



KAIMUKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 4

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

DRAFT ~ MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2011
QUEEN LILIUOKALANI ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Tam called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. **with a quorum of nine (9) members present.** NOTE - This 11-member Board requires six (6) members to establish quorum and take official Board action.

Members Present: John Cater, Abigail Leong (arrived 7:23 p.m.), Ginny Meade, John Perez, Lyle Bullock, Sharon Schneider, Leonard Tam, Vernon Tam, and Paul Hoe.

Members Absent: Lori Yamada and Daniel Carvalho.

Vacancies: There are no vacancies

Guests: Acting Captain Kani Dougan (Honolulu Fire Department), Acting Lieutenant S Medeiros and Officer Mark Mitchell (Honolulu Police Department), Councilmember Ann Kobayashi and Karen Yorimoto (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's Office staff), Councilmember Stanley Chang and Steve Uyeno (Councilmember Stanley Chang's Office staff), Senator Les Ihara Jr., Joan Shinn (Representative Barbara Marumoto's Office staff), Leon Kau, Catherine Hughes, Lydia Chock (Leahi), Machael Palcic Gordon Tam, Julia Allen, Elwood, Tom Moore, and Aisha Wang (Neighborhood Commission Office staff)."

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): District 7 reported the following:

- **April 2011 Statistics:** Included 29 burglaries, 1 robbery, 35 thefts, 37 unauthorized entry into motorized vehicles (UEMV).
- **Safety Tips for April 2011:** HPD wants the community to be aware that school will be out soon and with that, a higher number of crimes. So be aware of suspicious youth or children in the area. As always be aware of scams that occur, especially auto scams usually occurring in shopping center parking lots. You will be approached by a stranger who accuses you of hitting their vehicle. They will then show you damages on their car and will tell you that your vehicle caused the damage. After showing the damage the stranger will demand that you pay cash for the repair costs. Call 911 and report the incident so that it is properly logged and let the insurance companies work out the details.

Questions, comments and concerns that followed:

1. **Park Bathrooms:** A question was raised as to whether HPD can survey the area after 9 p.m. when the bathrooms are locked because there have been vagrants loitering around. This was noted and HPD requested that if vagrants are seen, call 911.
2. **Roosters Crowing:** A question as to how to handle crowing roosters was raised. A board member stated that there is a law that roosters cannot be kept in residential areas. HPD responded that crowing roosters should be handled just like barking dogs and residents should call 911.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Acting Captain Kani Dougan reported the following:

- **April 2011 Statistics:** Included 3 structure fires, 92 medical response calls, and 34 miscellaneous calls.
- **Fire Safety Tips:** The HFD investigates reports of smoke to determine if a fire exists. While some fires are authorized under county and state regulations, most are unauthorized. When the HFD encounters



an unauthorized fire, the Fire Captain will request that the fire be extinguished. If the fire is authorized, the Captain must determine if it is being done safely, properly contained, and not a nuisance to others.

A. Unauthorized Fires:

1. Bonfires on public beaches.
2. Burning of household refuse.
3. Burning of yard waste.

B. Authorized Fires

The following fires are authorized when conducted safely and contained properly:

1. Cooking fires, including barbeques, grills, or imu.
2. Fires used to heat bath water.

C. Safe and Proper Conditions for Cooking of Heating Fires.

1. The location is away from combustible materials, such as a structure or vegetation.
2. A garden hose or fire extinguisher should be readily available.
3. A responsible person who knows how to control the fire should be present until the fire is extinguished.
4. Avoid unsuitable weather conditions, such as strong winds or dry weather conditions, which could cause the fire to spread.

Even an authorized fire can become a nuisance if the smoke inconveniences others. You may be asked to move or extinguish the fire if complaints are received by the fire department. If you are making an imu, plan ahead and inform your neighbors so they know what to expect. Call the HFD's Fire Communications Center at 523-4411 at least 10 minutes, but not more than 20, prior to igniting the imu.

