



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

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION OFFICE • HONOLULU HALE, ROOM 406 • 530 SOUTH KING STREET  
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### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** **THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015** **ALA WAI CLUB HOUSE**

CALL TO ORDER – Chair George West called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. **A quorum was established with 10 members present.** Chair West welcomed everyone to the January 2015 meeting of the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board No. 5. Note – This 15-member Board requires eight (8) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Members Present – Julia Allen, Barbra Armentrout, Victoria Mathieu, Barbara Miller, Bertha Naho'opi'i, Bert Narita, Don Persons, Laura St. Denis, Bryn Villers, George Waialeale (arrived at 6:38 p.m.), George West, and Linda Wong (arrived at 6:57 p.m.).

Members Absent – Lee Manfredi, Michelle Matson, and Lance Takenaka.

Vacancies – None.

Guests – Senator Sam Slom, House Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Cliff Kaneshiro (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's Office staff); Councilmember Trevor Ozawa, Kenny Amazaki, and Kurt Tsuneyoshi (Councilmember Trevor Ozawa's Office staff); Captain Albert McCollum (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane and Sergeant Clifford Ramson (Honolulu Police Department, District 7); Keoni D. Mattos (Board of Water Supply), Robert Evans, Jan Bappe, Daisy Murai, Paul Vollstedt, John Kong Kee, Kerrie Villers (Resident), Shiloh Swanson, and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair's Announcements – For all wishing to speak on items not already on the agenda, fill out a Community Concerns form from the entry desk and turn it into the Chair or Neighborhood Assistant.

Other Chair's Announcements – Chair West mentioned the annual Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board No. 5 newsletter, which will be published by May 2015. Board members may submit articles to Secretary Victoria Mathieu for editing.

THREE (3) ABSENCES LETTER FOR BRYN VILLERS: Bryn Villers mentioned that in the recent past he could not attend the Neighborhood Board meetings, as he had scheduling conflicts with classes at the University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa. However, the semester is over and he is available to attend the Board meetings again. He expressed his desire to remain on the Board. As there were no objections, the Board accepted his explanation and took no action on the three absences letter. Villers remains on the Board.

### PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – No representative was present at this time and no report was available.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD), District 6 – Waikiki (Diamond Head) – No representative was present at this time and no report was available.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD), District 7 (Kapahulu, St. Louis Heights) – Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane reported the following:

- December 2014 Statistics – There were 2 motor vehicle thefts, 16 burglaries, 26 thefts, and 9 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV), and 6,850 total calls for service.
- Safety Tips – The safety tips were on Pedestrian Safety.
- Contact Information – The contact information for the HPD, District 7 East Honolulu Community Policing Team was listed.



Comments followed:

1. Illegal Parking – Bertha Naho'opi'i reported a commercial truck parked for five (5) days. Lieutenant Sukekane responded that usually commercial permits are for four (4) hours and other vehicles may park for 24 hours. Call 911 to report violators and HPD will follow up.
2. Paki Park – Daisy Murai reported illegal drug activity by younger people at Paki Park and requested enforcement of the "stored property" laws. Lieutenant Sukekane will forward this concern to District 6.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – As Jill Kuramoto was not able to attend tonight, Keoni Mattos reported the following:

- Water Main Breaks – There were no breaks in the district for November and December 2014.
- 2015 Water Conservation Calendar and Water Conservation Contests – Mattos distributed the BWS 2015 Water Conservation Calendar, which presented winning artwork and poetry submitted by Oahu youth in Grades Kindergarten-12. Limited copies are also available at 630 South Beretania Street.
- 37th Annual Water Conservation Week Poster Contest and 7th Annual Poetry Contest – This year's contest theme is "Water Matters – Conserve It." The poster contest is open to students in grades K through 6, and the poetry contest is open to students in grades 7 through 12. The deadline to enter these contests is Wednesday, February 26, 2015. Winners will be announced in May 2015, will receive prizes, and be featured in the 2016 Water Conservation calendar.
- Olelo Youth Xchange Video Competition – BWS is sponsoring a category in the Youth Xchange Video Competition, which is a statewide student video competition, coordinated by Olelo Community Media. The theme is "The Value of Water" and the contest challenges youth to come up with a 30-second Public Service Announcement that highlights water's journey from source to tap. The video contest is open to students statewide in grades K through 12 and the entry deadline is March 3, 2015. For more information about these contests, visit [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com) or call the BWS Communications Office at 748-5041.
- Last Month – A Board member reported that the lights were out at the Bertram Street facility. They will be replaced with light-emitting diodes (LED) lights. Mattos thanked the Board member for pointing out this issue to the BWS.

Comments followed: Bertram Street Lights – Armentrout thanked BWS for fixing the lights and she will inform the resident who reported it.

