Yanagihara thanked Chang for his report.

Councilmember Barbara Marshall – Venus Acoba represented Council Chair Marshall's office and distributed a "Councilmember Barbara Marshall's District 3 Report August 2007" which included information about City property tax credits and tax exemptions (filing deadline is October 1, 2007) and a notice of Bellows Beach Park closure August 17-20, 2007. She invited attendance to a community meeting in Waimanalo on August 21 at the Public Library. Chair Yanagihara invited questions to Acoba; there were no questions.

Governor's Representative – Ken Kawahara (Deputy Director for Water Resources, Department of Land and Natural Resources) represented Governor Linda Lingle, distributed a community newsletter, a hurricane preparedness kit, information on school jam (reported that individuals need to plan for the additional traffic), reported that the community should plan on flu shoots (call 211 for information). He reported that the delayed State Department of Transportation Kahekili Highway beautification project was now scheduled to start in late September or early October. He reported following up on Lum's suggestion for use of a Dillingham-area quarry (on State conservation land) as a water source (distributing an aerial photo/map), saying that although Lum understood that it was filled with water year round, the water is actually very minimal when there is low rainfall and additionally, that the site is currently being used by an aqua farm. Chair Yanagihara thanked Kawahara for the report.

Chair Yanagihara noted a number of people present in the audience for the Pahia Road "Abamonga Care Home" issue, including State and City officials prepared to participate with information for the community.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Moses distributed a written report, noting one main break in August and called attention to the need for emergency preparedness in a BWS water tip:

Emergency Preparedness – Don't forget to prepare your hurricane kit. An important component of any kit is having a safe drinking water supply. You should have one gallon of drinking water stored per person per day. A handout with tips on how best to store drinkable water in your house is available for interested persons to review.

New Plant Website – Log on to www.boardofwatersupply.com and click on the Oahu planting guide for information pertaining to the new interactive Xeriscape plant page.

Chair Yanagihara thank Moses for the report.

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

Senator Jill Tokuda – Senator Tokuda circulated her written community report and highlighted that a participation on an interium investigative committee and participation with the University of Hawaii on developing possible proposals for agricultural legislation. She reported recent attendance at the Nation Conference of State Legislatures in Boston, Masseur. She explained that she and Senaotr Hee will tour the State Hospital to investigate worker safety concerns and the concerns of neighborhood safety. Lum asked for Tokuda to give attention to a proposed legislative bill encouraging private-public partnership on transit projects.

Senator Clayton Hee – No representative was present.

Representative Ken Ito – No representative was present.

Representative Pono Chong – No representative was present.

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

Hope Chapel – No representative was present.

Hawaii Pacific University – No representative was present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Pahia Road "Abamonga Care Home" – Chair Yanagihara noted both Kawahara and Chang were present, as well as othe State and City officials, to present information on the Pahia Road "Abamonga Care Home" issue, and invited community conerns:

Criler reported being a resident on Pahia for 30 years, that the development had been sold two years, with the new owners not supposed to change the existing operation, but reporting heavier traffic, other commitments not being met, people walking in and out (the private road), speeding, and saying that some were almost hit. He said a community meeting was held a year ago (April 26, 2006) by the operator, Abby Paredes. He repeated concerns of an older community with young children on roads, contractors speeding, employees speeding, and girls harassing community dogs. He said the type of treatment offered at the home was not known, but reports had been made of its being a drug treatment facility, for sex offenders and that Paredes had said that the residents would not be walking through the roadway, which is now occurring. He said he knows that the building codes were

violated, that the staff claims that they are now the owners of the road, that he has seen papers which say that some permits have been denied, that rubbish is thrown on the road, and that he had talked to Barbara Marshall two weeks ago and is waiting for her to respond to him.

Chair Yanagihara invited Paredes to respond, who said she was the executive director for a state-wide organization with four group homes, with the Kaneohe facility not a treatment center, but a rental site with most of the renters and staff being Windward residents. An audience comment was that an ad run by the organization reports the site as a treatment center. Paredes said that the ad is for the whole organization, not restricted to the Kaneohe site, with the different homes being licensed for different use. She added that the Big Island has a clinic operation as well as three apartments in Kona, repeating that there is no treatment at the Kaneohe site. Chair Yanagihara asked about the meeting being referenced last year, with Paredes saying that there was a meeting, with the original idea had been for a van to be used to shuttle residents around the Kaneohe area, but that since there had been complaints from neighbors, van use had been and residents encouraged to walk to Kaneohe or to the bus. She reported safety meetings with staff about speeding and meetings with visitors about road safety. Chair Yanagihara asked for specifics, with Paredes saying the van is now used only once or twice a week rather than daily. Chair Yanagihara asked if transportation was part of the requirements of the permit, with Paredes saying it was but she believed it could be modified to a lesser number of trips than the permit shows. Chair Yanagihara asked about road ownership, residential program and rubbish concerns, with Paredes saying that the only ownership was of the site, that the home was needed for those who are dual diagnosed (mental or drug/alcohol or only mental), and that the home site is immaculate and that she had not heard of rubbish concerns. Sager asked if residents were assigned to the home by courts, with Paredes saying some were but that the majority were voluntary residents who pay leases and are part of the general community. Morris asked how many current residents there were; Paredes said 39. Sager asked about costs, with Chair Yanagihara saying that the cost was not a relevant issue.