Questions, comments and concerns that followed:

1. Propane Tanks: A question was raised as to whether there was a law that restricts the number of propane tanks allowed on a property. HFD will respond at a later time.
2. Firework Permit: It was asked as to where permits for fireworks can be obtained and HPD responded that interested persons should call Administrative Services Bureau at 723-7112 for more details.

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

- Water Main Breaks: None were reported in the area for the month of April.
- Water Storage and Pump Maintenance: Heller reported that source pumps and booster pumps and reservoirs play a crucial role in water delivery to BWS customers. Each day, source pumps draw an average of 150 million gallons per day (MGD) to meet Oahu's water needs. Booster pumps then push water long distance or to higher elevations to our reservoirs which store water for future use.

The BWS has a total of nearly 400 source and booster pumping units, as well as 170 potable reservoirs that can store a total of 182 MGD. If pump failures occur, it can impact water customers for significantly long periods of time. Likewise, regular reservoir maintenance is required to ensure the safety of our water supply.

In addition to systematically maintaining nearly 2,100 miles of pipeline on Oahu, the BWS must also preserve these valuable assets as well. For more information about Oahu's water system, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com

Questions, comments and concerns that followed:

1. Sewage Rates: There was a lengthy discussion where Director of Environmental Services, Tim Steinberger was asked to explain why the rates were increasing so rapidly when properties were utilizing water catchment systems. Steinberger suggested going on to the website at www.env.org to find out more about the increasing sewage rates.
2. Wilhemina Rise Damage: A resident wanted to make BWS aware that after work was done, the road was damaged. BWS followed up on the report and found no damage and that the project was no longer under warranty.

PUBLIC INPUT AND CONCERNS: (Limited to 3 minutes each)

- Maunalani: Residents are forming a neighborhood security watch and the initial meeting was attended by over 100 members.
- Reapportionment: A representative from the Oahu Reapportionment Advisory Council spoke on behalf of his organization that would be involved in the reapportionment project. He announced that there would be a public meeting held on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 1:00 p.m at the State Capital.

Old Business:

Update on Traffic Light at Harding and 12th Avenues: Adrian Chang of the Department of Design and Construction reported that the traffic analysis was nearly complete. Once that is done, work can begin on the traffic light at Harding and 12th Avenue.

Update on Left Hand Turning Lanes at Harding Avenue Intersections at 5th and 11th Avenues: Due to the lack of new information, the issue was deferred until a later date.

Queen Lili'uokalani School Closure: There was a great deal of discussion as to whether the meeting place would be available for the June meeting of the board because the cafeteria is reportedly going to be used for storage beginning June 13th. The most concrete information is that the school will officially close on June 30, 2011 and a farewell luncheon was held earlier today where Chair Tam was given mixed messages about the use of the cafeteria.

Alternate Board Meeting Site to be Considered. Queen Lili'uokalani Cafetorium may be Unavailable after June 30, 2011: There are three alternate sites that are being considered for the meeting location of the Kaimuki neighborhood board - Kaimuki Public Library, Kaimuki Christian Church, Liholiho Elementary School. Kaimuki Christian Church has extended its welcome to the neighborhood board, and a tentative facility use agreement signed with Liholiho Elementary School.

There was discussion as to the pros and cons of the possible meeting sites, however, no decision was reached.

NEW BUSINESS:

Liquor License Application No. 1605 (Restaurant General, Category No. 2) – Pohaku Restaurant, LLC, 3605 Waiālae Avenue (makai side of Waiālae Avenue, mid-block between 12th and Koko Head Avenues: After a short discussion about the details of the liquor license location and other aspects, it was agreed upon that because this establishment was near other businesses that held liquor licenses, it wouldn't be a problem to grant them a liquor license.

A motion was made by Board member Cater to grant the liquor license to Pohaku Restaurant. The motion was not seconded and failed, therefore, no discussion continued on the matter.

Community Noise Variance Application for the Rehabilitation of Waiālae Avenue, Between Kapahulu Avenue and 13th Avenue: A short presentation was made by the company that was in charge of rehabilitation of Waiālae Avenue. The presenter explained that many of the areas contained an asphalt concrete overlay which over time begins to crack. The project would begin in late 2011 and continue for a year.

