



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

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### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012** **ALA WAI CLUBHOUSE**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Linda Wong called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. **with a quorum of 11 members present.** (Note - This 15-member Board requires eight (8) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.) Chair Wong mentioned two issues - 1) Board members should try to vote their conscience with a “yes” or “nay” vote instead of “abstaining,” for ease of passage/non-passage of motions and for true Board representation. 2) If Board members have a "conflict of interest," they should declare it before their vote. This does not necessarily bar members from voting. If there are any questions, contact Chair Wong.

Members Present - Julia Allen, Michael Cain, Victoria Mathieu, Michelle Matson (arrived at 7:13 p.m.), Barbara Miller (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Bertha Naho'opi'i, Bert Narita, Laura St. Denis, Lance Takenaka, Bryn Villers, George Waialeale, George West, and Linda Wong.

Members Absent - Lee Manfredi and Don Persons.

Vacancies - There are no vacancies.

Guests - State Senator Les Ihara, Jr.; State House Speaker Calvin Say, State Representative Scott Nishimoto, Walea Constantinau (Mayor Peter Carlisle's Representative, City & County of Honolulu Film Industry Office); City Councilmember Ann Kobayashi and Jarret Yip (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's Office staff), Micah Munekata (Councilmember Stanley Chang's Office staff), Director Wayne Yoshioka and Glen Moir (City Department of Transportation Services), Captain Alan Park (Honolulu Fire Department, Waikiki Fire Station), Officer Shane Fujitani and Officer Erik Egami (Honolulu Police Department, District 7); Justin Kessler (Board of Water Supply); Daisy Murai, Mary C. Murphy, Maria Zimmer, Caro Honda, Dennis Kawano, Sterling Matsumoto, Famiko Isab, Bessie Fukumoto, June Tsukamoto, Gordon Tsukamoto, Joleen Trujillo, Richard Trujillo, Derrick Park, Arlene Liao, Sammy Liao, Lenora Goo, Kingston Liao, Glenn Hirayono, and James Stern (Kaunaoa Street residents); Alex Ah Tou (Service Systems Associates, Honolulu Zoo), Jan Bappe, Mary Rose Rodel, John Dew (Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9), Carolyn Poon, Sharon Toma, Joyce G. Spoehr (Komen Race for the Cure), Kerrie Villers, Barbra Armentrout, Jim Hayes (Candidate, City Council District 5), and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

### PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) - Captain Alan Park reported the following:

- August Statistics - There were a total of 228 calls; 10 fire calls, 133 medical/rescue emergencies, 4 hazardous conditions, 70 service calls, and 5 good intent calls. There were 2 major incidents, both were building fires.
- Fire Safety Tips - Fire Prevention Week (FPW) was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire that occurred on October 8-10, 1871. The International Fire Marshals Association observes the anniversary nationally to remind the public about the importance of fire prevention. Since 1922, FPW has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls.

The National Fire Protection Association selected “Have 2 Ways Out!” as the theme for FPW on October 7 - 13, 2012.

In October, children attending elementary schools statewide will receive a Fire Fighter's Safety Guide (FFSG) from their teachers. We encourage parents to review the FFSG with their child, create or revisit and practice their fire escape plan, test their smoke alarms, and consider the other safety tips in the guide.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 6 (Waikiki) - No representative was present and no report was available.



Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 7 (Kapahulu, St. Louis Heights) - Officer Shane Fujitani distributed the monthly report and Officer Erik Egami reported the following:

- Statistics for August 2012 - There were 12 burglaries, 3 robberies, 52 thefts, and 12 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV).
- Safety Tips - Information on the Neighborhood Security Watch program was provided.
- CONTACT US: [www.honolulu.hpd.org/patrol/d7](http://www.honolulu.hpd.org/patrol/d7)
- COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM/NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY WATCH
  1. Officer Mark Mitchell, Office Phone: 723-3366, [mmitchell1@honolulu.gov](mailto:mmitchell1@honolulu.gov)
  2. Officer Shane Fujitani Office Phone: 723-3364, [sfujitani1@honolulu.gov](mailto:sfujitani1@honolulu.gov)
  3. Officer Chad Yamada Office Phone: 723-3366, [Cyamada4@honolulu.gov](mailto:Cyamada4@honolulu.gov)
  4. Officer Celine Aiu, Office Phone: 723-3362, [caiu@honolulu.gov](mailto:caiu@honolulu.gov)
- GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (G.I.S.) & (WEBSITE)
  1. Officer Steve Forman, Office phone: 723-4928, [sforman@honolulu.gov](mailto:sforman@honolulu.gov)

