



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 SEPTEMBER 11, 2008 ALA WAI CLUBHOUSE

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Bert Narita called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. (agenda filed on September 4, 2008 at the City and County of Honolulu's City Clerk's Office) with a quorum of ten members (present: Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Drown, Lockett, Miller, Narita, Persons, Waialeale) out of a total of fifteen members. A quorum of eight is required to be present and voting in support of any Board action for the motion to pass.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Julia Allen, Roxie Berlin, Michael Cain, Ken Chang, Scot Drown, Deborah Lockett, Michelle Matson, Barbara Miller, Bert Narita, Don Persons, George Waialeale, Linda Wong.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rick Egged, Jay Harden, Bertha Nahoopii.

GUESTS: Senator Les Ihara, Clayton Frank (Governor's Representative; Director, Public Safety Department – PSD), Jennifer Bainum, Kona Bainum, Captain Ron Iwami (Honolulu Fire Department – HFD), Calvin Azama (Speaker Calvin Say's Office staff), John Gollner, Duke Bainum, Keith Young, Walea Constantinau (Oahu Film Office; Mayor's Representative), Debbie, Daisy Murai; Captain Jeffrey Richards, Lt. Harrison Kim Han, Sergeant Dale Hardinger, Sergeant David Yamamoto, Officer Adam Schonhardt (Honolulu Police Department – HPD District 6 Waikiki); Representative Scott Nishimoto, Mollie Mead, Judith Bowman, Tina Yamamoto, Alan Rivers, Candice Van Buren (Representative Nishimoto's Office staff), Brett Schenk, Stan Fichtman (Councilmember Djou's Office staff), Sergeant Alan Rivers (HPD District 7 East Honolulu), Elwin Spray (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

Welcome – Chair Narita welcomed the community to the meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) Waikiki Station 7 – Captain Ron Iwami reported HFD Waikiki Station activity statistics for August 2008: five fires, ninety-eight medical emergencies, one hazardous condition call, eight service calls, thirty-seven good intent calls and seventeen false alarms. Iwami reported a major incident (Kaimana Villa) where the call was to extinguish a balcony fire started from a discarded cigarette, with seven HFD companies responding to the alarm. Iwami reported a fire safety tip on fire prevention week:

Fire Prevention Week has its roots in the Great Chicago Fire on October 8-10, 1871. On the 40th anniversary of that fire, the Fire Marshals Association of North America decided the anniversary should be observed nationally to inform the public about the importance of fire prevention. Since 1992, fire prevention week has been observed the week of October 9. The national Fire Protection Association has selected "It's Fire Prevention Week: Prevent Home Fires!" as the theme for fire prevention week on October 5-11, 2008. Did you know that most fire injuries are caused by fires that occur in our homes? This year's campaign will focus on preparedness and underscore the importance of regularly checking your home for fire hazards. HFD encourages every family to take the necessary steps to ensure that your home is safe from fire hazards and that your family is prepared to escape when alerted by your smoke alarm. Practice and have an escape plan and designate a safe meeting place outside your home.



Chair Narita referred to the announced 80 foot height of the projected transit rail lines through Waikiki and asked if the current HFD equipment would be able to recover any possible injured riders from that height (in between stations), especially noting the need to deal with handicapped. Iwami said the ideal ladder truck extension would be a 70-foot reach but said he would follow-up on the question. Murai asked about the McCully/Moilili Station timetable with Iwami saying he understood that the end of the year might be the earliest opening following the current construction. Chair Narita thanked Iwami for his report.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 6, Waikiki – Lieutenant H. Kim Han represented HPD District 6 and reported a recent crosswalk pedestrian traffic fatality. He expressed concern about the death and other speeding incidents, citing Kuhio Avenue speeding resulting in serious accidents. Sergeant D. Yamamoto reported activity statistics for the past months, highlighting fifteen liquor related incidents in August 2008 (and twenty-seven in July 2008) and eighteen unauthorized entry into a motor vehicles in August (with one in July). Persons asked about the big spike of calls between the months, with Yamamoto saying that all calls are responded to. Murai commented on observing radar guns in use in the area for pedestrian safety/speeding issues, with Yamamoto saying that the technology now is for laser guns and that area enforcement teams are now using and are planning to continue using the laser guns in efforts to make streets safe, in issuing citations to both speeders and jaywalkers. Keith Young reported assisting an older lady who was using a walker, saying that she needed assistance near an intersection and required two light cycles to cross the street, with no assistance from officers present nearby, and asked that officers be aware and assist community members in distress. Captain Richards thanked Young for his assistance to the lady, said that he would follow up on the incident and asked that 911 be called any time assistance was observed to be needed.

