



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

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MARCH 13, 2008 ALA WAI GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Bert Narita called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Julia Allen, Roxie Berlin, S. Michael Cain, Ken Chang, Scot Drown, Rick Egged, Jay Harden, Deborah Lockett, Michelle Matson, Barbara Miller, Bertha Nahoopii, Bert Narita, George Waialeale, Linda Wong.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Don Persons.

**GUESTS:** Speaker Calvin Say; Captain Gary Lum and Fire Fighter Keoki Liftee-Kau (Honolulu Fire Department – HFD), Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, James Ramos, Daisy Murai; Lt. Harrison Kim Han, Sergeant Dale Harrington, and Sergeant Darren Nihei (Honolulu Police Department – HPD District 6 Waikiki); Officer Tony Kahapea (HPD District 7 East Honolulu); Walea Constantinou (Mayor’s Representative), Clayton Frank (Governor’s Representative; Director, Department of Public Safety – DPS), Candice Van Buren (Representative Nishimoto’s Office staff); Candace Fukuda and Eric Sumoda (Hawaiian Electric Company – HECO); Vice Chancellor Kathy Cutshaw and James Manke (University of Hawaii Manoa – UHM); George Atta (Group 70 International), Ron Lockwood (McCully-Moiliili Neighborhood Board), Stan Fichtman (Councilmember Djou’s Office staff), Arthur Aiu (Board of Water Supply – BWS), Elwin Spray (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**Welcome** – Chair Narita welcomed the community to the meeting. Twelve Board members were present (Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Drown, Egged, Lockett, Miller, Nahoopii, Narita, Waialeale, Wong).

### **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)** – Captain Gary Lum reported Waikiki station (HFD Station 7) activity statistics for the past month, including four fires, one explosion, one-hundred-and-nine medical emergencies, one hazardous materials response, eight service calls, thirty-five good intent and nine false alarm calls, for a total of one-hundred-and-sixty-seven calls. Fire Fighter Keoki Liftee-Kau gave a fire safety tip on safe cooking fires:

Cooking at home can be a fun family activity, but it can also be hazardous if safety steps aren’t taken. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, cooking fires are the leading cause of house fires and fire injuries nationwide. The following precautions can be taken to minimize your chances of starting a cooking fire:

1. Do not leave cooking food unattended. If you must leave the kitchen, even briefly, turn off the heat, and take a spoon or oven mitt with you to remind yourself of the food on the stove.
2. Do not become distracted. Attending to children, answering phone calls, watching television, and answering doorbells can have devastating results when the stove is on and unattended.
3. Keep ignitable items, such as dishtowels, paper or plastic bags, or curtains, at least three feet away from the range top.
4. Keep an ABC-rated fire extinguisher near the kitchen, and learn how to use it.



Chair Narita asked about the explosion incident, with Lum saying he would follow up. Chair Narita thanked Lum and Liftee-Kau for their report.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 6, Waikiki** – Lt. Harrison Kim Han introduced Sergeant Dale Harrington and Sergeant Darren Nihei and described a pedestrian tip, suggesting that walkers face on-coming traffic, saying it was safer to see traffic and that they would be less likely to be at risk for a purse snatching from a moped driving by. He also recommended walking around those exhibiting mental problems, suggesting that 911 be called but for the caller to observe from a distance. Harrington reported on the distributed activity statistics for the past month and reported no robbery incidents, two burglaries, five thefts, three criminal property damage cases, eighteen liquor law violations, ten motor vehicle collisions, twenty-one arguments, eight calls for unauthorized entrance into motor vehicles (UEMV), and 247 total cases (compared to last month's total of 396), with the total district calls at 3,200. Jim Ramos expressed the need for additional lighting in the grassy area between the Zoo entrance and Kapahulu Avenue, explaining that many people traverse the area at night. Chair Narita thanked Kim Han and the officers for their reports and attendance.

