



PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2008 PALOLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Rachel Orange at 7:05 p.m. with nine members present. The Board has thirteen seats, quorum is seven.

Board Members Present: Chris Bennett, Traver Carroll, Tom Eisen, Gregg Hutchings, Rachel Orange, Greg Pentecost, Earl Shiraki, Dawn Tanaka, Michael Weinstein.

Board Members Absent: Gladys Gerlich-Hayes, Darlene Nakayama.

Vacant Seats: Two seats in Sub District 3.

Guests: Sandi Yahiro (Governor's Representative, Deputy Director, Department of Taxation), Lt. G. Lum Lee, Sgt. C. Sugekane, Ofc. J. Hendricks, (Honolulu Police Department/District 7), Sgt. C. Toda, Firefighter K. Won (Honolulu Fire Department/Engine 33), Joseph (J.T.) Thomas (Board of Water Supply), Senator Les Ihara, Stephen Maybir (AmeriCorps VISTA), James Nekota (Palolo Community Council), Mark _____, Kevin and Tara Cole, Tyleen Tausaga, Bonnie Trustin (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

Board Vacancies: No volunteers came forward to fill the two vacant seats in Sub District 3 between Pakui Street to Pukele Avenue and Kalua Road.

CITY SERVICES

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Lt. Lum Lee (District 7) distributed their report including identity theft information and crime statistics from April 1 through April 9. Use their website at www.honolulupd.org/patrol/d7 to report resident concerns and HPD will respond.

Questions, answers, concerns:

1. HPD taped around the area of the boulder which fell recently to alert residents who were not home at the time of the incident. Upon investigation HPD found the land is privately owned so they cannot take any action. The land owner was contacted but Lt. Lum Lee does not know their response. When a rockslide occurred a few years ago, this land owner was notified of the incident.
2. Lt. Lum Lee advised Weinstein that walking on the trail above the homes going up to Maunalani Heights would not precipitate a rockslide because it is not by the trail. HPD sent a helicopter to view the area and the pilot did not see any imminent sign of a rockslide.
3. Suggested if a boulder fell down to the road, any affected party should see an attorney or do a geological survey. Chair Orange will seek out an agency that could help.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Firefighter Loren Hunter, Palolo Fire Station, reported the following:

- There was 1 rubbish, 1 structure, and 1 brush fire; 18 medical emergencies and 2 miscellaneous calls. There were no major incidents.
- Fire Safety Tip: A smoke alarm is **absolutely** necessary in your home; they are proven life savers. Smoke and toxic gases from fires can numb your senses preventing quick reaction especially at night when all are asleep. Working smoke alarms give early notice.
 1. Install smoke alarms on every level of your house and outside every sleeping area.
 2. Test alarms monthly, replace batteries yearly or when alarm chirps and battery is low.
 3. Have advance fire escape plan for your family: a) plan two ways out of every room b) know where everyone will gather outside c) once out of the house, stay out!
 4. Plan a drill where you activate the alarm and practice escaping.



Questions, answers and concerns:

1. Those with outdoor fire pits should notify HFD dispatch at 523-4411, so neighbors can be advised if a fire is reported.
2. An emu pit on Holomau Road is legal but notify HFD dispatch so they know its location.
3. Nekota calls HFD before he starts pounding mochi because it creates smoke.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): J.T. (Joseph) Thomas distributed information called "Oahu's Water Cycle and You" and reported on questions from last month:

- There are metal plates on Holomau Road where it is currently unsafe due to water leakage. City roads division is designing a plan to fix it after they find the source of the water leakage. BWS tested the water going under the bridge and it is not BWS water.
- Metal plates by Palolo Tunnel are part of the Palolo Tunnel Improvement Project. The project's main purpose is to abandon part of the tunnel line going cross country by Wilhelmina Rise that supplies Wilhelmina Reservoir. The area of the project that reroutes the six inch pipe at the end of Waiomao Road should be completed in about three months.
- Thomas answered one question about replacement of Palolo Valley's water system. BWS reviews main breaks and considers replacements when three main breaks occur within a certain area. He is not aware of any scheduled replacement in Palolo.

HCAP: No representative was present.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor's Report: Martin Okabe, for Mayor Hannemann, was not present.

Questions, answers and concerns:

1. Weinstein asked about the corner of 10th Avenue and Maluhia, across from the Aloha gas station, where saw horses have been for months and construction is not completed.
2. Tanaka asked in order to alleviate heavy Waiialae Avenue traffic, could a contra flow lane be created or establish no left turns going ewa in the mornings between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on weekdays.

The following officials were not in attendance however a report was distributed: Council member Ann Kobayashi and Representative Calvin Say. Senator Ihara reported later.

