



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

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>

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES APRIL 10, 2008 ALA WAI GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Bert Narita called the meeting (agenda filed on April 3, 2008 at the City and County of Honolulu's City Clerk's Office) to order at 7:00 p.m. with an eleven-member quorum present out of the fifteen total members (present: Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Harden, Luckett, Miller, Nahoopii, Narita, Persons, Waialeale), with a quorum of eight required to be present and voting in support of any Board action for the motion to pass.

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

GUESTS: Dr. Leon Richards (Interim Chancellor, Kapiolani Community College – KCC) and Dean Carol Hoshiko; Representative Scott Nishimoto, Cassy (Representative Calvin Say's Office staff), Captain David Dela Cruz (Honolulu Fire Department – HFD); Mark Kikuchi and Adrian Chang (Traffic Engineering, Department of Transportation Services – DTS); Earl Matsukaw (Wilson Okamoto Associates); Jim Stern, Daisy Murai, Mark Smith (Citizens' Against Noise; Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9); Major Greg Leftcourt, Captain Jeff Richards, Lt. M. Ross, Sergeant R. Saito, and Sergeant Darren Nihei (Honolulu Police Department – HPD District 6 Waikiki); Lt. Gary Lum Lee, Sergeant A. Perreira, Officer Tony Kahapea (HPD District 7 East Honolulu); Clayton Frank (Governor's Representative; Director, Department of Public Safety – DPS), Candice Van Buren (Representative Nishimoto's Office staff), 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.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain David Dela Cruz reported Waikiki station (HFD Station 7) activity statistics for the past month, with Engine 7 responding to twenty-seven fires and eleven emergency calls and Ladder 7 responding to one fire and ninety-nine emergencies. He reported no major or unusual incidents, and offered a fire safety tip on smoke alarms and smoke alarm response planning:

Is a smoke alarm really necessary in your home? The answer is YES, ABSOLUTELY!! Smoke alarms are proven life savers. Fires produce smoke and toxic gases which can numb your senses and prevent you from reacting to the fire. This is especially true at night when you and your family are asleep. A working smoke alarm gives you early notification of a fire and time to escape.

Smoke alarm tips: 1) Install smoke alarms on every level of your house and outside of every sleeping area. 2) Test smoke alarms once a month. 3) Replace smoke alarm batteries once a year or when the smoke alarm chirps to signal that the battery is low.

Fire escape planning is necessary; work with everyone in your family on a plan: 1) Plan two ways out of every room. 2) Plan a meeting place outside where everyone should gather. 3) Plan to stay out, once you're out!



Chair Narita thanked Dela Cruz for his report.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 6, Waikiki – Sergeant Darren Nihei reported on the distributed activity statistics for the past month, highlighting Neighborhood Board No. 5 Waikiki beats, with seven thefts, three motor vehicle collisions, three criminal property damage cases and twenty-one miscellaneous cases, with an increase in total calls to the January level. Waialeale asked about garbage trucks blocking traffic lanes, with Nihei saying 911 could be called. Persons reported cars regularly blocking the roadway at 3037 Kalakaua Avenue, with Nihei saying he would look at the site. Murai reported a concern about segways, with Nihei reporting State law allows their operation on sidewalks but requires an audible signal in passing and lights, with the light issue being looked at. Harden asked about garbage trucks blocking traffic lanes, with Nihei saying 911 could be called.

Members Egged and Wong arrived at 7:10 p.m.; thirteen Board members present.

Major Greg Leftcourt introduced himself as the new Waikiki HPD commander, explaining his prior service as a captain in Waikiki and his appreciation at returning, and saying he believes neighborhood boards are an important communications tool for the community and he looks forward to working with the Board. Chair Narita and Waialeale welcomed Leftcourt. Wong reported attacks occurring at night at the zoo entrance area, saying they occurred several weeks ago and six months ago, and asked for attention to the area; Leftcourt said he would look at the site. Chair Narita thanked Leftcourt and Nihei for their reports and all the officers for their attendance.

Member Drown arrived at 7:15 p.m.; fourteen Board members present.

HPD District 7, East Honolulu – Lt Gary Lum Lee, distributed copies of East Honolulu-area comparison statistics, referring to included maps of the covered areas. He offered a safety tip about identity theft, stressing the need to safeguard material containing personal information, including old bills and cancelled checks, and invited review of information posted on the web. He also reported that contact numbers for the community policing sections were in the statistics handout with the numbers, additional statistic details and more information on the web site: www.honolulu.org/patrol/d7

Member Matson arrived at 7:18 p.m.; fifteen Board members present.

