



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, SEPTEMBER 20, 2007
WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HALE ALAKA'I BUILDING ROOM 102**

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Yanagihara called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patty Yamashiro – Hironaka, Warren B. Ditch, Jr., Steve Jefferies, Marie Gavigan, Mark Beatty, Felipe San Nocolas, Wendell Lum, Roy Yanagihara, Paul Friel, John Flanigan, L.C. Morris, Kris DeRego, Glenn Ida, Larry Zdvoracek, William Sager.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

MEMBERS' SEATS VACANT – Subdistrict 2 (one seat); Subdistrict 9 (one seat) – There were no interested persons present to fill the vacancies.

GUESTS: R. Scott McCully, J. Corstorphine, Bobby Fernandez and Gary D. Moniz (State Department of Land and Natural Resources); Art Machado, Jr. (KBRC), Andy Jamilla, Jr., David Del Rosario, Allan Cui, Jr., Leslie Miles, Dino Granite, Larry and Teckla Lopez, Brad M, Eric Buchannan, Ken Rakta, Kamakana Kaimu (Senator Jill Tokuda's Office, Joanne Ishiki, Tammy Woods, Ron Kershner, Eileen Kershner, Jay Richard, Darrell Kong, Todd Grupen, Donna Kohls, Ron Kubo, Jerry Jardin, David Kawanakoa, Wayne Saito, Stacy Kawelo, Mike Vachio, Patty Vachio, Billie M. Akima, C. Dalton Bower, Kauanoa Coelho, Tarita Coelho, Halena Tanner, Thomas Hawn, Allen Hee, Les Chang (Mayor's Office/Department of Parks and Recreation), Scott Ishikawa (Governor's Representative/State Department of Transportation), Kaimakana Kaimu (Senator Jill Tokuda's Office), K. Inouye, Representative Colleen Meyer, Michael Chung, Sandra Kalahiki, Melia Kima, Venus Acoba (Councilmember Barbara Marshall's Office), Lt. John. Cheong (Honolulu Police Department, Kaneohe-District 4), Firefighter 3 Darryl Kong (Honolulu Fire Department – Kaneohe), Nola Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office staff (approximately twenty other guests that did not sign the guest list).

Welcome – Chair Yanagihara welcomed the community to the meeting and explained although the Kaneohe Bay Sandbar is not an agenda item this evening, guests would be able to give input under the Public Input & Residents' Concern agenda item with each person having a three minute time limit. He asked that written testimonies be submitted to the Board.

FILLING OF VACANCIES – Chair Yanagihara reported that there was one vacancy in Sub district 2 and one in Sub district 9, and asked for volunteers or nominations, noting that there were no interested persons present to fill the vacancies, deferred action on the vacancies to the next meeting. Maps of the Board's districts were available for interested persons to review.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 16, 2007 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DeRego moved seconded by Beatty to accept the regular meeting minutes of August 16, 2007 as circulated. The motion carried unanimously, 15-0-0.



APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA PLANNING AND COMMITTEES' MEETING MINUTES – Flanigan moved seconded by Beatty accepting the minutes of the agenda planning and committees' meeting as circulated. The motion carried unanimously, 15-0-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Beatty reported expenditures in the Operating/Publicity Account were \$41.56 leaving a balance of \$3,912.50; no expenditures in the Refreshment Account leaving the balance at \$120.00. Beatty was thanked for his report.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY REPORT:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Firefighter 3 Darrell Kong reported:

- Statistics for the month of August included 1 structure, 5, brush, 102 medical, 6 search/rescue, and 20 miscellaneous response calls. There were no major or unusual incidents.
- The National Fire Protection Association has selected “Practice Your Escape Plan” as the theme for Fire Prevention Week, which will be October 7-13, 2007. Signs will be displayed at all fire stations, and demonstrations will be conducted at various schools and shopping centers around the island. The 2007 Fire Fighter's Safety Guide will be distributed to all elementary schools.
- The Honolulu Fire Department would like to take this opportunity to remind the community that the provisions of the traffic code regulating the operation, parking, and standing vehicles does not apply to emergency vehicles responding to emergencies, provided the driver of the vehicle sounds a siren, bell, or exhaust whistle and displays a lighted red lamp. These warning devices help to ensure the safety of the public as well as the safety of the emergency responder. Please refer to the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Traffic Code, Section 15-4.4, located at http://www.honolulu.gov/refs/roh/15a1_9.htm.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

Lum mentioned he has not received a response to a previous concern regarding if signage indicating exits is required to be posted in standard or residential high-rises. Kong replied that an escape plan is not a requirement. However, it is required to have signs posted on the bottom floor. Lum added that the Mountain View condominiums have signs posted only on the upper floors. He asked if there is a difference between commercial and residential. The response was to contact the Education Branch Prevention Bureau for clarification. Kong emphasized that all concerns should be referred to Fire Prevention Bureau. Chair Yanagihara thanked Kong for his report.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lt. John Cheong circulated the August statistics and noted: Statistics included robbery 3, aggravated assault 5, burglary 58, thefts 143, UEMV (unauthorized entry into motor vehicle) 95, auto thefts 31, totaling 343 for the month. Two rape cases were reported but are not related in any manner.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Sager commented that there are over 1,000 dog bites yearly and asked what authority does HPD have relative to dangerous animals. He also wanted information on the Weed & Seed Program, noting that the seed portion of the program would benefit the community for economic development. In response, a dangerous dog case would be initiated, the Hawaiian Humane Society informed, and a citation issued to the dog owner. Lt. Cheong would request Maile Kanemaru from Weed & Seed to attend the next Board meeting.

2. In response to Beatty regarding staffing, Cheong replied that not enough money is spent on recruiting and that the City Council sets the budget. He believes manpower is sufficient and they are not understaffed. Officers' are well trained, good equipment; and have no qualms that officers' on the streets are qualified.
3. If an emergency occurs, such as a heart attack, call 911. Relative to defibrillators, due to the cost, there is one at each station, but not all patrol cars have them.
4. Follow up regarding an abandoned vehicle, four citations were issues and is no longer at that location.
5. Sager inquired per testimony given last year regarding retirement and adequate staffing problems, is the problem resolved. Lt. Cheong answered that ten percent of the force are eligible for retirement and ten percent of officers are on active duty (deployed). However, recruitment classes are ongoing.
6. In answer to Chair Yanagihara, in District 4 there are six officers out due to military service out of 140 core officers, who retain their position with the City.
7. Flanigan asked if there any information about the Marines hiring and training civilians for police work on base. No information was available at this time.
8. Relative to the statistics, Ditch asked if it is average for this community. The response was that the averages are very low.

Chair Yanagihara thanked Lt. Cheong for his report.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) – Lt. Binford Strickland reported:

- This Friday the POWMIA is hosting
- Gomer Pyle aka Jim Nabors will be promoted to Corporal on September 25, 2007 at Fort DeRussy.
- Follow up will be regarding the possibility of civilians converted for police work on base.
- Blue Angels Air Show, MCBH, October 13 and 14.

Questions, answers and comments followed: 1) Chair Yanagihara commented that Air Force's ThunderBirds just did an air show in Waikiki and that the Blue Angels will be here in October. 2) Regarding restrictions for the Blue Angels show, there will be a five-hundred foot barrier around the base. Information will be announced via the public news and posted on the web at www.mcbh.usmc.mil/airshow.

Chair Yanagihara thanked Strickland for his report.

PUBLIC INPUT & RESIDENTS' CONCERNS:

Kaneohe Annual Christmas Parade – Art Machado announced he is seeking support for the 45th Annual Kaneohe Christmas Parade, which is scheduled for December 1. Grand Marshall this year is Guy Miyamoto. At a meeting with Mayor Hannemann it was mentioned that he would like to have a Windward City Lights. Chair Yanagihara thanked Art Machado for his announcement.