HPD District 7, East Honolulu – Sergeant Hal Rivers distributed copies of area statistics and comparisons. He highlighted increases in burglaries and thefts from vehicles and a decrease in total thefts. He stressed the desire for internet safety and urged families to review children's internet use, referring to the distributed "A Family Guide to Using the Internet" for information. He also reported that the community is the eyes and ears of the police department and asked for everyone to observe what's going on in their neighborhood.

Chair Narita thanked the HPD officers for their reports and attendance.

Board member Matson arrived at 7:23 p.m.; eleven Board members present.

Board Of Water Supply (BWS) – Chair Narita referenced a distributed BWS report and invited questions to representatives at the next month's meeting.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report – Chair Narita recognized the September 11th date as "Patriot Day" being the seventh year after the World Trade Center towers attack, asking for remembrance of both the event and those who left and also in appreciation of the first responders who continue to protect the neighborhoods every day. He also noted planning for the contiguous neighborhood boards joint Candidate Forum (on September 16, 2008) with recognition of the extraordinary efforts of Board member Matson for the coordination. He highlighted issues:

- Elimination of Neighborhood Board paper ballots due to budgetary cuts.
- Revised Neighborhood Plan (114 pages) has been recommended to be adopted by the Neighborhood Commission.
- 548 Kapahulu Avenue proposed lease (to Prudential Properties) is continuing, with \$4 parking currently being allowed.
- The City Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) may be making a future presentation.
- HPD's crime reporting and questions web link is operating and he encouraged its use.

Chair Narita invited questions, with Judy Bowman saying there was excessive speeding in Pualei Circle and asking for Board attention. Chair Narita asked that she report the concern to HPD now and said that it could be brought up to HPD at the next meeting, but encouraged anyone to call 911 when they observe a problem, both to have it on the HPD report and to have a timely response to concerns. Bowman said the speed limit need to be changed, explaining that the current 25 miles per hour (MPH) is too fast and that the speed limit needs to be lower. As part of the Chairman's Report, Matson described attending a very-well-organized Neighborhood Commission-convened meeting of neighborhood board chairs, where training was held on subjects including the new Neighborhood Plan, the State Sunshine Law, and Parliamentary procedure, with presentations on the Neighborhood Commission by its chair Grant Tanimoto and discussions of the Neighborhood Commission Office functioning. Matson reported discussions about moving the Neighborhood Commission Office to be a part of the City Council organization or to designating it as a stand-alone City department. She also said she made a request for copies of the new Neighborhood Plan for all Board members. Chair Narita said that he had also requested Plan copies and asked for reproduction of the meeting summary materials for members. Chair Narita noted he had been unable to participate, being on the mainland and delayed as part of the aftermath of Tropical Storm Faye, and thanked Matson for attending and for the report.

Treasurer's Report – Drown reported the August 31, 2008 Board statement showed a balance of \$3552.06, with August expenses of \$52.82. Chair Narita thanked Drown and reported the need to authorize expenses for the up-coming Candidate Forum, saying that would be addressed later in the meeting.

Sub-District 1 (St. Louis Heights) Report – Sub-District Chair Luckett reported a community question about rubbish being burned versus buried. Luckett also reported concerns with area bulk pick up, saying that very large items like washing machines are sometimes not picked up although other items were.

Sub-District 2 (Kapahulu) Report – Chair Narita noted Sub-District Chair Nahoopii was not present, but that he had received no reported concerns.

Sub-District 3 (Diamond Head) Report – Matson reported signature of the recently Council-passed camping ordinance and that no changes were visible in the parks yet, saying that the parks administrator could report to the Board on concerns. She asked that the Kapiolani Park director come to the Board and report. Chair Narita reported that Gregory Hee, an architect from the City's Department of Design and Construction (DDC), would come to the next meeting to make a report on the Honolulu Zoo entrance project, with the project not being a redesign but an accommodation of the area trees. Matson expressed concern about the project's advocates being part of the same department that would be overseeing the design approval.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Governor's Representative – Clayton Frank (Director, State Department of Public Safety – DPS) represented Governor Linda Lingle, distributed a community update and reported a need for precinct poll-site election officials, asking that interested individuals call the State Elections Office at 453-8683. He also reported the October 15th deadline was approaching for distribution of the Federal Tax Stimulus Program checks, with the initial need to fill the federal tax return. Luckett asked Frank to urge Governor Lingle to release the full tourism marketing funding, pointing out that the failure of tourism would impact all parts of the islands. Frank reported that there was still a surplus but issues including the fuel increase impact all parts of spending, so that the economic outlook is of concern and the State is trying to be frugal. Chair Narita thanked Frank for his report.

