



PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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(Draft) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2010 PALOLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Orange called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with an 11 members present. This 13 member board requires seven (7) votes to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Eisen, Randy Hack, Darlene Nakayama, Rachel Orange, Dawn Tanaka, Traver Carroll, Earl Shiraki, David Dunaway, Paul Holtrop, Stephen Tschudi, Gladys Gerlich-Hayes.

ABSENT: Michael Weinstein

VACANCIES: One in Sub-district 2

GUEST LIST: Greg Cuadra (Neighborhood Board No. 8), Maj. E. Ching, Lt. G. Lum Lee, and Off. M. Mitchell (Honolulu Police Department); James Nekota, Van Law, Teni Saito, Cindy Kurtz, Ivan Hoe, Torin Ching, Michele Sansome, Capt. S. Minchew (Honolulu Fire Department, Julia Allen, Calvin Say (Speaker of the State House), Ann Kobayashi (Councilmember), Dean Harvest, Neighborhood Commission.

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Stuart Minchew reported the following:

- January 2010 Statistics – Statistics included 5 structure 1 vehicle and 1 rubbish fire, 55 medical emergencies, 2 search and rescue, and 12 miscellaneous calls. 1 major incident (downed aircraft) 12 companies.
- Fire Safety Tip – Smoke Alarms – Smoke alarms save lives and are an important part of a home fire escape plan. Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of a home. Test smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries yearly. Practice a home fire escape plan and designate a safe meeting place outside the home. Many lives could be saved if all homes contained working smoke alarms.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lt. Lum Lee report and highlighted the following:

Before giving the report Lt. Lum Lee introduced Major Evan Ching, as the new commander for District 7. Major Ching was greeted and welcomed by the board.

- Crime Statistics for r 2009 – 19 burglaries, 36 thefts, and 11 thefts from vehicles.
- Crime Safety Tip: “Your Identity is your kuleana”, protect yourself against Identity Theft, place a 90-day Fraud Alert on your credit file. Ask creditors to call you before opening any new accounts or changing existing accounts. Request copies of your credit report and review them carefully.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Speeding vehicles 10th Ave. and Paalea. Police will monitor the area, and action as warranted.
2. HPD is also working on a Speed Enforcement program for the district.
3. Mahalo to HPD for more visible patrolling.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Kurt Tsue emailed Chair a report with the following:

MAIN BREAK REPORT:



January 4th – 8-inch main break at 2350 Palolo Avenue at 6:03 p.m. Waterline installed in 1948.
December 13th – 8-inch main break on Carlos Long Street at 7:44 p.m. Waterline installed in 1948.

GENERAL WATER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Outdoor Water Conservation: Xeriscaping and Rain Barrels

An estimated 50 percent of the water consumed by the average single-family home is used outdoors, most of which is used for hydrating yards or gardens. Tonight we want to share two ways to use water efficiently outdoors to help preserve our water supply, while cutting down on your water bill.

Xeriscaping offers an ideal way to minimize water waste while maintaining the beautiful landscapes of our island. It involves growing unthirsty plants (that don't need a lot of water to survive), using mulch, and installing proper irrigation. Incorporating xeriscape techniques outdoors can save anywhere from 30 to 80 percent in water consumption a month.

Using home rainwater catchments' system can also help to conserve water. At the Board of Water Supply (BWS), we promote using rain barrels to collect rainwater to use for non-drinking activities such as landscape irrigation. In partnership with the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, the BWS hosts Rain Barrel Water Catchments' workshops that teach people how to build, install and maintain rain barrels at home. A class is scheduled for February 13th, but it's already filled to capacity. Keep an eye out on our website for the next scheduled rain barrel workshop.

For more information on xeriscaping and rain barrels, please log on to our website at www.boardofwatersupply.com.

Halawa Xeriscape Garden Workshops

Workshops are held each month at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden and are geared toward community education about how you can conserve water outdoors. Our education team has found a creative and fun way to merge activities for parents and their keiki while learning about water conservation through Xeriscape. Here some upcoming scheduled workshops:

- February 20, 9:40 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Learn how worms can turn food waste into organic fertilizer at the worm workshop.
- March 20, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Visit with a "Plant Doctor" for plant care and gardening tips.
- April 3, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Xeriscape egg decorating workshops with garden egg hunt.