**HPD District 7, East Honolulu** – Officer Tony Kahapea distributed copies of area statistics, referring to included maps of the covered areas, contact numbers for the community policing sections, and invited calls and visits to the web site for more information: [www.honolulu.org/patrol/d7](http://www.honolulu.org/patrol/d7) He referred to incidents of pedestrians and elderly involved in motor vehicle accidents and encouraged pedestrians to take the time to insure the drivers sees those entering the roadway. Daisy Muria asked about purse snatching, with Kahapea saying one recent occurrence had the culprit apprehended and reported that there was no pattern of incidents at this time. Waialeale asked about problems at the Safeway location, with Kahapea reporting no special problem at the site. Chair Narita thanked Kahapea for his report.

Board members Matson and Harden arrived at 7:15 p.m.; fourteen Board members present.

**Board Of Water Supply (BWS)** – Arthur Aiu reported one recent main break at 3037 Hollinger Street and offered general background information about main breaks, the criteria for prioritizing and the process. He also reported that the requested road repair for Campbell at Monsarrat Avenue was outside of the project scope for the BWS project. He defined the project as requiring BWS to repave the makai side of Campbell Avenue between Kaunaoa and Herbert Streets. He explained that the City's Department of Facilities Maintenance (DFM) has a contract to repave four roads, one of which is Campbell Avenue, and that the repaving should be starting shortly. Aiu said that DFM is now responsible for the roadway and that Mayor's Representative Wailea Constantinou also has this information. Aiu repeated the information for Wong and Chair Narita deferred additional discussion to Councilmember Djou's staff Stan Fichtman. Harden asked if the whole length of Campbell Avenue was to be repaved with Aiu saying he did not know the extent of the repaving project. Matson asked about the dates, with Chair Narita saying the issue would be deferred to Fleischman's report. Chair Narita thanked Aiu for his report.

## **REPORTS**

**Chairman's Report** – Chair Narita referred to his circulated written report, thanking community members who provided testimony in support of House Bill (HB) 3272, saying it deals with the Department of Land and Natural Resources – DLNR – and proposes more community-weighted input into land auctions such as the 548 Kapahulu Avenue property lease issue. Matson explained that the bill allows previous lessees preference to purchase property up for auction, reporting that Senator Hee had deferred the bill, and that it was now unlikely to be rescheduled. Chair Narita deferred the 548 Kapahulu Avenue issue and reported on additional items from the Chairman's Report: 1) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Kapiolani Community College (KCC) Culinary Institute is available for review (deadline April 7, 2008), and 2) the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

(OMPO) Citizen Advisory Committee's (CAC) Draft FY2009 Overall Work Program is available for review (deadline April 28, 2008). Matson reported the Diamond Head Citizen's Advisory Committee reviewed the KCC EA and had objections to the traffic plans, with Chair Narita appointing (with no objections) Board Sub-District (SD) Chair Matson to take the lead on a Board review of the issue. Matson also suggested concerns on the plans for the Diamond Head Public Safety Radio Station (in the back of the monument), with Chair Narita directing that the Board review of KCC include the radio station concerns. Egged said he had no objection but asked for the draft comments to be circulated to Board members. Matson asked who else would be involved, with Chair Narita appointing the three SD vice-chairs and assigning Vice-Chair Chang to assist.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Drown reported the prior month's expenditures at \$39.30 and an operating balance of \$3287.09.

**Sub-District 1 (St. Louis Heights) Report** – Vice-Chair Luckett reported a recent St. Louis Community Association meeting with participation by Sharon Dumas and Mark Shark, that tents were being sought for use in the brush clearing project on Waahila Ridge, that there had been no response to the draft fire plan project concept, and the area sewer project would be completed in March 2009. Luckett introduced St. Louis Heights Community Association President Ken Swearington.