Kaneohe Bay Sandbar – Chair Yanagihara reiterated, though not an agenda item this anyone wishing to share their concerns may do so. Everyone was reminded of the three-minute time limit per speaker.

Discussion Followed:

Representative Colleen Meyer – Circulated here written report and noted: As a member of the House Finance Committee she traveled to the big island to visit and be briefed on problems created by the earthquake last year The Task force is planning to have additional public meetings b) The Sustainable Task Force will present its draft document to the public on Saturday, September 22, at the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Summit, Hilton Hawaiian Village. Regarding the sandbar, she said that as a resident of the bay, she enjoys spending time at the sandbar.

Chair Yanagihara mentioned that the sand bar (Ahu o Laka) incident in 2005 was discussed at a Kaneohe Bay Regional Council meeting where regulations were discussed, with the Department of Land and Natural Resources backing down from passing new regulations. He asked if there are currently any changes to the rules and regulations. Representative Meyer responded that there is DOCARE (Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement) presence on the weekends. Relating to the incident this past Labor Day weekend, approximately 250 people were on the sandbar and surprised that no arrests were made by the DOCARE officers. She heard that the people involved were not from the Windward side.

In response to Chair Yanagihara if the Representative is planning to propose legislation relative to the sandbar, the answer was no.

Chair Yanagihara reiterated that although not an agenda item and several news announcements were made, the item will be discussed. He asked the Board and guests what steps should be taken so as not to have this kind of incident repeat itself. Several guests replied to have the DOCARE officers walk the sandbar.

Chair Yanagihara commented being there were no arrests or complainant, what position should the Board take. Representative Meyers answered that she can't speak for the Board, but a bill was proposed by Senator Hee for Ahu o Laka, would restrict use of the sandbar. The decision was made by the legislature and passed the bill. She emphasized public forum on the issue. Chair Yanagihara added, he understands the bill passed last year, but the wording changed along the way. In answer, that bill gave DLNR a great deal of power such as restricting loud music and drinking of alcoholic beverages. There are no straight answers. Chair Yanagihara noted did the bill not direct the chair for DLNR to change the regulations. Representative Meyers replied that Governor Lingle vetoed the bill, because it felt like over reaction. Chair asked if she agreed with the Governor; the answer was yes. She did attend one or two concerts at the sandbar and enjoyed them. It takes one or two bad situation to spoil it for everyone else.

DOCARE has the power to handcuff and arrest at the sandbar and piers.

Chair Yanagihara introduce Gary Moniz, Division Chief of DLNR's Law Enforcement's Branch, and asked if the incident could have been eluded on Labor Day. Moniz replied they are here to listen and learn from the residents. He was unable to discuss the incident at this time. It is not uncommon for a few to spoil it for others.

Ahu o Laka is not segregated for incidents, which also occur at the boat ramp. In most case, no one wants to be a witness.

Chair asked if the incident was unrestricted alcohol consumption. He noted if alcohol plays a part in the incident and asked if any citations for intoxication issued. The response was that the department is currently focusing on the minors drinking alcohol.

Does Hawaii law permit consuming of alcoholic beverages while operating a boat?

DOCARE officers are assigned not only to the sandbar, but to Koolaupoko including the bay. Manpower is not sufficient to cover all day activities. Representative Meyers said she saw two Zodiac type crafts moving around in the area.

If a boater has a concern regarding behavior they should call 911. The police would respond and contact DOCARE if the boat is in the water.

Flanigan asked if the solution is more staffing. Moniz answered that manpower is always an issue. However, staff will increase in November. Individuals must also take responsibility.

Sager questioned what would need to be done for a quicker response from officers. He noted with the increase of people at the sandbar, enforcement is the key. Moniz replied they are here to address community issues, and there are not enough officers to staff Ahu o Laka full time.