Senator Les Ihara – Chair Narita deferred Senator Ihara’s report.

Representative Calvin Say – Calvin Azama represented Speaker Say and distributed a written report. He also reported that the planned \$125,000 for the repair of the road had not been released, with that decision likely to be made later this year, and noted that the Governor is not generally inclined to release construction funds. Matson commented on a recent noise abatement meeting where no additional meetings had been set, expressing concern that the issue (and the funds) had been supported by the Board and by area legislators but that there seems to be obstacles to meaningful action to solve noise problems. She said that the funds seem to be earmarked solely for developing a website, with Azama reporting he had heard that the funds were to go for web design. Chair Narita thanked Azama for his report.

Representative Scott Nishimoto – Chair Narita deferred Representative Nishimoto’s report.

Mayor’s Office – Walea Constantinau represented Mayor Mufi Hannemann and was available to relay community concerns and issues. Constantinau reported on prior issues:

1. The most comprehensive way to meter water irrigation separate from residential is the installation of a sub-meter, with requires a backflow preventer and a licensed plumber, with that cost being the responsibility of the user (the question referred to a cost of \$12,000 for the sub-meter installation).
2. Alternatives are being investigated before the elimination of Neighborhood Board Election paper ballots is decided.
3. Parking too close to driveways in the Kilohana Square area is being monitored by HPD.
4. A report of a rumble strip on the sidewalk adjacent to the Safeway Kapahulu Store is being investigated, with Chair Narita reporting that the non-skip pad is on the sidewalk and not an issue. He said that a anti-theft line is on the Safeway property to prevent carts from being pushed to the curb but stressed that the City-placed non-skip pad was for safety.
5. The City is developing plans for bikes in the updating of the Honolulu Bicycle Master Plan, with input welcome through www.oahubikeplan.org
6. The ponding issue is being investigated.
7. Reports of commercial use at the Kapahulu and Kalakaua corners were investigated and not discovered.
8. Moped shop commercial use of the sidewalk area (Kalahulu) was investigated and no commercial or repair, including leaking fluids, were observed. Matson said the investigator should return, with Constantinau saying that 911 should be called if violations were observed. Matson reported a stack of wood from creates blocking the sidewalk in front of the business, saying that the high pile of wood and debris had been there for over a week. Lockett asked for a follow-up about mopeds utilizing the parking spaces near the shops. Chair Narita reported that District 7 HPD has responded to complaints, with th3e shop having been cited and asked that 911 be called, with Constantinau asking for the exact address so that the City could respond.

Board member Wong arrived at 7:50 p.m.; twelve Board members present.

9. Constantinau reported that the request to post documents on the Neighborhood Commission web was still being reviewed.
10. The request for Paki Hale area concrete steps was being looked at by the City Department of Parks and Recreation (PRK).
11. Department of Design and Construction’s Gregory Hee would be at the next meeting to address some of the Honolulu Zoo issues.

Matson commented that the water sub-meter now did not require an architect's plans, with Constantinau agreeing, but Matson noted the cost of the valve and the plumber made it still expensive. Young asked about the City's new rubbish can system, with Luckett giving him her copy from the prior meeting. Murai suggested that more literature be made available on the rubbish can system, with Constantinau saying she would follow-up. Wong asked Constantinau to check on the red curbs with no driveways that are in the Kanaina and Monsarrat area. Chair Narita thanked Constantinau for her report.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – Chair Narita reported receipt of a written report from Councilmember Kobayashi.

Chair Narita recognized former Neighborhood Board member Duke Banium, welcoming him back to service as the incoming Councilmember. Duke Banium thanked Chair Narita, and introduced his wife Jennifer, son Kona, and volunteer John Gollner, saying that Gollner would likely serve as Banium's community representative.

Representative Scott Nishimoto – Representative Nishimoto was present and distributed a community report, invited the community to participate in the 27th Graffiti Clean Up on September 27, 2008 and in the 5th Annual Community Clean-Up, referring to the flyer for the October 11, 2008 Kaimuki High School event, where recyclable items – especially metal – are encouraged. Wong asked about recycling computers, with Nishimoto's agreement that computers could not be picked up but were receivable if they were dropped off. Miller asked about heavy items like refrigerators, with Nishimoto saying their pickup could be scheduled and invited calls to his office. Nishimoto also introduced his girlfriend, Debbie _____, an elementary school teacher, and resident at Pualei Circle. Chair Narita thanked Nishimoto for the report.

