



DIAMOND HEAD/KAPAHULU/ST. LOUIS HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 5

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 10, 2006 ALA WAI GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Ah Mai called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Ah Mai, Bert Narita, Wayne Gau, Sharon Dumas, Barbara Miller, Rick Egged, George Waialeale, Bertha Nahoopii, Joe Otto, Linda Wong, Michelle Matson, Roxie Berlin, Don Persons, Jay Harden.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kenneth Chang.

GUESTS: Arthur Aiu (Board of Water Supply), Lt. D. Chun, Sgt. R. Hamasaki (HPD-District 6 Waikiki), Capt. R. Green, Lt. A. DeLima, Sgt. K. Ciparro, Officer D. Oshiro, Officer W. Scott (HPD-District 7 East Honolulu), Robert M., Stan Fichtman (Councilmember Charles Djou, Councilmember Charles Djou, Daisy Murai, Pat Lee and Jim Lyons (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Julia Allen, Capt. Keith Nananelua (HFD-Waikiki Station), Rene Julian, Jan Bappe, Walea Constantinau (Mayor's Office), Representative Calvin Say, Senator Les Ihara, P. Notto, Jim Manke and Wayne Iwaoka (University of Hawaii), Dean Chu (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT – Capt. Nakanelua, from the Waikiki Station, reported the following:

1. Last month the station responded to 7 structure, 5 brush, 5 rubbish, and 1 vehicle fire; 8 alarm activations, 130 medical emergencies, 2 search and rescue, and 3 miscellaneous calls. There was one major incident, a structure fire at 2427 Kapiolani Boulevard.
2. The Safety Tip of the Month: August is the start of a new school year. Be careful while driving near schools and be aware 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.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. The cause of the Kapiolani Boulevard fire was electrical.
2. It was suggested the department time their responses now and compare them to later when the Safeway store is completed to see if there is any impact on response times. Capt. Nakanelua noted that they do keep a record of response times, and will pass the suggestion on to his commanders.
3. Alarm activations include system malfunctions and maliciously activated alarms. The Waikiki Station has seen a decrease in the number of system malfunctions over the past five to ten years.

Capt. Nakanelua was thanked for attending the meeting.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT – Lt. Chun, from District 6 – Waikiki, reported the following:

1. Statistics for July included: no robberies, 3 burglaries, 25 thefts, 6 motor vehicle thefts, 3 criminal property damage, 26 liquor law violations, 20 motor vehicle collisions, 15 arguments/family-non family, 10 unauthorized entry into motor vehicles.



2. There were 29 illegal camping citations issued at the Waikiki Shell and Diamond Head Tennis Center, 59 illegal camping citations in Kapiolani Park, 5 open lewdness, and 3 alcohol violations at the Waikiki Shell and 34 in Kapiolani Park.

Lt. DeLima, from District 7 – East Honolulu, reported the following:

1. The written report distributed earlier includes: a) statistics for patrol beats in this area, b) statistics from the Narcotics/Vice Division that include receipt of nine new complaints – two each from the McCully, Kapahulu, Waialae, Hawaii Kai areas and one from the Palolo area, and the closing of three complaints – two from the Palolo area and one from the Waialae area. Also, there were no new or closed morals complaints, and no new or closed gambling complaints.
2. The written report also includes a brochure on “Protect Yourself From Telephone Fraud.”
3. The All Terrain Vehicle Patrol that covers the area between Diamond Head and Makapuu, made citations for 43 liquor law violations, 1 illegal camping, 2 open lewdness, 1 fireworks violation, 1 dog in the park, and 127 traffic violations.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

Large quantities of beer and liquor bottles are being found along the stream behind Kaimuki High School where tour company vans are parked. The illegal drinking activity is believed to be occurring at night. Follow up will be done.

Lt. D. Chun, Sgt. R. Hamasaki, Capt. R. Green, Lt. A. DeLima, Sgt. K. Ciparro, Officer D. Oshiro, and Officer W. Scott were thanked for attending the meeting.

At this time Chair Ah Mai deferred the agenda to take Community Concerns. There were no objections.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

REQUEST FOR STOP SIGN ON LEAHI AVENUE – A resident expressed concern about pedestrian safety on Leahi Avenue due to speeding drivers and pedestrians having to walk in the street. Installation of a stop sign and traffic mirror at the Hinano Street intersection and sidewalk curb cuts for ADA accessibility was suggested. Discussion followed and this matter will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. The resident then met with HPD officers outside the meeting room on this matter.

The order of the agenda resumed.