Barenda said that the provision of housing to people with mental illness is protected by fair housing laws. Michelle Hill, the Behavioral Health Administration Deputy Director of the State Department of Health (DOH), reported that one in five suffers from mental illness, that 50,000 people in Hawaii have serious mental illness and 22% of the population has mental issues.

Chair Yanagihara thanked Hill for the information and said that information on who the residents are has not been presented to the Board, either yet at this evening's meeting or at prior meetings. He pointed out that nobody had objected to mental illness issues but were discussing traffic, trash and permits and that the Board and the community were not here to address Hill's issues. Chair Yanagihara asked City employee Criler about building code violations: Criler said he had been told violations existed and Chang pointing out that Criler is a City Parks employee who does not deal with the building code violations. Skip volunteered that grading had been done without permits; Eng reported he was not aware of grading, but that two buildings were demolished without permits which is a penalty of a double permit fee when the new building designs are submitted. Eng responded to Chair Yanagihara that the City DPP is reviewing the current permit, that the van was suggested not required, that the fire is up to code, that sprinklers will be checked, and that the maximum (not required) is 54 residents but that 39 is allowed in the current operation, which might require the new building to increase the size to the 54, based on the State licensing regulations. Jefferies asked about the road, which was said to be a combination of several owners at its start and then to become the Abamonga property, with the need to widen occurring if the additional buildings were constructed; Eng will follow up. Lum asked about water hydrants, with Eng to follow up, although HFD had cleared the fire safety. Bowles asked about the commitment to widen the road; Eng said it would be part of the new building construction. Morris asked about water pressure; Eng said that the original review and water pressure was done 20 years ago. Bowles asked about permit transfer; Eng said the land transfer is a minor act that does not require a public hearing, but that one was required and held 20 years ago when the original plan for the increase to 54 beds from 18 was filed. Chair Yanagihara referenced the Kuilima project was also a twenty year old permit process; Eng said the site was listed

as R-5 for a group living facility. Morris asked about the current permit; Eng said that there was not time limit, that the name can be changed, that minor improvements are allowed and repeated that the permit is being review to see if all the provisions have been met. Chair Yanagihara and Eng discussed that there was not a legal deadline to build out the new project. Skip asked about changing that rule, with Eng explaining that the legislature or City Council could change the law. Cramer asked about the increase in residence within the existing structure, with Eng saying it's still within the zone and permit limits since the owner has shifted the functions within the existing structure, although saying that the current structure maximum might be hit at 46 residents and would probably become a major permit if the intent was to go to 47 within the current structure.

Chair Yanagihara invited Paredes to continue, who made the following points:

- Abamonga would rely on DPP and DOH to review to confirm that 39 residents is correct.
- They wish to mend situation with neighbors and desire to accommodate and co-exist.
- There is no intention of selling the property and have fifty years background as a group home.
- Desire to bring peace to the situation.
- They have national and DOH accreditation.
- They have pride in their residents.

Cramer repeated the question about treatment at the site; Paredes repeated that there was no treatment at the Kaneohe site. Cramer said criteria say it should stay small; Paredes said that criteria are for treatment and that there are no treatments. Chair Yanagihara suggested follow up on traffic, noise and liter issues. Paredes said she wished to start by disturbing a flyer with her contact phone information and hours (orange flyer was distributed) and establishing a neighborhood watch, saying we need to work together. She reported her staff had been spit on, rocks were thrown at staff, that company cars had tires slashed and that HPD had escorted a car after the car had been attacked at its windows. Chair Yanagihara suggested a future meeting to address problems. Erteschik said he was the lawyer for the residents and the issues addressed in the meeting should not have been aired; Chair Yanagihara thanked Erteschik for his opinion. Paredes said that the operation has support from the community, that on one day a petition of neighbors who had been solicited door-to-door accomplished a total of 52 support signatures. Chambers asked for a copy of the petition with Paredes saying the petition was probably not available. Paredes said she had a past community meeting but that it was only for Pahia Road residents. Ditch asked about a possible incident of harm from an Abamonga resident, with Paredes saying that Abamonga would not be responsible and that the same would be true if it were an incident of one of your other neighbors. Chair Yanagihara referred issues to the next meeting.

Kaneohe Regional Council – Sager distributed a written report on issues referred to at the quarterly Kaneohe Regional Council meeting: 1) the DLNR's enforcement divisions is developing a Mauka Makai Program of ahupua'a management 2) gill nets are required to be registered 3) a 23-page draft of Bay use rules is being considered (defining thrill craft and commercial operations) and 4) that touching of Bay live coral is prohibited. Chair Yanagihara asked Sager for his impression of the meeting; Sager said it was generally favorable. Chair Yanagihara thanked Sager for the report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chair Yanagihara announced the next agenda Planning & Committees' Meeting would be September 4 and the next Regular Board Meeting would September 20, 2007.

Flanagan announced that the State Hospital was willing to give a tour to Board members, saying that he would follow up with Board members.

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