At 6:38 p.m. Waialeale arrived at the meeting; **11 members present.**

#### RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Speeding on Leahi Avenue – Robert Evans reported drivers speeding on Leahi Avenue and that it is an unsafe road for school students and residents. Evans proposed a vehicle speed study by Department of Transportation Services (DTS), using an automatic traffic recorder instead of HPD officers using a radar gun. Subdistrict 3 Chair Laura St. Denis gave Evans her contact information.

Honolulu Zoo and Other Places of Interest – As the Honolulu Zoo has been in the news recently for its problems and it is a major facility in the district, including the Waikiki Shell, the Kapi'olani Park, Kapi'olani Community College (KCC), and the Aquarium. Bert Narita suggested that representatives be invited to the monthly meetings to get Board support and to update on the on-going projects. As there were no objections, Chair West will request an update on the Honolulu Zoo project that was presented to the Board a few months ago.

Evacuation Zone – Laura St. Denis and Daisy Murai had attended a meeting concerning rewriting the evacuation zones and St. Denis wanted a presentation for the Board. St. Denis had a chart showing the times for tsunamis to hit the Hawaiian Islands, for example the tsunami, generated by the 2010 Chile earthquake. Narita added on his Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) report that Peter Hirai, head of Department of Emergency Management (DEM) made a PowerPoint presentation to the Wednesday, December 17, 2014 meeting. DEM rewrote the evacuation zones and Waikiki is affected. George Waialeale added that an earthquake in Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii, would send a tsunami to Honolulu within 25 minutes and wanted this issue to be addressed. Murai noted that Hirai mentioned that if a 9.0+ magnitude earthquake hit, a tsunami would hit Waikiki. Residents and hotel visitors are advised to go above the fourth floor. Chair West asked St. Denis to set up a presentation for the Board.

No Parking Sign – St. Denis requested a "No Parking" sign at the lifeguard building and fence on Leahi Avenue. Chair West suggested that the request can be given to the Mayor's Representative.

Chair West noted the arrival of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) representative.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Albert McCollum reported the following:

- December 2014 Statistics – There were 9 structure, 1 wildland, 4 rubbish, and 13 vehicle fires; 183 medical emergencies, 7 search/rescues, and 13 miscellaneous calls for service. There were no major or unusual incidents.
- Fire Safety Tips – Purchase a microwave oven that has an independent testing laboratory label. Complete and return the product registration card, in case there is a product recall. Supervise children using a microwave oven. Use only microwave-safe food containers and never use aluminum foil or metal. If the microwave oven catches fire, keep the door closed, turn it off, and unplug it from the wall receptacle. If the fire does not extinguish, go outside and call 911.

## OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Governor David Ige's Representative – No representative was present and no report was available.

Senator Les Ihara, Jr. – Senator Ihara was not present and no report was available.

At 6:57 p.m. Wong arrived at the meeting; **12 members present.**

Senator Sam Slom – Julia Allen distributed a report and Senator Slom reported the following:

- Budget Hearings – Governor David Ige is proposing a State budget of \$25 billion for the next two (2) years. Spending will increase for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 and Fiscal Year (FY) 2017. The Republicans will have a budget on line, showing a decrease in spending.
- Governor Appointment Status – As the State Senate is responsible for advising and consent, there is still no Attorney General appointment yet.
- 2015 Legislative Session – The 2015 Legislative Session will begin Wednesday, January 21, 2015 and will convene until Thursday, May 7, 2015 (60 working days). The usual three (3) issues will be discussed (legalizing marijuana, legalizing gambling, and assisted suicide), but the focus will be on fiscal matters. Senator Slom believes that there will be no cash in the third (3rd) year of a six (6)-year budget cycle, unless there are tax increases and/or budget cuts. There is still a \$25 billion unfunded liability for public employees benefits. The Interim Budget Director is the former head of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) and replaces the former Budget Director, who is moving to the University of Hawaii (UH). Senator Slom introduced his staff member, Board member Julia Allen. Senator Slom also mentioned another qualified staff member with experience in Silicon Valley and company acquisition. She and Senator Slom will be analyzing the Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) sale. As the lone Republican in the State Senate, Senator Slom will be assigned to 17 committees, including the Health Connector Oversight Committee.

Comments followed:

1. HECO – Chair West asked when the HECO report will come out. Senator Slom mentioned that it will be reported by the end of February 2015 online and in hard cover.
2. Rail Overage – Armentrout asked about the rail overages. Senator Slom reminded everyone that he was an original party to sue the City to stop the rail. The business plan did not make sense. Now, Mayor Kirk Caldwell is looking at extending the General Excise Tax (GET) date and real property tax increases. With only five percent (5%) completion, there is a \$700 million over-run. Senator Slom will update the Board.

House Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say – House Speaker Emeritus Say was not present at this time and no report was available.