**Sub-District 2 (Kapahulu)** – Vice-Chair Nahoopii had no report.

**Sub-District 3 (Diamond Head)** – Vice-Chair Matson had no report.

**Skateboard Task Force** – There was no representative present.

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS**

**Governor's Representative** – Clayton Frank (Director, State Department of Public Safety – DPS) represented Governor Linda Lingle and reported the Governor's efforts on the Turtle Bay issue, explaining that a weekly meeting of a 17-member working group had been set up and a March 18, 2008 meeting had been set to meet with the involved property owners. He also announced a school's robotic contest would be held March 27 to 29, 2008 and proposals for medical malpractice reform (placing of tort limits of \$250,000). He listed other items, including reporting that the streets in Kaimuki (where a prior question about widening of roads to accommodate bikeways was asked) were reported as City streets, that the water irrigation project on the slopes of Diamond Head is continuing (for repair of system and the planting of napaka), and Diamond Head Road work is awaiting a rock fall mitigation study. Luckett asked for the Governor to explain why State resources are being spent on the North Shore issue, which presumably would be DLNR funds, when the State could not address the 548 Kapahulu property issue; Frank thanked her for the question. Matson referred to a Diamond Head visitor's orientation study plan and explained that Governor Lingle should be encouraged to release the funds, which will lapse in June 2008, and asked for a report at the next meeting, saying that the State has committed to a joint project with the KCC Culinary Institute and the whole issue is needs to be worked on as part of the plan. Wong referred to a prior month's concern about inter-state transport of animals (primarily pigs); Frank reported that the State has no jurisdiction and that if the issue is cruelty to animals, then the Humane Society or federal jurisdiction could be contacted. Matson called attention to the issue of State income in reference to the Diamond Head orientation center, saying that projected income from entrance fees is many times the costs involved. Chair Narita referred to a recent proclamation he had helped with and recognized Governor's Office employee Roz Makaula as having done a very good job. Chair Narita thanked Frank for his report.

**Skateboard Task Force** – Gregg Hutchings reported no significant change from last month, saying he had reported then that a non-profit group had been formed under the name of "Skateparks of Hawaii Association" and a meeting with the City (with Mayor's Office representative Clarice Hashimoto and

Parks Director Lester Chang) had been held (to request the use of the area under the H-1 freeway for a skateboard park). He said the group was starting to review possible grants. Chair Narita thanked Hutchings for the report.

**Senator Les Ihara** – No representative was present.

**Representative Scott Nishimoto** – Candice Van Buren, of Representative Nishimoto's Office staff, was present and distributed a community report. She reported a successful legislative "Town Hall" meeting and reported a community Board of Education meeting was planned. Matson spoke in favor of the authorization for a noise abatement coordinator (\$100,000) that had been included in recent State legislation, saying that the coordinator was needed and that federal funds (\$1.9 million) provide for at the airport noise reports but that there is no one fulfilling the task of airport monitoring of those reports. Chair Narita thanked Van Buren for the report.

**Representative Calvin Say** – Speaker Say invited questions or concerns to his office at 586-6100. He reported dealing with recent issues including Robert Place concerns were many residents had parking tickets issued for placing cars onto the street adjacent to their homes, noise from aircraft, and conservation land trust. He reported that Senator Ihara was currently on television in a Senate hearing. Matson thanked Say for support on the noise coordinator funding. Wong thanked Say for the information provided. Matson asked about the effect of a lower Council on Revenues income estimate on the State budget, with Say reporting that both the House and Senate will be trying to adjust funding projects. Chair Narita asked about a Senate investigation (audit by Senator Baker) on the DLNR Land Development Fund, with Say agreeing that the House does the budget but both House and Senate would be following up on investigation results. Berlin asked how the State DLNR could be kept from auctioning the 548 Kapahulu site, with Say reporting the issue was now with the Land Board; Berlin commented that the Governor says she can save the whole North Shore but can not save a single lot. Say said the House does not confirm appointments and he said he would love to be able to question appointees. Chair Narita thanked Say for his report.