Chair Narita referred to a Culinary Institute (of Kapiolani Community College – KCC) briefing on institute plans for the future, which was held the previous evening, where he heard comments that Diamond Head Road traffic was not yielding to pedestrians, with Lum Lee saying he would have the area monitored. Chair Narita also noted that the increased traffic congestion will require area traffic improvements from the City. Harden asked about ‘assaults’ being added as a category to the statistics, with Lum Lee saying the Diamond Head area was included in the District 6 report. Chair Narita thanked Lum Lee for his report and the HPD officers for their attendance.

Board Of Water Supply (BWS) – Arthur Aiu reported no recent main breaks and distributed general background information about island water systems, inviting the Board an audience to read “Water 101.” He reported BWS participation in the City-coordinated job fair that focused on former Aloha Airlines employees, explaining that the BWS had thirty-five current job openings. Cain asked about the job openings, with Aiu saying the openings were from utility level to engineers. Harden asked for repaving of Campbell Avenue from Kapahulu to Monsarrat. Waialeale asked about long-range water planning, with Aiu saying the BWS is focusing currently on conservation and ultimately desalination (with a property designated for desalination at Barbers Point). Matson asked about a previous date of 2020 for desalination, with Aiu saying the attempt is to always push the date back, explaining that the pumpage output has remained the same for several years. Berlin said she hoped solar power was included in the desalination plans with Aiu saying he would check. Harden asked about observed wasting by over-watering, with Aiu inviting anyone observing water wasting to call the BWS, who are in

constant contact with users like the City Parks, and that the BWS would follow up. Harden said there is always wasted water in the parks, with Aiu stressing to call because the BWS will follow up. Miura thanked Aiu for the repaving of the Monsarrat end of Campbell Avenue (saying she was not sure if it was the City or BWS). Lockett said the Board should ask the City's planning head, Henry Eng (Director, Department of Planning and Permitting), about the planning permits for desalination, saying the process should be started. Chair Narita thanked Aiu for his report.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report – Chair Narita thanked the community, legislators and Board members for their recent participation in task force meetings, Council hearings, and Neighborhood Commission meetings, and also expressed appreciation that all fifteen Board members were present at this evening's meeting. He noted that the chair's responsibility includes stressing decorum at Board meetings. He announced that the revision to the Neighborhood Plan has been adopted by the Neighborhood Commission and that it will now be reviewed by the Corporation Counsel. He reported that the Neighborhood Commission took action on a December 2006 complaint against Board No. 5 (Commission agreed that "breaches were witnessed" at the 2006 meeting) but Chair Narita said the whole process was delayed too long, with some of those involved now off the Board. He reported attending the recent Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization's (OMPO) Citizen Action Committee (CAC) where discussion was on long range transportation planning, with no major East Honolulu project under consideration, including no planning for the H-1 Freeway corridor, offering his observation that the corridor is underserved.

- Kapiolani Community College (KCC) Culinary Institute: Chari Narita referred to his previously mentioned KCC Culinary Institute briefing on future planning (of the previous night) and introduced KCC Chancellor Leon Richards and Dean (Hospitality) Carol Hoshiko, explaining that all area parties have joined to make the Institute a jewel in the Pacific, and invited them to explain the project. Hoshiko thanked the Board and Narita for the support, with Richards saying the KCC strategic plan will cover the next eight years and with a long range development plan being also drawn up to cover to 2020. Hardin asked about notification of the meeting, with the explanation that the meeting was open, intended for area residents, was publicized, and in the papers. Representative Nishimoto explained that the presentation was set up on short notice but was to be the first of many. Matson reported that the Diamond Head Citizens' Advisory Board (DHCAB) hadn't been notified and should be for future meetings. Hoshiko said that KCC had come to both the neighborhood board and the DHCAB in the past and would be continuing to do so, with this presentation intending to reach those who normally were not attending organizational meetings, stressing that KCC would be coming back with presentations.

Berkin asked if feedback had been received about the Board's solar energy, with Chair Narita saying the resolution had been distributed but he hadn't received any comments.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Drown reported prior month's expenditures of \$40.77, with a remaining Board balance of \$3246.32.

Sub-District 1 (St. Louis Heights) Report – Sub-District Chair Lockett had no report.

Sub-District 2 (Kapahulu) – Sub-District Chair Nahoopii reported plans for an April 12, 2008 clean-up of the watershed channel, explaining that some 400 people had been involved in last year's steam cleaning and invited the community to meet on Saturday morning at Kaimuki High School. Egged reported that Waikiki would also be having a clean-up on that Saturday, inviting attendance to the Kahanamoku statue for a Waikiki Beach cleaning.