PUBLIC SAFETY, CONTINUED:

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY – Arthur Aiu, from the Board of Water Supply, distributed copies of a written report, and highlighted/added the following:

1. There were two water main breaks last month, one at 3648 Campbell Avenue and one at 3153 Kaunaoa Street. A water main replacement project in this area is ongoing.
2. The written report includes Water Emergencies Procedures, with tips on steps to take in case of hurricanes, tropical storms, floods and tsunamis, and unexpected emergencies such as power outages.
3. Water bills will include an insert on the water rate increases that take effect on October 1.
4. The next Board of Water Supply Information Session for Neighborhood Board members is September 30, City Mission Memorial Auditorium.

5. Water Conservation Tip: While fertilizers promote plant growth, they also increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. The Board of Water Supply was thanked for its work.
2. Pebbles have been left in the roadway of Saul Place following some work. Follow up will be done.
3. The roadways in the area of the Campbell, Kakalaua, and Kanaina construction projects are being left in poor condition by the contractor. The areas will be resurfaced when the projects are completed. The Kalakaua Avenue project is 99 percent complete. Follow up will be done on the status of other projects. The asphalt shortage may be affecting some projects.
4. Water bottles for emergencies can be kept for six months, then should be replaced.
5. The recently held Unthirsty Plant Sale was a success with over 1000 persons attending.

Aiu was thanked for attending the meeting.

STANDING RULES: Chair Ah Mai reviewed the Board's standing rules: (1) Be recognized before speaking; (2) all turns limited to two minutes unless otherwise noted; (3) no one speaks again until all others have been accommodated; and (4) no food or drink on the hardwood dance floor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JULY 13, 2006 REGULAR MEETING – The following correction was made:

Page 5, under Kapahulu Medical Center Building Preview, Questions, answers and comments, question 3 should read "...a 'no left turn into, and right turn only out' of the building..."

Egged moved and Waialale seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion carried, 12-0-2. Dumas and Wong abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Narita reported for the month of July, the Operating Account starting balance was \$1520.00, the current month's expenses were \$45.01, leaving a balance of \$1474.99. The Publicity Account starting balance was \$1705.00, there were no expenses, and the Refreshment Account starting balance was \$120.00, and there were no expenses.

BOARD HOUSEKEEPING:

CANDIDATES FORUM – Chair asked if the Board wished to hold a candidates forum prior to the upcoming elections. Discussion followed. **Wong moved and Dumas seconded that the Board hold a town hall meeting before the primary election.** Discussion followed and Wong amended the motion to add that "a task force, appointed by the Chair, be formed to organize the forum. Chair Ah Mai noted logistic difficulties in having a pre-Primary meeting. Discussion continued. **The motion was withdrawn. Wong moved and Dumas seconded to hold a town meeting in October and that a task force, appointed by the Chair, be formed to organize the forum, carried 9-3.** Narita, Gau and Miller opposed. Chair Ah Mai ruled that since this matter was not on the agenda, the Board could not have voted on it, and voided the motion. Chair Ah Mai noted that the consensus of the Board was to hold a forum and will follow up on the organizing of a forum.

McCULLY FIRE STATION – Chair Ah Mai reported a new McCully Fire Station will move to corner of the Ala Wai Golf Course by the end of October. The renovation of the station in McCully will take one year to complete.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE – Chair Ah Mai reported the Board has been invited to attend, and she will serve on this committee.

HONOLULU HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT – Chair Ah Mai reported a presentation on this matter by the City is on the agenda for tonight's meeting, and if desired, a counterpoint presentation can be pursued. The consensus of the Board was to have a counterpoint presentation, and she will follow up.

SUBDISTRICT REPORTS:

SUBDISTRICT 1 - Gau reported the following:

1. The St. Louis Community Association recently met with University of Hawaii representatives on the Frear Hall dormitory project.
2. The State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) was requested to address problems about the homeless at Waahila Park and restricting access via Quincy Place. Narita reported seeing a number of DLNR personnel at the park recently, and believed they were checking on this situation.
3. Wong reported the case of a St. Louis Heights resident harassing someone visiting the area has been referred to the City Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
4. In response to a question, Chair Ah Mai reported a sidewalk and roadway repair project is in progress in the St. Louis Drive and Waialae Avenue area near City Mill, and lanes of traffic are being blocked for the work.

SUBDISTRICT 2 – Nahoopii reported the following:

1. The moped shop on Kapahulu Avenue was checked by police in response to complaints about the shop blocking metered stalls fronting the shop to store mopeds. Chair Ah Mai reported receipt of a call from the owner of the shop who is requesting to speak to the Board about the complaints, including blocking of metered stalls, trash accumulating, and building code violations.
2. Chair Ah Mai reported she is working with the Department of Planning and Permitting on the Board's concerns about increased development and traffic problems it creates, in the Kapahulu area.
3. In response to a question, Councilmember Djou reported Hawaiian Dredging is moving from its Kapahulu Avenue building to Downtown Honolulu. The statue fronting the Kapahulu Avenue building has already been moved.