**Councilmember Charles Djou** – Stan Fichtman, of Councilmember Djou's Office staff, distributed a community report, several graphs on the City budget, and reported on contact with DFM about the Campbell Avenue re-paving project, saying that the contract had been signed, was to cover the "unimproved portion" of the road (near Monsarrat Avenue) and was to start in Late March and early April 2008. Nahoopii referred to other areas on Campbell where "hot patch" repairs had been made and asked about repaving there, with Hardin also asking if hot patching would be done to the unimproved end; Fichtman said the contract was for repaving, not patching. Harden asked if the City was planning to tear up the road in June and that therefore the resurfacing would be a waste; Fichtman said he could not answer. Matson said the whole street needed to be resurfaced; Fichtman said he would bring the issue to Djou. Wong reported she had called in concerns about surfacing. Hardin said that Fichtman had said for two years that he would get back and Hardin hoped that he would get back. Egged reported that BWS used to repair and resurface the whole project area when they had finished projects in the past, rather than leaving patched areas, and he suggested there be more of the total resurfacing; Fichtman said he agreed that Djou would agree. Lockett thanked Fichtman for the budget details he had shared, with Fichtman offering that the Council was now dealing with the budget in hearings, with the increase in the budget generally for salaries and sewers (\$300 million). Hardin asked if the whole budget was available now, with Fichtman agreeing it was. Miller referred to the distributed graph, asking if the shown graph of City spending was similar to the graph of the Operating Program Budget, with Fichtman agreeing it was. A comment was made that the patch paving issue shows the need for the different groups to work together to plan that resurfacing follows other projects, noting concerns like the Bertram Street project. Waialeale asked about the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wastewater treatment plant expansion issue meeting, with Fichtman saying that Djou is supportive of additional treatment but does not believe that Mayor Hannemann's estimate of \$1.2 billion

is right. Matson asked why we were not notified about the EPA issue, with Fichtman saying the Council was only notified a couple of days before the meeting. Chair Narita thanked Fichtman for the report.

**Mayor's Office** – Walea Constantinau represented Mayor Mufi Hannemann and was available to relay community concerns and issues. She reported on prior issues, including:

- 1) Campbell Avenue repaving contract should be starting shortly.
- 2) A pothole at Imua Store was patched on February 25, 2008.
- 3) Kapahulu Street is being monitored for pavement patching.
- 4) Since the roadway under the freeway is owned by the State, the State is responsible for repair.
- 5) Patching materials used on roadways is industry standard.
- 6) Concerns regarding Pro-Bowl were followed up.
- 7) Curbside recycling materials go to Campbell Industrial Park where a vendor sorts and usually ships to Asia. Green waste is ground, mulched and composted.
- 8) Crane Park is being monitored by HPD.

Harden asked about Kapahulu parking with Chair Narita asking that Fichtman respond after Constantinau's presentation. Waialeale reported that the Imua Store pothole was not filled until March 12, 2008. Matson asked about notice for the EPA meeting, with Constantinau saying she would ask, and Wong reporting she was ashamed that a newspaper had reported Mayor Hannemann booing at the EPA meeting. Wong asked about the asphalt patching material, with Constantinau explaining it is a hot or ready mix and Wong stressing that it is washing out when it rains. Iwasa expressed concern that small stones and rubble accumulating on the side of roadways is a danger to bike riders, with Chair Narita suggesting that a future presentation could be made on the issue. Ramos repeated his concern about a lack of bright lighting at the zoo entrance area, with Constantinau reporting the City Park improvement schedule is the place to start, referring Ramos to the Parks District 1 coordinator Mike Smith at 973-7250. Matson asked about the zoo frontage and the budget, with Constantinau agreeing that the improvements to the zoo are under discussion now as part of the budget process. Chair Narita thanked Constantinau for the report. Harden asked about a meeting that afternoon about the zoo, with Matson saying Sid Quintal was present from the City.