They are aware of the many seasonal activities that are held in Kaimuki as well as the construction that is occurring at the same time on the freeway near Kaimuki.

Third Absence to be Discussed: Board Member Abigail Leong spoke in her defense for the three absences and stated that she wished to remain on the board. There was no objection to allowing her to remain on the board and Chair Tam made it known that it was an administrative practice set by the Neighborhood Plan which required that this matter be addressed for any board member that missed three meetings within a term, given the difficulty that many neighborhood boards have in meeting quorum requirements.

Elected Officials or their representatives: (Limited to 3 minutes each)

Mayor Peter Carlisle's Representative: Director Tim Steinberger reported the following:

- Apology for Non Attendance: Steinberger apologized for not attending the previous neighborhood board meeting because he was attending the City Council Budget hearing. "No
- Sewer Bill Charges: Steinberger explained that sewer bills increase because it costs more to handle a customer's wastewater than delivering potable water.
- Executive Secretary: The newly appointed Executive Secretary of the Neighborhood Commission Office is J. Thomas Heinrich who assumed the position on April 1, 2011.

Questions, comments and concerns that followed:

1. Gray Water Usage: There was a question as to the use of gray water as a solution to the high sewer rates and the answer was that the Department of Planning and Permitting needs to issue permit for this solution.
2. 16th Avenue Repairs: The issue was raised that repairs were done on 16th Avenue last month, however, after the Department of Facilities Maintenance checked, more repairs were found necessary on the 1200 block of 16th Avenue. Steinberger will follow-up with this item.

City Councilmember Ann Kobayashi: Councilmember Kobayashi made her newsletter available and reported the following:

- Homeless Problem: The Councilmember is struggling with the issue of finding suitable sites to offer to homeless as a means for them to get back onto their feet.
- Budget: Kobayashi warned that with the budget being strapped for money, the public should be prepared for a lot of fee increases and additional fees to cover the shortfall.
- Rail Project: She reiterated her concern with the poor planning and her foreseeing that there would be no funds to support the completion of the rail project.

Questions, comments and concerns that followed:

1. Other Options: The question was asked if other options were looked at rather than raising the parking fees for places like Ala Moana Beach Park and Aala Park. Councilmember Kobayashi said that these places were the last places that were free where families could go and spend time together.
2. High Rises: It was asked if the examples of New York and Chicago's use of abandoned high rises considered as a solution to the problem of the homeless.

City Councilmember Stanley Chang: Councilmember Chang made his newsletter available and reported highlighted similar items to Kobayashi such as the budget, potential parking fees and bonds for the rail project. He also made note of the push for a gas cap and redistricting of the city and rerouting of a bus stop at the corner of Mahina Street and 13th Avenue.

State Senator Les Ihara: Senator Ihara made his newsletter available stressed that although it was a busy session, he felt that three issues were worth mentioning; new state employees reduced pension, big corporation board members making profit and reapportionment leading the diversity of ideas.

State Representative Calvin K.Y. Say: Senator Say made his newsletter available and gave highlights from it.

State Representative Barbara Marumoto: Representative Marumoto stood on her report and made herself available for any questions.

State Representative Scott Nishimoto: Was not present; no report was available.

State Representative Mark Hashem: Was not present; no report was available.

Approval of Minutes of APRIL 20, 2011 regular meeting minutes: A motion to approve the REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2011 was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 9-0-0 (Aye: Cater, Leong, Meade, Perez, Bullock, Schneider, L. Tam, V. Tam, and Hoe.)

Treasurer's Report: With the absence of Treasurer Yamada, Chair Tam read the budget for the month of April 2011. He reported that there was a total of \$1,025.90 at the beginning of the month with operating expenditures of \$199.36 throughout the month and no publicity expenses. Leaving a balance of \$974.83 for the month of April. The report was filed.

Announcements:

The next meeting of the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board will be June 15, 2011, 7:15 p.m. to 9:00 pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Submitted by Aisha Wang
Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by; Vernon Tam
Chair