Representative Scott Nishimoto – Representative Nishimoto was not present, but Representative Bertrand Kobayashi distributed his report. Representative Kobayashi noted that Representative Nishimoto was assigned to the House Finance Committee, which has been meeting.

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi – Representative Kobayashi distributed a community update and reported the following:

- Governor David Ige's Appointments – Representative Kobayashi's newsletter had a summary of Governor Ige's appointees. As of tonight, there were no Attorney General and no head of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). The other appointees "look good on paper."

- 2015 Legislative Timetable – The 2015 Session of the Twenty-Eighth State Legislature will convene on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 and Thursday, January 29, 2015 will be the last day for bill introductions.
- Fort Ruger Pathway Nears Completion – DLNR is close to completing the new Fort Ruger Pathway. The pathway is about 95% done with about 50 feet unfinished close to 22nd Avenue.
- Representative Aaron Ling Johanson Switches Parties – Former House Minority Leader Aaron Johanson announced that he switched political parties and has joined the Hawaii Democratic Party.
- Students Challenged to Develop Vision for Hawaii's Future – Hawaii lawmakers are inviting students across the state to participate in the Hawaii: Next 50 Contest, which asks students the question: "What do you think needs to happen in the next 50 years for Hawaii to be the best place to work and live?"
- Petition to Keep Hawaii's Heroes – Representative Kobayashi gave some background information and passed out a flyer to keep military personnel in Hawaii and for Hawaii to not participate in the proposed "downsizing" throughout the U.S. The flyer points out an estimated loss of 19,800 soldiers and 30,000 military family members for Schofield Barracks and Ft. Shafter and the economic impact of the loss of \$1.35 billion.

Comments followed:

1. Governor's Appointments – Waialeale noted that many of the appointees did not apply for a job, for example, Elizabeth Kim for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Representative Kobayashi responded that the Governor has to weigh many factors. For example, the Attorney General's job is a major interruption to a person's career path financially.
2. Military Housing – Villers inquired if a military draw-down would affect the prices of the housing market. Representative Kobayashi mentioned that there are two (2) positions – There could be an increase in the supply of rentals and lower prices. On the other hand, it may be harder to find rentals, as military personnel may "pool" their housing allowances to pay a premium price. Waialeale added that on the mainland, military housing is offered to retired military personnel.

Chair West noted the arrival of House Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say.

House Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say – House Speaker Emeritus Say reported the following:

- Petition to Keep Hawaii's Heroes – The petition campaign has been ongoing for one and one-half (1 1/2) months. House Speaker Emeritus Say passed out a petition.
- Albizia Trees – Funds to control this invasive species will not come from General Funds, but from environmental funds, including funds from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) and the DLNR.
- St. Louis Heights – House Speaker Emeritus Say was concerned about damaged light and utility poles. House Speaker Emeritus Say wanted co-ordination of the maintenance of all utility poles, and will introduce a bill in the Legislature.
- Help Private Property Owners Fix the Sidewalks -- House Speaker Emeritus Say will also introduce a bill to have the county governments balance the private property owner's rights with the public liability interest to repair and maintain uprooted sidewalks.

Comments followed:

1. Albizia Trees Funds – Chair West asked for the total amount of funds available. House Speaker Emeritus Say responded that he did not know the total amount of the funds, but it is hoped that the information would come out in the discussions. The funds would be for statewide control of Albizia trees and would come out of many departments. They would be a start.
2. 11th Annual Community Clean Up – Murai thanked House Speaker Emeritus Say for the recycling event and House Speaker Emeritus Say thanked Murai for the refreshments and for her donations. Proceeds were donated to various community groups.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative – Walea Constantinou was not present, but The City News January 2015 was available.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – Cliff Kaneshiro distributed Councilmember Kobayashi's newsletter and reported the following:

- Committee Meetings – The schedule for committee meetings was listed.
- Christmas Tree Recycling – Information was given on recycling of Christmas trees.
- Honor Those in the Community – The Council honored Jimbo Restaurant on its 20th Anniversary.

- Neighborhood Board Elections – There was information on the Neighborhood Board Elections for the 2015 – 2017 term. The deadline to file to be a candidate is Friday, February 20, 2015.

Councilmember Trevor Ozawa – Councilmember Ozawa distributed his newsletter and reported the following:

- Introductions – Councilmember Ozawa introduced himself and two staff members, Kenny Amazaki, Chief of Staff and Kurt Tsuneyoshi, Director of Community Relations.
- Backlog – Councilmember Ozawa mentioned that he and his staff were working on the numerous issues that were carried over from former Councilmember Stanley Chang.
- Committees – Councilmember Ozawa is the Chair of the Executive Matters Committee, Vice Chair of the Zoning Committee, and on the Budget Committee, chaired by Councilmember Ann Kobayashi. Mayor Kirk Caldwell will submit his budget by Sunday, March 1, 2015. Councilmember Ozawa stated that many residents saw increases in their real property taxes and he wanted to make cuts to the budget.