**Councilmember Ann Kobayashi** – Councilmember Kobayashi distributed a community report and discussed that the City would plan repaving after a street's trench project. She reported that the Council budget hearings have started and offered that additions can still be made, especially to the Capital Improvements Project (CIP) portion of the budget, and asked that requests be made to her office. Berlin asked about the issue of term limits for Board members, with Kobayashi saying that the subject was requested by a Council Neighborhood Boards Task Force, which seemed to be originating with the Kailua area, where there was a contentious issue regarding bed-and-breakfasts. Kobayashi reported the town area seemed to be generally opposed to the term limit concept, with Berlin agreeing, reporting she understands there are 60 board member vacancies. Wong reported she liked Kobayashi's resolution about rail transit, asking if there was anyway to stop the rail transit project. Kobayashi explained that the rail technology issue would be discussed at a March 19, 2008 hearing and an April final passage vote. Waialeale suggested simulating the rail noise level outside of the residences of Councilmembers. Egged reported that he was not used to seeing the combined CIP and Operating Budget lumped together (shown in Djou's graph as total City spending) and suggested Kobayashi give a Board briefing. Chair Narita reported the Washington, D.C. Metro system had stopped work on a Dulles-to-Tyson segment because prior project agreement had not been obtained by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the FTA had denied the project, pointing out that the situation seems similar to Honolulu's plans. Wong asked about the EPA meeting, with Kobayashi reporting she had attended the meeting and Wong saying that the meeting was all of City employees. Egged reported that he had attended the EPA hearing, that the EPA was conducting the hearing – not the City, and that the notice for the EPA hearing was in the newspaper. Chair Narita thanked Kobayashi for her report.

## **PRESENTATION**

**Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) Energy Conservation / Solar Energy / Renewable Energy Consumer Program Information** – HECO’s Candace Fukuda and Eric Sumoda were present to report on conservation and solar energy programs. Sumoda distributed materials and coupons, and discussed: solar water heating programs and water heater replacement programs, including credits, loans, senior citizen and income level assistance are available, with information from HECO and in the distributed materials and other agencies, encouraging everyone to take advantage and save energy and money. He reported that HECO has a listing of trained installers who are knowledgeable about the programs as well as being able to do the installation. He reported that the CFL light-bulbs now come in different colors and HECO works with schools and others to assist in using the right bulb, as well as working with products like “energy star” to promote conservation. An audience question asked about selling of power back to HECO with Sumoda agreeing it could be done, with two levels, one being a home generator and one with a purchase agreement, requiring a panel to register the flow of power into the HECO grid. Sumoda said a consideration is of lifestyle, with the air conditioner being a big user and thus it could not be used and be a seller. Berlin asked about home solar costs, with Sumoda saying a normal way would be a first purchase of a \$16,000 solar panel, and later adding a second panel, with as much as \$45,000 to \$60,000 needed to get off the grid, but suggesting that items such as substitution of a fan for air conditioning would be valuable. An audience question asked about selling back, with Sumoda saying the day time was the normal time for selling, but suggested batteries could also be a component, so that the recharge of home batteries could be a factor; Chair Narita thanked Sumoda and Fukuda for the presentation and noted that the questions were becoming very specific and suggested that they be discussed outside the meeting.

**University of Hawaii Manoa (UHM) Long Range Development Plan (LRDP)** – Vice Chancellor Kathy Cutshaw was present to discuss the UH Regents approved LRDP (approved November 7, 2007) and introduced George Atta from Group 70 International, explaining that the Neighborhood Board had been involved in the planning and had presentations on the draft plan. Atta discussed that the final LRDP’s parking study portion specifically had been requested to be brought back to the Board. The parking study estimated faculty and student cars parked off campus was 1,200 and therefore planned construction of two new parking structures, one behind on-campus Kennedy Theatre (360 parking spaces) and another in the quarry (replacing the Klum Gym footprint) adjacent to the existing parking structure (900 parking stalls). The basic assumptions included that the UHM population would not increase and that the new rail system will not serve UHM. Static active population and the increase in stalls means the surrounding community should see a reduction in parking congestion. The fourteen major area intersections were studied and the only recommendation for improvement was University Avenue at Dole Street, 1) extending the off ramp into an exclusive right hand lane and 2) adding a second right hand turn lane from Dole Street onto the Lower Campus Road. Also unresolved, a civil engineering consultant is making assessment of the capacity of the drainage ditch behind the Biomedical Building (on the boundary of the Mid Pacific campus). The City is also being consulted to assure wastewater flow from the proposed buildings can be handled by the City’s infrastructure (Dole Street Interrupter). UHM roofs are being considered to retrofit as “green roofs” (allowing gardens on roofs). An Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared which should be approved this June. Additional information is on the web: [www.manoa.hawaii.edu/ovcafo](http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/ovcafo). **Chair Narita noted the time as 9:00 p.m. and suggested the meeting be extended for fifteen minutes. With no objections, Chair Narita extended the Board’s adjournment to 9:15 p.m. 14-0-0.** Chair Narita noted concern about the drainage adjacent to the Hawaiian Studies building, where ponding and flooding occurs during rains, with the State saying it’s a City issue and the City saying the cause is the blocking of drainage by the changes of the parking structure and the Hawaiian Studies building. Luckett asked about the growth projections, with Atta saying the intent for more undergraduates to be at UH West Oahu and UHM to be more graduate level and research, suggesting the model of Berkeley. Egged noted a continuing concern should be the encouragement of bus pass use, encouraging the University to be creative in devising bus pass availability and use (suggesting a bus pass be part of the activity fee), with Cutshaw saying she would take the suggestion back. Murai expressed concern about traffic when