In answer to Beatty, DOCARE has a few vacancies. The areas patrolled by the officers are from Makapu'u to the North Shore. The question is behavior and people being responsible.

In response to Ditch regarding Labor Day incident, six officers were in the area and response was quickly and victims transported to shore. However, officer must prove who was the perpetrator and in most incidents witnesses will not come forward. Pertaining to prevention, DOCARE alone cannot prevent incidents and must look at the community for assistance. Almost all incidents are alcohol consumption related.

DOCARE did plan for the Labor Day crowd, but must take care of the entire coast.

Art Machado explained that a year ago there were only three officers patrolling the area, and feels that is insufficient. As a member of KBRC he checked the budget and on \$1 million, which is not enough. He noted there is no one in the office to take care of the calls. The Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board tried to get a DOCARE office at Heeia State Park, but two months ago the building was turned over to the Kaneohe Canoe Club. He stated what is more important, without people nothing will happen.

Sandra Kalahiki mentioned that changes to the Ahu o Laka bill were concerts, that caused major problems, and there have been no concerts at the sandbar since the bill. She suggested a meeting with hooponopono involving those who utilize the sandbar; and have the legislature provide education. She thinks that the Labor Day incident was blown out of proportion. She noted that she is a member of the Kaneohe Canoe Club. Chair Yanagihara noted that the Board is here to listen to the community concerns. Kalahiki stated rather than policing the area the officer should walk the shore and sandbar; visible presence might make a big difference. People using the sandbar do self policing, there is a sandbar etiquette, which is not organized and followed by everyone. The amount of people using the sandbar has grown with an increase of "outsiders", who are welcomed, but respect must be shown. Chair Yanagihara said that HPD has a Neighborhood Security Watch (NSW) program, which could help with self policing. He asked Moniz to work with Kalahiki on self policing of the sandbar.

Lum noted being that the MCBH are neighbors, could they be of assistance. MCBH will be contacted and have been helpful to DLNR.

Sager asked Moniz what happened to the volunteer enforcement program from a year ago and the status, and is it effective. Moniz replied DLNR does have a volunteer program and viable. Volunteers are not paid and it is a major commitment. The department is looking for a multi-faceted solution.

In like manner, Andrew Jamilla of Waimanalo stated that a recreation designation area is needed and he is fifth generation of his family enjoying the sandbar. He has witnessed concerts and fights all alcohol related; and an altercation at the boat ramp due someone cutting in line to launch their boat. He asked that the sandbar not be closed per Senator Hee's legislation. Officers' presence would help. Jamilla added that Waimanalo people love the sandbar, too and would like to be included in the planning to resolve the issues.

As an avid boater, David Del Rosario commented that he is at the sandbar every weekend and raised concern about the safety of the people who attend the sandbar. There is an increase of users and alcohol consumption and suggested more enforcement is the answer. DLNR's presence calmed the situation down, which without them being there matter could have gotten serious. They are doing a good job and the community has to work together. However, mere DLNR presence is a deterrent.

Michael Chung, an HFD firefighter with the rescue boats, commented that DLNR officers have powers as an HPD officer and is permitted to carry a gun. He explained that Coast Guard will not jump into the water unless there is rescue swimmer on board. Kaneohe Bay is unique and would hate to see it shut down. More officers are needed particularly on long weekends, but he understands that more funding is also needed. Chung noted that self policing would not work and suggest one more officer from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and another officer assigned to the ramp, especially on holidays and long weekends.

Stacy Kawelo, on behalf of her children stated that the sandbar should be closed.

Beatty mentioned that he understands there is no consumption of alcoholic beverages in public parks and asked what if there was legislation prohibiting alcohol on boats, how would affect the sandbar users. A response was that most people have one or two cocktails and drink responsibly. Per an intoxication law, the captain of the boat should no consume alcohol.