Chair Narita reported to Constantinau that he understood the bulk pickup was being done by vendors who had two crews, one for general pickup and one for heavy items.

Councilmember Charles Djou – Stan Fichtman, of Councilmember Djou's Office staff, distributed a community report and reported Djou's awareness of no changes occurring in Kapiolani Park with regard to the just-passed camping ordinance; he reported Djou is following up, has expressed concern, and is seeking action from the Park and from HPD. Fichtman reported Djou is proposing legislation allowing for payment of property tax by credit cards, as well as energy proposals - including permitting windmills on residential properties which would then allow the electricity generated to be sold back into the grid. Fichtman suggested Constantinau could obtain the information of park closure requests from HPD and through the City Department of Community Services (Randy Wong). Matson said she understood there were 29 recent requests for night-time park closures, and asked Constantinau for the dates of closure action and whether the request came from a neighborhood board or a public safety agency. Constantinau said she suspected the decision to close or restrict hours was a mutual decision, with Matson asking for information on the other neighborhood boards that took action. Chair Narita noted a recent trip to a mainland tourist city (Orlando, Florida) where homeless were not observed and suggested that other jurisdictions be reviewed to see their success stories. Wong asked for Djou to follow up on her concern about candidate residency, saying the ability of a candidate to establish residency on paper without having been a part of the community prior to filing to seek office is a mockery of the concept of representative government. Fichtman said that the payment of property tax might decide residency but that he would follow up on her concerns, noting that the information might be through the State's Office of Elections. Chair Narita said that Governor's Representative Frank had just reported on State Office of Elections issues, with Wong observing that Frank had left the meeting. Chair Narita thanked Fichtman for his report.

Senator Les Ihara Jr. – Senator Ihara reported the current success of the 548 Kapahulu issue, with the site now open as a parking lot, and with Chair Narita reporting the parking fee at \$4. Ihara added

that it was a month-to-month lease, with the Prudential Locations intending to make a sub-lease to the commercial parking lot operator, with the site being paved, tax marked and a parking box to be installed, but that for the short term there is to be an attendant. Ihara reported that the skateboard non-profit (SPOAA) was planning to reorganize and re-plan, but was still involved in raising funds to be used as matching funds for a Wailalae Avenue skateboard park site. Ihara said that the Gold Coast seawall litigants have heard from a judge that the homeowners association will have "standing" to sue the State over the repair of the sea wall, with Persons saying a suit is likely the next year (March 2009). Ihara said the Diamond Head Culinary Institute planning is continuing, with their likely to be seeking permits the next year. Matson reported the Culinary Institute had presented the revised plans to community groups but noted they had yet to bring the plans to the Neighborhood Board, saying that she had seen the revisions and felt they were positive. Chair Narita thanked Ihara for his report.

Community Concerns – Chair Narita asked for community concerns not previously mention or part of the agenda:

- Tina Yamamoto was present from Chaminade University, and invited the board and audience to a community "Good Neighbor" meeting on September 25, 2008.
- Berlin reported the prior month's concern about energy conservation efforts and encouragement of alternative energy sources, including renewable sources, to be included in a proposed letter to the City on encouraging conservation; Chair Narita gave Berlin his draft letter and asked if it met her intentions, saying he would wait for her feedback. Matson stressed to Fichtman the need for energy to be a City priority, asking about Djou's position on solar energy, with Fichtman saying Djou had passed a fee waiver for homeowners and continues to investigate.

Chair Narita asked Matson and Fitchman to follow-up the discussion on the side and asked for other community concerns; there were no other concerns.