events, including sports events, end, and concerns about the timetable for projects and the time of day the study was conducted. Chair Narita thanked Cutshaw and Atta for the presentation.

**Community Concerns** – Chair Narita invited Fichtman to respond to earlier questions, with Matson announcing that a meeting earlier that day the City’s Department of Enterprise Services, which includes the zoo operation, had its director, Sid Quintal, announce that the 200 parking stall lot by the zoo entrance was to be converted from meters to attendant parking and the rates would be raised. Wong said the experience of the conversion of the Kaimuki lot to attendant parking did not work well, saying it was too hard to get out of, with Fichtman agreeing that there were traffic flow problems. Matson explained that a court-order is in place to maintain the parking at reasonable rates and that there is a side issue of the zoo entrance planning.

**Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2008 – Waialeale moved and Miller seconded to approve the February 14, 2008 Minutes.** Chair Narita announced that any written corrections to the February 14, 2008 Minutes should be forwarded to the Neighborhood Commission Office. Matson said she had submitted written corrections to the January minutes, with Chair Narita said would be filed with the printed minutes. **Chair Narita declared the Minutes were approved 13-0-1. Aye:** Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Drown, Egged, Harden, Lockett, Miller, Nahoopii, Narita, Waialeale, Wong. **Abstain:** Matson. Matson said she was opposed because the corrections were not included in the minutes.

**548 Kapahulu Avenue** – Chair Narita said there was no additional report.

**Kapiolani Regional Park Master Plan Update** – Matson said that a presentation on the zoo store front proposal was need, was well as the zoo parking and zoo entrance issues, with Chair Narita suggesting Constantinou could be asked to plan a presentation for a future agenda.

**Revised Neighborhood Plan 2007 Update** – Chair Narita reported the Neighborhood Commission has not reported any update on its review of the proposed changes to the current Neighborhood Plan.

**Board Certificate “Good Neighbor” Award** – Chair Narita said the idea of the Good Neighbor certificate item was still open.

**Bicycle Lanes – Charter Amendment 8** – Chair Narita said there was not sufficient information to act at this time and asked for Fichtman to provide information for a future meeting.

**Council Resolution 07-379 regarding amending the City Charter to place limits on Neighborhood Board terms** – Chair Narita reported that the chair was prepared to write a board position in opposition. Wong and Egged reported concerns. **Chair Narita declared the motion passed 12-1-1. Aye:** Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Drown, Harden, Lockett, Matson, Miller, Nahoopii, Narita, Waialeale. **Nay:** Wong. **Abstain:** Egged.

**Announcements** – Chair Narita announced the next Board meeting for April 10, 2008 at the regular Ala Wai Golf Clubhouse meeting site.

**Adjournment** – Chair Narita noted no additional business and, with no objections, announced that the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by Elwin Spray, Neighborhood Commission Office staff