SUBDISTRICT 3 – Concern was expressed about the size of a new building coming up on Monsarrat Avenue, near the Diamond Head Grill.

Wong reported canoe clubs are moving from an area near the Waikiki Natatorium back to sites along the Ala Wai Canal, pending obtaining permits from the City, and that there have been safety concerns about canoes and swimmers being in close proximity to each other in the area near the Natatorium.

Otto and Matson arrived during the above portion of the meeting.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE – No representative was present.

SENATOR LES IHARA – Senator Ihara reported the following:

1. He distributed copies of material relating to the sunshine law and reported that the University of Hawaii Public Policy Center is planning on inviting this and the Kaimuki Neighborhood Boards to a dialogue series on the law.
2. He is requesting the Governor release funding for the Gold Coast seawall repair project.
3. He believes the University of Hawaii has be accountable in addressing community concerns about providing parking for Frear Hall dormitory residents.
4. He believes the parcel at 548 Kapahulu Avenue should be used for a public use, such as a parking lot.

Senator Ihara was thanked for attending the meeting.

REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN SAY – Representative Say reported the following:

1. The State Department of Land and Natural Resources has responded to him about what it plans to do about the concerns about the homeless at Waahila Park.
2. He is also working with the University of Hawaii regarding concerns about the Frear Hall dormitory project.

Representative Say was thanked for attending the meeting.

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT NISHIMOTO – No representative was present.

MAYOR'S OFFICE – Walea Constantinou, representing the Mayor's Office, reported on August 15 there will be a walk-through inspection of Paki Hale by the Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of Design and Construction with the contractor that has been making the repairs. Nahoopii requested information on when the building will be reopened.

In response to questions from previous meetings:

1. The contractor has been advised to clean up an area of Kaunaoa Street of pebbles left behind following the replacement of fire hydrants.
2. A request for repair of potholes on Kapiolani Boulevard has been referred to the State Department of Transportation as the area in question is under State jurisdiction.
3. Tree roots damaging a section of sidewalk on Kaunaoa Street were determined to be on private property and the owner is responsible for repairs. The City temporarily patched the area to lessen the tripping hazard.
4. The Department of Transportation Services has determined that a left-turn traffic signal phase from Mooheau Avenue to Kapahulu Avenue is warranted. Installation is pending the availability of funds.
5. The September 30 Sunset on the Beach will feature the season premier of the television show "Lost." Special traffic control measures to route traffic around Kapiolani Park are planned.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. There was a problem with a dumpster blocking Ruth Place such that a refuse collection truck could not gain access, use of a smaller truck was suggested.
2. A low hanging utility line at 2555 Saul Place was hit by a City garbage truck. It was questioned if the line is high enough.

3. Matson provided Constantinau with material from a court ruling relating to the use of parking spaces around Kapiolani Park is only to be used for park use and that other use is a violation of the Kapiolani Park Trust. Egged noted that the City Corporation Counsel has a different interpretation of the court ruling than Matson. Constantinau will forward the material to the City Corporation Counsel.

Harden stated he believes there are illegal activities being conducted on Kuhio Beach, such as the placement of the movie screen for Brunch on the Beach.

4. No parking restrictions in the area of 3731 and 3737 Kanaina Avenue were questioned as being too restrictive.

Constantinau was thanked for attending the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES DJOU – Councilmember Djou reported the following:

1. Bill 84, relating to a cap on parades and street closures in Waikiki, is up for third reading before the full Council on August 16. The bill places a cap of 39 events per year, including: grandfathered, first amendment, and Mayor's exemption, and is to take effect on January 1, 2007.
2. He is requesting information from the Board of Water Supply on the rate increase and the granting of \$500,000 in bonuses.
3. The Charter Commission is proposing approximately 12 matters to be placed on the ballot for possible ratification by voters.
4. The City Council's Committee on Zoning will be addressing the Frear Hall dormitory project.
5. The City Auditor is to release its report on the Neighborhood Commission Office tomorrow.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Regarding Bill 84 and events in Kapiolani Park, Egged reported that there is a limit of one event per day.
2. Councilmember Djou reported there is nothing before the Kapiolani Park Board of Trustees, which is made up of all the Councilmembers, relating to the new entrance building for the Honolulu Zoo.
3. Bill 84 identifies grandfathered parades as those which have been held consecutively for at least the past 15 years.
4. The Board has requested timely notification from the Department of Planning and Permitting about new projects in the Kapahulu area.
5. Concern was expressed about the number of new, tall buildings in Kapahulu changing the character of the area. Councilmember Djou noted that changing the building height limit in Kapahulu can be done, but it is not a quick process and changes could adversely impact redevelopment.
6. In response to a question, it was noted that the Kapahulu Medical Building's development did not require any variances.