Governor's Representative: Sandy Yahiro, Deputy Director, Department of Taxation, distributed the Governor's newsletter and discussed the following questions:

1. Chair Orange noted the newsletter reports they have hope for Aloha Airlines.
2. The Turtle Bay Advisory group is progressing along but she has no specific updates.
3. She will advise next month about when Superferry service to Kauai will resume.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES:

A resident complained about moped noise on 9th Avenue and Shiraki agreed with him. Chair Orange noted last month HPD reported officers gave citations to moped riders and confiscated a number of mopeds for infractions.

OLD/OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Skate Park Update - Hutchings reported that nothing has changed on the issue.
2. Update on Application for Conditional Use Permit for Adult Daycare at 3514 Hinahina: Chair Orange reported the applicant who requested a Conditional Use Permit was denied it unless they meet certain conditions. The applicant abandoned their plan because of the long time disapproval of their neighbors. They were not doing in-home patient care previously.
3. Status Update: HB 2730, HB1512: HB 2730 is still alive in Conference Committee. The bill would allow reports to be heard without having a quorum and two or more people could attend community meetings.
4. Chair Orange will seek out the appropriate organization to advise on the boulder issue.
5. Eisen requested to check status of zoning on the housing project proposed next to Palolo Elementary School that was presented to this board. Chair Orange noted there will be an update at next meeting.

FUTURE PRESENTATIONS: Contact Rachel Orange at Rachel.orange@hawaii.edu for agenda item requests.

CHAIR'S REPORT, MAIL AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chair Orange read the following:

- A. Video of neighborhood board meetings are now available online, see <http://www.honolulu.gov/nco>.
- B. Bulky Trash Pick-Up: Take out by the morning of April 16th. Bulky items are picked up the third Wednesday of every month.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2008: The minutes were filed as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The report was not available.

The meeting agenda was taken out of order so Stephen Maybir of the Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP), could give a report.

HCAP: Stephen Maybir, an AmeriCorps Vista representative with HCAP, announced the following:

- April 15th there will be an HCAP Valley Youth Council meeting at the HCAP building in front of Jarrett Middle School starting at 5:30 p.m. Any youth or those working with young people are encouraged to attend.
- There will be a collaborative meeting for the Vista members in Palolo May 3rd at Jarrett Middle School featuring ethnic culture from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The meeting agenda was taken out of order when Senator Ihara arrived and gave his report.

SENATOR LES IHARA: Senator Ihara reported the following:

- The new Culinary Institute of the Pacific held a resident briefing at Kapiolani Community College (KCC) describing their plans to build next to the college. They will use the old Canon Club Restaurant for training of managers and students. Questions about noise, dust and traffic were addressed.
- Bills relating to how Sunshine Law applies to neighborhood Boards are moving through the legislature.
- A resolution passed to establish a task force to review the Sunshine Law and how boards should conduct business in accordance with the Sunshine Law. The Office of Information practices will be consulted. Results will be presented to the legislature next year.
- Most of the legislation on senior care issues is moving through the legislature. A Long Term Care Commission is being planned for home care services on which Senator Ihara could serve.

Questions, answers and concerns:

1. A concern was expressed that the bill relating to Neighborhood Boards currently before the City Council could lead to the dismantling of the Board system.
2. Hutchings requested skateboard park funding from Councilmember Kobayashi. He also met with the Director of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the Mayor's Representative who said they have no funds for the project. To go forward, grants from different sources and matching grants will be applied for to get the \$200,000 to \$400,000 needed for the park construction.
3. Since Senator Ihara had helped St. Louis residents work with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) on a land issue, he suggested contacting private land owners to survey the land where potentially loose boulders are. Chair Orange will look up the landowners for all the steep areas in the entire valley. Senator Ihara suggested an attorney counsel landowners on taking preventative measures. Hutchings will search for the attorney who represented the people affected by the Nuuanu rockslide and others in the past ten years.

4. Senator Ihara suggested introducing a bill next year requiring private landowners with land of certain land grade, soil or rock formation be required to do a survey of their property. Chair Orange will find who the landowners are and Senator Ihara will see if they are mandated to do surveys.
5. Tanaka noted residents are looking for reassurance that some agency will require landowners to do a survey to know about possible boulder movement. Pentecost suggested these incidents could be an act of God for which you cannot plan. Chair Orange noted that is the question being discussed: to find out if there is a known risk. Senator Ihara will follow up with DLNR who is responsible for making assessments about the land and find their criteria for putting screens up to support some areas.
6. Chair Orange asked anyone interested in putting up a poster with notice of upcoming Palolo Valley Neighborhood Board meetings this year to take one to put up for display.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by

Bonnie Trustin
Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by

Rachel Orange, Chair