Board of Water Supply (BWS) - Justin Kessler reported the following:

- From Last Month - Kessler followed up on a reported water outage by Board member Allen. He is waiting for a response from field operations.
- Main Break Report - There were no main breaks in the district during August 2012.
- Water Emergency Preparedness - Natural disasters, power outages, or other unexpected events can disrupt the ability of the BWS to provide water service to the community. September marks the observance of National Preparedness Month and serves as an important reminder to have an emergency preparedness kit available for your household.

One crucial component of your emergency preparedness kit is having a supply of safe drinking water. Residents should store at least one gallon of water per person, per day, for at least five to seven days. Also, in the event of an emergency, it is very important to stay tuned to media reports in order to receive water information bulletins. These bulletins will allow you to take any appropriate actions announced by the BWS or other emergency response agencies.

More information about emergency preparedness, including a handout, describing how best to store drinkable water in your home, is available online at [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com).

Visit [www.boardofwatersupply.org](http://www.boardofwatersupply.org). For more information, call 748-5041.

Miller arrived at 7:12 p.m.; **12 members present.**

Matson arrived at 7:13 p.m.; **13 members present.**

## ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative - Attorney General David Louie reported the following:

- Hawai'i's Teachers - The Hawai'i State Teachers Association (HSTA) on August 20 agreed to pursue federal mediation in its collective bargaining negotiations with the state, as proposed by Governor Abercrombie to re-engage in discussions. Attorney General Louie will keep the Board posted on developments.
- Strategic Partnerships - The Abercrombie Administration is building strategic partnerships in the Asia Pacific region to deliver on New Day goals for energy, a sustainable economy and stewardship of the environment.
  - China - Kicking off last month's Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit & Expo, Governor Abercrombie and Secretary General Xu Hubin of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade signed a Memorandum of Understanding (or MOU) to start a clean energy investment and deployment program in Hawai'i. Put simply, the program will facilitate the Hawaii Energy Office's matchmaking process between Chinese clean energy investors/developers and Hawai'i ventures in need of capital or development partners. Also, last month a Chinese Coast Guard ship participated in naval exercises. The goal is to increase Chinese tourism in the U.S. and Hawai'i.

- Japan - Later during the summit, Governor Abercrombie joined the governors from Hiroshima, Saga and Shizuoka prefectures in signing another MOU that solidifies the parties' commitment to engaging in technological development in renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Pacific - Most recently, Governor Abercrombie signed a partnership agreement with the governors of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and Guam to assist the Pacific region in identifying coastal and ocean management priorities that require a coordinated regional response. This regional partnership will enhance our ability to work cooperatively in addressing stewardship of our oceans and coastal areas for future generations.
- Mortgage Foreclosure Settlement - The Attorney General's Office brought in \$8 millions to Hawai'i from the federal government, as part of the National Mortgage Foreclosure Settlement. The money is distributed to various agencies, like the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), Legal Aid, the Judiciary and mediation services to help homeowners know their rights, when they try to get better mortgage services. A lesser amount is used for national purposes.
- Public Lands Development Corporation (PLDC) - Attorney General Louie mentioned it was passed by the Legislature to assist the State of Hawai'i in making better use of its land by increasing alternate revenues, instead of raising taxes, to fund government. Although it is exempt from certain zoning and permitting laws, it still must follow the core environmental laws, pertaining to Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), water quality, air quality and hazardous materials. The PLDC is now making its rules, which should satisfy many concerns, while still fulfilling its mission. The Administration is helping with making the rules, which will make sure that development is done in a responsible way.

Comments followed:

1. PLDC - Matson thanked Attorney General Louie for coming and commented that the PLDC has expanded its role to include controlling other lands, not only State lands. Under Act 282, which the Governor signed this year, the PLDC can take control of these lands and not call them "public lands." Attorney General Louie continued that the PLDC wants to make efficient use of "under-utilized" Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and other State lands and it wants public input in making the rules to help them cut some of the "red tape" in the process. The discussion will continue.