Councilmember Djou was thanked for attending the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

FREAR HALL UPDATE – Chair Ah Mai reviewed a draft resolution "...to urge the Zoning Committee of the City Council, to require, as a condition of the building permit for Frear Residence Hall's redevelopment...that the

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University of Hawaii do a study of how many dormitory students are realistically expected to bring cars onto the dormitory, campus or surrounding neighborhoods as a result of rebuilding Frear Hall.”

Wayne Iwaoka, from the University of Hawaii, reported they have taken the following actions to resolve or mitigate parking issues and concerns:

1. Plans provide a secure and covered bicycle and storage area for 126 bicycles and 30 mopeds.
2. Students have been advised via acceptance letters, email messages, and via the Student Housing website that bringing cars onto campus is highly discouraged.
3. Students are encouraged to purchase bus passes at \$100 per semester.
4. One hundred more parking passes for dorm residents to park at the Hawaiian Studies parking structure have been made available.
5. Flyers have been created for placement on cars reminding students to be good neighbors when they park in residential areas.
6. Residents may call a hotline, 956-9900 this Fall semester, to report problems with students parking illegally in their neighborhoods.
7. A trial shuttle service will be run this Fall semester to the Waikiki, Ala Moana Shopping Center, Ward Complex, and Restaurant Row areas.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. The wording on the flyer for placement on cars was questioned as encouraging people to park in the residential areas.
2. St. Louis Heights has narrow streets, drivers need to park carefully and legally.
3. It was suggested that all students receive bus passes that are funded by student activity fees that all students pay as is done at some Mainland universities. Consideration will be given to this suggestion.
4. Gau noted that at the meeting with the St. Louis Community Association, it was suggested that land behind the faculty housing be used for parking, but it was determined that the City owns the land.
5. Parking will need to be addressed for the Frear Hall project as part of the Long Range Master Plan.
6. A survey of 1000 students showed that 20 percent of the respondents had cars on campus.
7. The University of Hawaii has 20,000 registered students, 3,500 faculty and staff. Some 2,500 faculty/staff and 2,500 student parking permits were issued, and there are 5500 parking spaces. Some 2,500 bus passes were sold last semester.

Egged moved and Narita seconded that the Board adopt the resolution to urge the Zoning Committee of the City Council, to require, as a condition of the building permit for Frear Residence Hall's redevelopment, i.e. Resolution 06-255, Plan Review Use for University of Hawaii at Manoa – Frear Residence Hall that the University of Hawaii do a study of how many dormitory students are realistically expected to bring cars onto the dormitory, campus or surrounding neighborhoods as a result of rebuilding Frear Hall. The motion carried, 10-1-3. Dumas opposed, Harden, Wong, Matson abstained.

KAPAHULU MEDICAL BUILDING UPDATE – No report.

548 KAPAHULU AVENUE ZONE CHANGE – Chair Ah Mai reported receipt of material on the rezoning and that she will request an extension of the September 13 for the Board to respond as the next Board meeting is on September 14. There were no objections.

NEW BUSINESS:

OAHU MASS TRANSIT – Pat Lee and Jim Lyons, consultants to the City, reported the City is working on the alternative analysis options for a transit system to run from Kapolei, through Waipahu and Pearl City, to Downtown Honolulu, the University of Hawaii – Manoa, and Waikiki. A mass transit system would improve reliability, provide an alternative to driving, and improve mobility. The alternative analysis options include: 1) no-build: but includes current projects such as the North – South Road, widening of Farrington Highway, a ferry, zipper lanes, expanding TheBus, 2) transportation system management – transit centers and improvements to TheBus, 3) managed lanes – elevated roadway for buses, and possibly high-occupancy vehicles and private cars paying a toll, and 4) fixed guideway system.

Studies are being done on cost estimates and ridership projections for various routes for the fixed guideway system. Public outreach meetings have been held, and this phase is about two-thirds complete. The alternative analysis is scheduled to be completed and submitted to the City Council in November, and the Council will select the preferred alternative in December.

Questions, answers, and comments followed:

1. Seeking federal funding is in progress at this time.
2. There is no relation to this project and Kamehameha Schools/Bishop Estate taking over a number of its properties from lessees.
3. Something needs to be done to deal with traffic in the Central and Leeward areas which is projected to increase six-fold by the year 2030.
4. Studies are still being done on maintenance and operating cost projections.
5. TheBus routes will be integrated with the mass transit system.
6. Preliminary engineering will provide more information about stations and park and ride facilities.

Lee and Lyons were thanked for their report and were available after this portion of the meeting for additional questions.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Ah Mai deferred the remainder of the agenda. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dean Chu
Neighborhood Assistant