Morris asked an audience member if alcohol was banned from the sandbar would you still go there. She replied that she would probably put her alcohol in a red paper cup.

A member of the audience was heartbroken after the Labor Day incident, and noted that she noticed it was the same crowd who caused problems at concert previously held at the sandbar. She explained that the concert was not the problem but intoxication at the end of the day. It was suggested that DLNR officer be at the sandbar around 4 p.m. to handle intoxication and the sandbar and bay. She stated why boat owners can't take responsibility for the actions of their guests. She suggested that a committee be formed to work on solutions.

An audience member relayed that educating the boaters is important. Also, there is no signage at the pier where the waiting zones for launches one's boat. Many boaters will not tolerate others cutting in line.

Melia Kima commented that when "outsiders" were at the sandbar on Labor Day that ruined things for others. She emphasized that the registered boat owner is responsible for other on the boat. Her example was that as a registered boat owner she is responsible things going on besides alcohol drinking. Kima suggested requiring boating regulation classes for boaters prior to getting their operator's license; she added that other states have an operator's licensing test.

Chair Yanagihara asked Moniz if there are current laws requiring boat operations as they do for jet-skis. In response, few states require classes, but Hawaii does not.

Kelvin Ching, former KBRC fishing representative encouraged all to read the Kaneohe Master Plan that was established in the late 1980's, but never implemented. At previously held hearings all agreed that more enforcement be provided, which is the same problem today. He suggested seeking ways to help such as assisting the officers with badges, boaters' education, and Coast Guard auxiliary course with a fee for the classes. Ching noted the problem with a specifically national monument is that it gives more power to DLNR and more restrictions on the fishermen and community; an example given was the North/West Islands and the banning of fishing. If one are is closed more people will congregate at the open areas.

Regarding concerts at the sandbar, K. Inouye commented that two years ago the concerts were well organized and planned, and a publicized community event, not for profit. A big brawl broke out at one concert and ruined it for the other attendees. She emphasized that no alcohol was sold, trash bags distributed and trash picked up. Inouye she was approached at one concert and told that no amplified music was permitted and if it occurred they would need to apply for a permit. Regarding the Labor Day incident, a few people caused trouble, but DLNR tended to the injured rather than make arrests. She agreed with officer presence and walking the sandbar.

In response to posting officers on shore, Moniz reiterated the staff shortage and those officers' cannot be everywhere.

Ditch asked if the size of an activity would require increase manpower. Moniz replied that officers have other area besides Ahu o Laka to focus on. Yes, there are problems with intoxicated people at boat ramps island wide. Moniz offered to be placed on the Board's October agenda. Chair Yanagihara replied he is not committing, but would bring the request up at the next committee meeting. He asked that the list of concerns be taken back and work on finding solutions.

Chair Yanagihara thanked everyone for their testimony and called a ten minute recess 8:50 p.m.

9:00 p.m. the agenda order resumed.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS:

Mayor's Representative – Les Chang, representing the Mayor, commended the Board for their patience listening to the sandbar issue, and reported:

- Mayor's Energy & Sustainability Task Force objectives are: a) examine current technology and improve existing practices to make the City more energy efficient and sustainable; b) identify new technologies and practices that can be used to improve City operations by maximizing energy efficiency, reducing waste and protecting the environment; c) adhere to the Mayor's vision of the 21st Century Ahupu'a and its driving principles; d) align with the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Climate Control Agreement of 2004 advocating the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; e) develop a 10-year plan with goals and benchmarks in the areas of energy conservation.
- Because of the importance of working with youth, Mayor has initiated a youth board to work together and gather ideas.
- The 3rd Annual Discover Recycling Fair, September 20-22, Neal S. Blaisdell Arena, free admission to the public.