State House Speaker Calvin Say - House Speaker Say reported the following:

- Tax Review Commission Recommendations - Two proposals were to raise the General Excise Tax (GET) from 4.5% to 5% only on O'ahu and to end the homeowners' tax exemption. House Speaker Say responded with a seven-page written letter in opposition to all proposals.

State Senator Les Ihara, Jr. - Senator Ihara reported the following:

- Senate Special Committee on Accountability - Senator Donna Kim will chair the committee to gather information from the University of Hawaii (UH) about the failed Stevie Wonder concert and related matters. It is scheduled for Monday, September 24, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 211. It will be broadcast live on 'Olelo. A second meeting is scheduled the following Monday, October 1, 2012.
- PLDC - For the record, Senator Ihara was the only Senator, who voted against the bill, after it came out of Conference Committee. Concerns were not raised in the caucus hearing. It doesn't look like the rules can fix it. There will be more public input and public hearings.

Comments followed:

1. Follow the Money - Waialeale asked why the UH paid a former football coach \$500,000 to not coach, gave a former Athletic Director another \$200,000 a year job for losing \$200,000 on a bogus Stevie Wonder concert and why the UH President is given a \$5,000 a month housing allowance, when she has a residence on College Hill. Meanwhile, the students get tuition increases. Senator Ihara responded that a few years ago, the Legislature granted the UH autonomy to take politics out of higher education. The Senate is trying to get answers so that the Governor and the University can make changes.
2. Closing of the Kewalo Marine Lab - This project has nationally recognized scientists that work with Pacific Islanders. Matson wanted to prevent the closing, scheduled for next June. Senator Ihara responded that next session, the Senate will be confirming a few members of the UH Board of Regents (BOR) and many issues can be raised.
3. A comment was made that the Apple Administration was worried that a facility researcher undermined the Vice Chair of Senate committee on Education.

State Representative Scott Nishimoto - No representative was present and no report was available.

Mayor Peter Carlisle's Representative - No representative was present and no report was available at this time.

City Councilmember Ann Kobayashi - Jarret Yip distributed the newsletter and Councilmember Kobayashi reported the following:

- Restore TheBus Changes - City Council Chair Ernie Martin and Councilmember Kobayashi wrote an Opinion/editorial (op/ed) urging Mayor Peter Carlisle to re-open the budget process to reallocate funds to restore cutbacks in bus service.
- Proposal for Free Bus Rides for Seniors and for Persons with Disabilities - This proposal will not go into effect until July 2013 and there will be public hearings later.
- New Alapai Transit Center - The Council passed funds for public restrooms, which is a health and safety issue.
- Rail Change Orders - Next Wednesday, there will be a hearing for rail change orders. A contractor wants \$22 million payment for the delays in the project. However, Councilmember Kobayashi thinks that the City signed the contracts "too early" in 2009, when the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) said the City was not ready to begin.
- Sewer Fees Increases and More - The Department of Environmental Services (ENV) is looking at new technology to generate electricity from the wastewater treatment plants instead of making the fertilizer pellets, which generated \$460.00 last year. For the BWS, it could develop the property on Beretania Street. Instead of rate increases, each department should think about raising its own funds first.

Comments followed:

1. Audit for Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) - It is not on the City Auditor's calendar yet, as he has other jobs already planned. Villers stated that there was no progress as requested.
2. Request for Investigation and Service Report (RISR) - A resident wanted to thank Councilmembers Kobayashi and Chang for sending RISRs to the City Administration, requesting an additional bus for Route 14, so there will be a hour wait instead of two hours.
3. Petition from Kaunaoa Street Residents - The residents presented Councilmember Kobayashi a six-page petition, addressed to Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Director Wayne Yoshioka detailing the health and safety concerns about the articulated buses traveling on Kaunaoa Street and requesting their removal. Councilmember Kobayashi mentioned that Director Yoshioka was in attendance and that the Council had found funds to restore service to before the changes. In Manoa, the buses are cutting into a resident's yard and people are walking on roads with no sidewalks. The residents requested a RISR for this issue. A petition was reserved for House Speaker Say.
4. Bus Fare Changes - Councilmember Kobayashi mentioned that for the last two months, "everything is on the table." Right now, the Council is looking for money to restore services. The discussion on the free passes for seniors and for persons with disabilities will come in the second half of Fiscal Year (FY) 2013.
5. More Concerns - Board member Matson expressed more concerns about the crowded parking which is a safety hazard blocking traffic with trolleys, bus jams on a two-signal street. Campbell Avenue/Monsarrat Avenue area and use of the articulated buses on narrow streets. Councilmember Kobayashi added that there needs to be a review of the whole bus system islandwide.
6. Bus Fare Increases - Councilmember Kobayashi mentioned that at a previous Board meeting a 10 to 25 cent increase was floated. There are people who will face a hardship with any increase. The Council is looking at various options and not to raise fares.
7. Good News! - Board member Villers reported that he uses the Route 13, which picks him up on Kapahulu Avenue and he can go directly to the University of Hawaii (UH) and back. His wife can go directly to downtown and back on the Route 13, too. Director Yoshioka will be happy to hear this, as his goal was to make the bus system more efficient. He will be making a presentation later tonight.