Approval of Board Minutes – Chair Narita asked Board Secretary Cain to report, with Cain explaining that the draft minutes are being circulated for the approval to be voted on at the meeting. Cain said that if the draft minutes meet the Board standards, then they would be finalized. Cain explained that four months of minutes need Board action and proposed deferring the current August 2008 minutes and approving the minutes for May, June, and July 2008. **Chair Narita stated the recommendation for May, June, and July minutes approval and deferral of August 2008 minutes, with Cain moving and Miller seconding for the approval of the May, June, and July 2008 Regular Meeting Minutes.** Matson asked about corrections previously submitted, with Cain saying those he received and accepted for the July draft were included in the printed minutes. **Chair Narita asked for a vote and declared the May, June, and July 2008 Minutes approved 10-0-2. Aye:** Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Drown, Lockett, Miller, Narita, Persons, Waialeale. **Abstain:** Matson, Wong. **Chair Narita said the intent was for the deferral of the August 2008 minutes, and that unless there were objections, he would declare them deferred; with no objections, Chair Narita declared the August 2008 minutes deferred unanimously 12-0-0.**

Mayoral Candidate Forum – Chair Narita asked candidate forum coordinator Matson to report, with Matson giving an outline of the plans:

- Three adjacent neighborhood boards are in support of the joint four-board candidate forum – Manoa, McCully-Moiliili, and Waikiki.
- Waikiki Neighborhood Board co-sponsor is mailing their Board list, while the others are e-mailing theirs.
- The event is Tuesday, September 16, 2008, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., here at the Ala Wai Clubhouse.
- Janet Mason, a professional motivator, will serve as the moderator.
- Format is for written questions to be submitted, with the moderator to field the questions to the candidates.

Matson stated the Board needed to vote approval of expending Board funds for the planned videotaping coast, with \$250 for makakilo.com who would prepare the tape for Olelo broadcast. **Wong moved and Matson seconded for the \$250 expenditure for videotaping for the candidate forum.**

Wong commended Matson for her efforts in getting the project together. Luckett noted as many as 40% of the primary voters had likely already voted and said the event should have been earlier to capture those voters. Miller expressed concern that Olelo has few viewers and \$250 spent there was not money well spent. Treasurer Drown reported available operating funds of over \$1400 and publicity funds in excess of \$2000. Matson reported that many Boards do regular Olelo broadcast of meetings while this neighborhood board chooses to fund a community newsletter, saying that the projected cost is that of a regular monthly board filming charge. Cain asked about the account source (operation or publicity) with Chair Narita saying Cain could make the determination. Berlin asked how the event was being publicized, with Matson reporting that the Waikiki Neighborhood Board voted to mail their list and others emailed to their constituents. Matson said the best way we could reach people is by e-mailing. Chair Narita suggested Matson contact the press, with Waialeale pointing out the short time period remaining until the event. Drown asked about the flexibility of accounts, with Spray confirming the videotaping was allowable. Luckett said the e-mail should be sent to all neighborhood boards, with Matson saying she had sent to Hawaii Kai and Makiki, with Palolo and Kaimuki boards expressing interest but not holding meetings in time to become involved. **Chair Narita asked for the vote on the \$250 videotaping expenditure, and announced the cost approved 9-0-3. Aye:** Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Drown, Luckett, Matson, Miller, Narita, Persons, Waialeale, Wong. **Abstain:** Berlin, Miller, Waialeale. Matson report that KITV had the event information and that she would contact the other media. Chair Narita reported feedback that Mayor Hannemann had a prior meeting but had offered a representative. Allen moved and Luckett seconded that the candidate only be involved. Wong suggested that representations would be valuable. Chair Narita said he had been told of situations where candidates abused the opportunity of the public meeting, with Cain saying that with a 45% rating Mayor Hannemann should be allowed to be represented. **Chair Narita called for the vote and announced that the candidates only would be involved 10-2-0. Aye:** Allen, Berlin, Chang, Luckett, Matson, Miller, Narita, Persons, Waialeale, Wong. **No:** Cain, Drown. Matson offered two suggestions, the first being that to allow for Hannemann deciding at the last minute to be a participant that a chair and name plate be set up for him, and second, that the Board authorize refreshments for the event. **Wong moved and Waialeale seconded that an amount not to exceed \$120 be authorized for refreshments for after the forum. Chair Narita asked for the vote and declared the Board agreed to the expenditure 10-0-2. Aye:** Allen, Berlin, Cain, Chang, Luckett, Matson, Narita, Persons, Waialeale, Wong. **No:** Drown, Miller. Chair Narita directed that Matson would make the arrangements for the food, continuing that no consumables were to be allowed in the room.

Board Business – Chair Narita reviewed agenda items under Board Business, noting no additional reports were needed.

Announcements – Chair Narita announced the next Diamond head/Kapahulu/St/ Louis Heights Neighborhood Board meeting would be October 9, 2008.

Adjournment – Chair Narita noted there was no further business, and with no objections, announced that the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Submitted by Elwin Spray, Neighborhood Commission Office staff