- Mililani and Hawaii Kai residents will participate in the pilot curbside recycling program.
- Regarding timing of traffic lights at William Henry Road and Kamehameha Highway, the Department of Transportation Services checked the signals and adjusted the timing. The sensors on the roadway have failed and the signal is working on fixed time. The Department is preparing a contract to replace the failed sensors by the end of the year.
- Regarding bulky trash pickup on Paleka Road between Kamehameha Highway and Kahekili Road, the bulky item collection for this area is scheduled every first Wednesday of the month. One of the employees passes this area frequently and noticed that the residents had set out their bulky items at curbside soon after the bulky collection is completed for the area. The homeowners will be notified on the proper time to set out their bulky items.
- The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is aware of the community's desire for new practice courts and backboard at Kaneohe District Park. However, this project has not been identified as a priority in DPR's six-year Capital Budget.
- Regarding Po`ailani Community Housing Program report, on August 21, 2007 site investigation by the Department of Planning and Permitting Civil Engineer Branch revealed no evidence of recent grading activity at 45-567 Pahia Road. There are also no DPP records on file of recent grading permits or grading permit applications for this property, HFD has confirmed adequacy of water pressure/fire safety equipment, including sprinklers. Current occupancy is 39 residents.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Sager requested multi use safe bike paths on Kaneohe Bay Drive, Keana Road, and Miha Street.
2. Lum reported tree branches rubbing on the street lights on the corner of Lilipuna Road and Kamehameha Highway near the Castle Professional Center. The response was if the branches are in the power lines call HECO and they will trim the branches.
3. In answer to Lum regarding lack of parking in the Zoo's parking lot, that is a high use area and parking in Waikiki is a problem. However, the parking lot is not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation. The Kapiolani Park trustees are the City Council.
 1. In reply to Ditch regarding the pilot curbside recycling and in Mililani an optional \$10 fee for an extra trash pickup day. Currently everyone has two trash pickup days, adding the recyclable day would add expense to the in-house crews. Per Councilmember Djou, the City should have once a week trash pickup for everyone. Trash pickup for the pilot project in Hawaii Kai would be once a week and alternate other days for recycling. But Mililani will have the option during this pilot for a second opala pickup for an additional \$10.00 per month. A study would then be done.
 2. Regarding the Po`ailani Care facility, based on the existing permit they are allowed up to 54 beds. Morris added that the permit went with the sale.
 3. Sager relayed that the Koolaupoko Sustainability Plan is up for the five-year review in October. Chang replied the Mayor's program is broad based. Sager requested a Board committee to look in depth into the plan.

Chair Yanagihara thanked Chang for his report.

Council Chair Barbara Marshall – Venus Acoba distributed the written report and noted that forms were available for those wanting to apply for the real propertycounty tax credit and home exemptions. She emphasized that the deadline is October 1, 2007.

Governor’s Representative – Scott Ishikawa reported: 1) the Likelike Highway project is completed. 2) Funding has been released for the Kahekili Beautification, with work to start in November. Chang said that he would get the schematics for the beautification where trees will be planted. 3) Follow up will be done regarding the Kailani Subdivision. Chair Yanagihara thanked Ishikawa for his report.

U.S. Representative Maizie Hirono – There was no representative present.

Senator Jill Tokuda – Kamakana Kaimu circulated her written report and announced: 1) the Castle High School’s Homecoming this weekend. 2) The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Summit, Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa’s Coral Ballroom, Saturday, September 22, 2007 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Senator Clayton Hee – There was no representative present.

Representative Ken Ito – There was no representative present.

Representative Pono Chong – There was no representative present.

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

Hope Chapel – There was no representative present.

Hawaii Pacific University - There was no representative present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS:

Graffiti Prevention Presentation – Deferred until the October meeting.

Ko’olaupoko Sustainable Communities Plan Review – Deferred until the October meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Legislative:

State Legislature Committee – DeRego circulated his written report.

There were no other Committee Reports.

ADJOURNMENT – Without objections, Chair Yanagihara adjourned the meeting at 9:29 p.m.

Submitted by, Nola Frank, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by, Roy Yanagihara, Chair