City Councilmember Stanley Chang - Micah MuneKata reported the following:

- Community Gardens - There is a wait list of 15 to 20 people for the Ala Wai Community Garden and 27 at the Diamond Head community garden. Councilmember Chang's Office is working with Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and Department of Budget and Fiscal Services (BFS) on remnant parcels and with the public elementary schools, such as Jefferson School. Councilmember Chang's Office will keep the Board informed of any developments.
- Possible Gambling in Waikiki - HPD is monitoring Winners Zone on Kuhio Avenue and at many other locations islandwide. HPD is working with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Department of Corporation Counsel (COR) to determine the legality of the gambling machines. Councilmember Chang's Office will keep the Board informed of any developments.

- Flyers Promoting Gun Shop - There are City ordinances that describe where handbills may not be distributed, for example, where it impedes pedestrian traffic, at crosswalks and at bus stops. At the Waikiki Neighborhood Board meeting on Tuesday, HPD mentioned that it added eight (8) officers for enforcement of sidewalk violations.
- 100K Homes Oahu - It is a community-driven movement to identify and house the 100 most vulnerable homeless residents on Oahu by September 30, 2014. Survey volunteers are needed to participate on all three days, September 17 to 19, 2012 and training is mandatory. Learn more at - [www.100khomesoahu.org](http://www.100khomesoahu.org).

Comments followed:

1. Community Gardens - St. Denis reported that the Diamond Head community garden has a wait list of 27 people and there are others in Waikiki. Munekata will continue to follow up.
2. Roof-top Gardens - This idea has been floated in Councilmember Chang's office.
3. Flyers - Mathieu mentioned that the gun shops are protected under the First Amendment (of the U.S. Constitution), as long as they don't block traffic. Munekata agreed.
4. Tents on Sidewalks - Waialeale was opposed to tents blocking pedestrian movement. Mathieu suggested that he call HPD.
5. RISR for Bus Route 2 and Kaunaoa Street - Chair Wong requested a RISR on behalf of the residents.
6. Solar Panels - Matson suggested that solar panels in Waikiki would make it look less like a "concrete jungle."

Mayor Peter Carlisle's Representative - Walea Constantinou reported the following:

- Last Month's Concerns - Most of the concerns were addressed by Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Director Wayne Yoshioka and Department of Enterprise Services Deputy Director Randy Leong.
- Streetlight Out - A Board member reported a streetlight that was out on Kanaina Avenue. The City work crew could not locate it and requested more information.
- Rail Project - On August 24, the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that the rail project's final Environmental Impact Statement was properly performed and sufficient under State law, and that the City and the State gave full consideration to Native Hawaiian cultural and historic values as required under state law.

However, the Court also ruled that archaeological inventory surveys to identify significant historic properties, including Native Hawaiian burials, must be completed at one time and not in four sequences or phases.

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) had previously allowed the City to complete the archaeological surveys in phases and begin construction in a phase once its survey was complete. The City believes that approach would greatly minimize the impact on unknown burial sites. A State Circuit Court Judge had upheld that approach, but was overruled by the Supreme Court.

As a result, the City has temporarily stopped construction in areas where two archaeological survey phases have already been completed and approved. Construction will resume once surveys for two remaining phases are approved.

The City has asked the court to reconsider its decision on the basis that SHPD has the appropriate discretion to determine whether a phased project may proceed.