Sub-District 3 (Diamond Head) – Sub-District Chair Matson reported on two task force meetings, explaining that the issues reviewed included environmental assessments (EAs) for the KCC Culinary

Project and plans for Diamond Head (Kaimuki-side) antenna up-grades. She reported discussions of possible conflict between previously adopted Diamond Head State Monument (DHSM) plans and the KCC plans, and, general unaddressed problems of congestion. Harden reported reviewing the Red Cross facility located mauka of Diamond Head. Wong reported prior concerns for asphalt patching on Kapahulu Avenue and said the whole length needs to now be re-stripped.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Governor's Representative – Clayton Frank (Director, State Department of Public Safety – DPS) represented Governor Linda Lingle and reported the Governor is making efforts of support for former employees of Aloha Airlines (and others). He reported the Turtle Bay issue is continuing; with State funds not yet designated but that there are on-going discussions. He reported a State project dealing with 'energy independence' to develop a wind farm on Maui. He reported funds for the Diamond Head monument project would lapse this summer but that the project is still in the planning process, explaining that the discussed visitor center is the last component (after the bunker), with an additional request for funds to be made to the legislature. Matson explained that the importance and timeliness of the Diamond Head monument project was due to its planned combination with the KCC Culinary Institute project, where the parking structure was to be used complementarily by the two, with the possible use of the Diamond Head (Waikiki-side) tunnel and with a business plan demonstrating the positive cash flow for the State resulting from the enhanced attractiveness. Wong asked for a check on children's welfare fund projects, explaining that she understood Lingle was withholding approval. Egged agreed with Matson's description of the need for the Diamond Head monument funds and asked for Frank to follow up. Matson proposed a Board letter expressing support of the KCC Culinary Institute and the DHSM but pointing out the task force concerns and the need for current funding. Chair Narita thanked Frank for his report.

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

Representative Calvin Say – No representative was present for Speaker Say.

Representative Scott Nishimoto – Representative Nishimoto reported his earlier attendance at a successful KCC Strategic Planning meeting, that Senator Ihara was currently being televised conducting a legislative hearing, and that he could take questions for Speaker Say. Nahoopii reported a successful community cleanup and thanked Nishimoto for his participation. Chair Narita thanked Nishimoto for his report.

Councilmember Charles Djou – Stan Fichtman, of Councilmember Djou's Office staff, reported Djou's absence on military duty where he was reported to be learning to fire an M-16. Fichtman distributed a community report, reported happiness about the Campbell Avenue repaving, disappointment that a Djou-proposed ethics bill was rejected and that island-wide curbside recycling would occur in 2010, saying that Djou will push to have the project in place faster. He reported the City budget was being worked on. Matson asked for follow-up information on proposed legislation (Council Draft 2) dealing with the Kapiolani Park Advisory Council. Lockett asked why island-wide curbside recycling would take until 2010, with Fichtman saying that the project involves contract procurement and community education of the actual curbside process. Lockett asked about Waikiki involvement, with Fichtman saying the plan is for all areas to be covered by 2010. Harden asked about payment for the service and the disposal, with Fichtman saying the project will be taxpayer funded, with the pickup by union contract – saying HGEA (Hawaii Government Employee's Association) has the right to pick up the garbage – but that disposal includes the option of Waimanalo landfill continuation (to the total use of twenty-five years) and of shipping recycled trash out of state. Fichtman explained that Los Angeles is working on a twenty-year plan to eliminate landfill operation. Wong asked if the shipping would be to China, with Fichtman saying the paper has said 'Asia.' Miura reminded the audience about the planned Council meeting to select transit technology (Council Bill 80, Floor Draft 1) on April 16, 2008, with Fichtman saying the City Administration is supporting steel-on-steel rails, while others, including

Councilmember Kobayashi, are considering alternatives such as rubber tires and mag-lift, with both alternatives having down-sides of more limited numbers of vendors. Matson asked about the specifics of Floor Draft 1, with Fichtman saying the details would probably not be available until the meeting date. Chair Narita thanked Fichtman for the report.

Mayor's Office – Chair Narita reported Walea Constantinau was on a plane and might be in attendance later.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – Chair Narita referred to a distributed written report from Councilmember Kobayashi.