Comments followed:

1. Subdistrict 3 (Diamond Head) Concerns – Subdistrict 3 Chair Laura St. Denis mentioned projects in Subdistrict 3, for example, the stop sign/crosswalk, a community garden, and speeding on Leahi Avenue. Councilmember Ozawa's Office will follow up.
2. Neighborhood Board Meeting Attendance – Waialeale suggested that Councilmember Ozawa attend at least 10 of the eleven Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board No. 5 monthly meetings. Councilmember Ozawa so noted.

## PRESENTATIONS

Update on Wai'alae Avenue Reconstruction – Narita explained that community members, including residents, bus drivers, and a former City road inspector, reported that paving was uneven and that substandard work was accepted by the City. The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) requested specific locations of the allegations. After discussions, the DDC will make a presentation in the future.

## BOARD BUSINESS

Approval of the November 13, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes – Narita and Wong noted that they did not received the draft November 13, 2014 minutes. Chair West noted the oversight may have been due to Neighborhood Assistant Ho's sick leave absence. The system is in place that the draft minutes will be sent to Secretary Victoria Mathieu, Vice Chair Linda Wong, Treasurer Bryn Villers, Lee Manfredi, Michelle Matson, Bert Narita, and Chair George West. Corrections should be sent back to Mathieu, who will sent the final draft to Neighborhood Assistant Ho for mailout. **Mathieu moved and Narita seconded that the November 13, 2014 regular meeting minutes are accepted as done by the Neighborhood Assistant and Secretary. The motion was ADOPTED, 11-0-1 (AYE: Allen, Armentrout, Mathieu, Miller, Naho'opi'i, Narita, Persons, St. Denis, Waialeale, West, and Wong; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: Villers).**

Diamond Head Road Scenic Byway Update – Michelle Matson was not present. However, Chair West read her e-mail and reported the following:

- The Diamond Head Scenic Byway Committee's December 10, 2014 meeting discussion highlights included:
  - The large umeke presented by King Kalakaua to Henry Bertelman, one of the original landowners on the Diamond Head Road shoreline.
  - Increased recreational conflicts along lower Diamond Head Road, where joggers now use the new bike lane to get around walkers on the pathway, and bicyclists are forced into the roadway in front of motorists.
  - KCC faculty interest in providing semester class resources and field work for the Scenic Byway's Corridor Management Plan evaluations.
  - Increased signage impacts along the Scenic Byway.
- The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

## REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Villers reported that for December 2014 \$44.20 was spent for the printing and mailing of the agenda and minutes, leaving a balance of \$268.45. The Treasurer's report was filed.

Subdistrict 1 (St. Louis Heights) – Julia Allen reported the following:

1. Restaurant Valet Parking – A new restaurant's valet parking on the street in Kapahulu has disrupted the neighborhood. The restaurant is on Winam Avenue. Letters have been sent with no response. Chair West suggested that the Board be kept informed.
2. Next Meeting – The next meeting of the St. Louis Heights Community Association will be on Monday, January 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hokulani Elementary School at 7:00 p.m.

Comments followed: Restaurant Valet Parking – Mathieu asked what will be done. Chair West asked for the name of the restaurant. It is a new Japanese restaurant, named Sushi Ginza Onodera. Chair West may place this item on the agenda or report it to the Mayor's Representative's to follow up.

Subdistrict 2 (Kapahulu) – Bertha Naho'opi'i had no report.

Subdistrict 3 (Diamond Head) – Laura St. Denis reported the following:

1. Three (3) Large Trees – There were three (3) large trees that fell in her subdistrict.
2. Parking Space – St. Denis is working on creating a new parking space.
3. Evacuation Zone – St. Denis will be working on a requesting a presentation.
4. Speeding on Leahi Avenue – St. Denis will be working on this issue.

O'ahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) – Bert Narita submitted a written report. Unfortunately, the agenda for the January 21, 2015 meeting has not been posted yet. It should be posted by Monday, January 12, 2015.

ADOPTION OF MOTION TO ADJOURN – Chair West thanked all of the public officials for attending tonight's meeting. **Chair West asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Armentrout moved and Villers seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was ADOPTED, by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 12-0-0 (AYE: Allen, Armentrout, Mathieu, Miller, Naho'opi'i, Narita, Persons, St. Denis, Villers, Waialeale, West, and Wong; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None).** The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Submitted by:

K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:

Neil Baarde, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by:

Victoria Mathieu, Secretary

Bryn Villers, Treasurer

Michelle Matson, Bert Narita, and Lee Manfredi, Board members, and

George West, Chair