The City noted that the phased approach would focus ground-disturbing activities where more detailed designs had determined the actual touch-down points for rail guideway columns and stations. The City also noted that the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the rail project stated that this approved phased approach would reduce the areas to be disturbed to potentially less than 10 percent of what would be disturbed if the archaeological inventory surveys were done for 100 percent of the project. The City believes the phased approach would avoid unnecessary excavations, provide greater protections for *iwi kupuna*, and was reasonable for SHPD to approve.

The Court is anticipated to decide the motion by September 28. Until then, the City cannot speculate on possible options other than completing the two remaining surveys before resuming construction.

Comments followed:

1. Manhole Cover on Kaunaoa Street - Chair Wong mentioned that more research was being done.
2. Mongoose on the Loose - Daisy Murai thanked the City for repairs near the zoo, but now there is a mongoose running around the Rose Garden.
3. Resolution by the City Council - Now, that the Council has passed the resolution about restoring the bus changes, what will Mayor Peter Carlisle do? Will he wait until January 2013 when the new Mayor comes in? Constantinau suggested waiting until Director Yoshioka gives his presentation.
4. Honolulu Zoo Liquor Application - Last month, Matson had asked if the proposed use was permissible or not permissible under the Kapiolani Park Trust. Deputy Director Randy Leong responded, "The City is very aware of and sensitive to the Kapiolani Park Trust permissible uses and is committed to ensuring that the terms of the Trust are respected and perpetuated. The City understands that the "Burger King" lease was not a permissible Trust/park use and given this history, the City is committed that its current manager/operator is not using park/Trust property as a "Burger King" lease. The City and Service Systems Associates (SSA) work together to ensure that all activities at the Zoo are conducted consistent with Kapiolani Park Trust/park permissible uses for the enjoyment of all residents of the City and County of Honolulu." (So, it is a revocable lease.)

## PRESENTATIONS

Community Complaints Regarding Bus Route 2 Changes - City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Director Wayne Yoshioka gave a few introductory remarks. Faced with a "flat" budget and gas and labor costs increases, Director Yoshioka wanted to cut operating costs by making more efficient use of scheduling and bus route changes islandwide without bus fare increases. He is open to listening to community concerns. There were many route changes, which affected the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board No. 5 district. Route 2 goes to Kapiolani Community College (KCC), Route 13 goes to the University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa, Routes 19 and 20 replaced Route 2 to service the "Gold Coast," Route 4 ends at McCully/Kalakaua and Route 14 was modified. Board members Cain, Mathieu and community member Kinston stated that the Board is the correct venue for these issues. Community member and bus rider Daisy Murai passed out a written letter to the Board about five problems with the new routes and major safety issues around the Monsarrat/Campbell intersection. The Kapi'olani Park users want the bus to go around the park as it used to. Director Yoshioka will meet with the residents of Kaunaoa Street (about 20 in attendance) next Thursday or Friday at 7:00 p.m. at the church in the neighborhood.

At 8:55 p.m. there was a motion to extend the meeting to 9:15 p.m. As there were no objections, the meeting continued.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS: 18th Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure - Joyce G. Spoehr announced that the 2012 Komen Hawai'i Race for the Cure® will be on Sunday, October 21, 2012 at Kapi'olani Park.

## BOARD BUSINESS

Ala Wai Golf Clubhouse Application for Dispenser General Liquor License (Categories 3 and 4 - Music/Dancing/Hostess) - They changed their request to Category 3 only.

Waikiki Zoo Liquor License - The applicants, Service Systems Associates (SSA), have now presented to the Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9, also. The Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board No. 5 is waiting for Department of Enterprise Services (ENV) Deputy Director Randy Leong's follow up. Under Kapi'olani Park Trust, as a City concession the Zoo should have a revocable lease. This item was previously reported by Mayor Peter Carlisle's representative Constantinau.

Narita departed around 9:05 p.m.; **12 members present.**

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 9, 2012 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: **As corrections to the minutes were not circulated in time, Matson moved and Mathieu seconded that this item be deferred to the next meeting. The motion to defer was ADOPTED, 11-0-1 (AYE: Allen, Cain, Mathieu, Matson, Miller, Naho'opi'i, St. Denis, Takenaka, Villers, West and Wong; ABSTAIN: Waialeale).**

The rest of the agenda was deferred to the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by:  
K. Russell Ho  
Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:  
Adam LeFebvre  
Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:  
Linda Wong, Chair