PRESENTATION

City Intersection Improvements to Harding Avenue at 5th Avenue and 11th Avenue – City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Mark Kikuchi and project manager Adrian Chang (from Traffic Engineering section) and Earl Matsukaw, from Wilson Okamoto Associates. A. Chang reported plans for Harding Avenue widening (to permit left-turn pockets) between 5th and 6th Avenue and at 11th Avenue (at the two freeway on-ramps). A. Chang reviewed a power point presentation and reported the construction design would be accomplished this year. Chair Narita asked about sidewalk use (referring to the preliminary visual schematics as very general) with A. Chang agreeing the sidewalks would be maintained during the construction (moving of poles to allow for a regular sidewalk width), which would be done in phases, so that both on-ramps would not be blocked at the same time. Cain expressed the desire to retain Harding as a back street, saying that the residential quality of the neighborhood would be impacted. Hardin noted that the area was primarily in Kaimuki and asked about the Kaimuki Neighborhood Board's reaction, with A. Chang saying the Kaimuki presentation would be the next week. Drown asked about other alternatives, including possible signal light medications (at 5th Avenue) with A. Chang saying that the project is for widening. Member Ken Chang asked about funding, with Kikuchi saying it was an eighty percent federal and twenty percent local project. Waialeale noted the handout showed a \$800,000 to \$900,000 project. Matson commended the project, saying that it would not impact as much as free up. Wong asked about impacts of sidewalk realignment at parking lots, as well as commenting on the need to look at the City's Kaimuki parking lot circulation problem and possible impacts, with Kikuchi saying they would follow up. Chair Narita thanked Kikuchi, Matsukaw and A. Chang for the presentation and suggested the Board review the engineering drawings as the project progresses.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Citizens Against Noise – Mark Smith, Vice President of Citizens Against Noise (CAN), reported Chair Narita and himself as having attended many of the recent transit technology meetings. Smith reported his and others, including Councilmember Djou's, concern on transit noise, especially with the steel-on-steel rail proposal and commented on the apparent inevitability of steel with the continued references to the Vancouver, British Columbia's steel-on-steel rail transit line. Smith referred to the reported 75 decibel level likely to occur with the transit line and asked for others to send their comments about the noise issue to the Councilmembers. Hardin expressed a community concern about noise from Coast Guard helicopters flying in the area, with Smith saying similar decibel levels have been measured at Black Point and in Waikiki. Wong asked about the volume of noise with Smith explaining that a major part of the concern is that the noise level will be mitigated but that it will continue for a long period. Matson said she understood that a weed-whacker might be from 68 to 70 decibels but that the transit line would be running from 4 a.m. to 12 p.m. Smith reported that the Department of Health laws and regulations speak to noise impacts on livability and health.

Red Cross – Hardin reported his attendance at the Hawaii Red Cross' building opening, saying he had a breakfast and invited others to tour the building.

Paki Hale Improvements – Berlin reported Paki Hale step concerns, which were formerly referred to Djou's office for repairs, but explained that the two flights of steps on the foot path (in the grass area) are in need of handrails and have insufficient lighting.

City Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) – Wong said she was concerned about CIP funds, including those that are lapsing as well as new proposals. Chair Narita asking Fichtman to discuss the CIP process with himself outside of the meeting, along with possible development of a Board vision. Matson agreed that there are things to propose but that they could be deferred to Fichtman.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2008 – Chair Narita asked for corrections or action to the March 13, 2008, saying that written corrections should be forwarded to the Commission Office, although the Board should note Member Don Persons as present. Wong said she objected because the written corrections are not included with the printed minutes. **Berlin moved and Miller seconded to approve the March 13, 2008 Minutes (noting Persons as present).** Wong noted her objection, saying that the corrections are not on file. **Chair Narita asked for a vote and declared the Minutes were approved 13-0-2.** **Aye:** Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Drown, Egged, Harden, Lockett, Miller, Nahoopii, Narita, Persons, Waialeale. **Abstain:** Matson, Wong.

Neighborhood Road Maintenance and Repair Resolution – Chair Narita noted that the Campbell Avenue resurfacing problem was resolved, with several members suggesting other roadways (including Paki Avenue, Leahi Avenue, and the whole length of Campbell Avenue) should be addressed. Chair Narita suggested the issue be continued to a future meeting to consider the additional areas.

State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Kapahulu Zone Change, Bill 1 (2007), 548 Kapahulu Avenue – Chair Narita said there was no additional update.

Kapiolani Regional Park Master Plan Update – No update.

Skateboard Task Force – There was no update or representative present.

Revised Neighborhood Plan 2007 Update – Chair Narita reported the Neighborhood Commission approved the proposed changes to the current Neighborhood Plan.

Council Resolution 07-379 regarding amending the City Charter to place limits on Neighborhood Board terms – Chair Narita reported the board took a position in opposition at the last meeting.

Bicycle Lanes – Charter Amendment 8 – No update.

Task Force – Rail Transit Corridor Public Infrastructure Map Symbols (Transit Stations.); KCC Culinary Institute at Diamond Head Environmental Assessment – Matson reported two representatives each from Sub-District 2 and 3 met and drafted responses, which would include the Berlin suggested letter to Governor Lingle expressing concern about 548 Kapahulu Avenue property.

Announcements – Chair Narita announced the next Board meeting for May 8, 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 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by Elwin Spray, Neighborhood Commission Office staff