To register for these classes, call Diane Moses (748-5363) or email tours@hbws.org. To find a list of upcoming classes, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com.

- Water Emergency Preparedness – Prepare an emergency kit with at least one gallon of water per person per day for at least five to seven days, as well as others listed in the handout provided tonight. It is important that everyone stay tuned to media reports. BWS will issue water information bulletins and appropriate actions to be taken through the media. Visit www.boardofwatersupply.org for more emergency preparedness information. The pacific hurricane season continues until the end of November.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS:

HONOLULU COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (HCAP): Various board members reported the following:

- There will be an allotment of refrigerators available for those who are in need.
- There will also be compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) available.
- Tax preparation will also be available for low income residents.
- Our office is located next to Jarrett Intermediate School.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative – Sharon Thom unable to attend tonight's meeting but submitted a written report to the chair.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. If water applied to lawns, or otherwise released outside where it doesn't become incorporated into the sewer system, accounts for 30-80 percent of residential water use then why are we charged a sewer fee on 100 percent of our water usage?
2. Speeding vehicles in the area of 10th Ave/Paalea St. please monitor and take corrective action.
3. Bulb-out at 10th and Paalea is overgrown and needs to be cut.

Representative Calvin Say – Rep. Say circulated his written report and highlighted the following:

- The State budget is now looking at a \$1.42 billion dollar short fall.
- The State Retirement System has not yet been paid.
- Capital Improvement Projects Bond rating has been lowered and is a benefit to the state.
- Legislators are trying to come up with new and innovative ways of getting revenues for the state. And this may include some form of gambling.
- House Bill 444-was deferred indefinitely due to the fact that at the last poll by House Speaker's staff, indicated there was not enough votes to pass.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Why did the Speaker allow a verbal vote to be cast by member of the House rather than a vote by Roll Call? Due to the fact that the last poll my staff took, indicated there was not enough votes to pass.
2. Shiraki thanked the Speaker for doing the right thing regarding HB 444.
3. Will we need to have a special election to legalize gambling?
4. A status on the special election for the open seat of U. S. Representative?
5. No new taxes.
6. A status on the Olelo Bill?
7. Yes, 2/3 vote of the House can bring back HB444.
8. There was no motion to have or make a roll call vote.

Chair Orange announces the following from House Speaker Say's report: The Department of Taxation reminds taxpayers of new general excise tax (GET) filing and payment deadlines for periodic returns beginning with returns filed for January 2010 period. Under a law signed last year (Act 196, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009), the deadline for Hawaii businesses to file and pay their monthly, quarterly, or semiannual GET returns changes from the last day of the calendar month following the close of the tax period to the 20th day of the calendar month following the close of the tax period.

Member Shiraki: Thank you Councilmember Kobayashi and the members of the Palolo Neighborhood Board for getting the city to repave Palolo Ave.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi: distributed her newsletter and reported the following:

- Committee Hearing on February 24th surrounding the bulky items so if anyone has something to say or address this bill please come to our committee hearing on March 2nd.
- Department of Transportation Services (DTS) will be increasing the pedestrian walk time at 7th and Waialae Ave.
- DTS acknowledges the need of a left turn arrow from Waialae Ave on to 10th Ave. Once that is pau, DTS will then study traffic turning left from 10th Ave onto Waialae Ave.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Kudos to your office staff for a quick response. Mahalo.
2. Please get a banned on "Stop Smoking at City Bus Stops".
3. Traffic calming devices are overgrown with weeds
4. Call 911 if someone is parked close to a driveway.
5. Status on plastic bag ban.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

1. HB 444 should have other ways to meet the "Same Sex Union" obligations.
2. Mahalo to our elected officials
3. Tamura's parking lot "No Left Turn" from 10th Ave into the lot is still happening. Motorists are causing near collisions and this is very dangerous. Please follow the rules and obey the traffic signs.
4. Be aware of robberies, burglaries and make sure to lock your doors.
5. Safety concerns at our parks in the tennis courts and playground areas.
6. Broken water fountains (Park not indicated, but I think this is Palolo Park).
7. Traffic cones in the intersection of Palolo Ave. and Loke.

OLD BUSINESS:

Permitted Interaction Groups:

1. Boulder Issues – No report.
2. Bulky Refuse Problems – Eisen attended a meeting organized by Councilmember Kobayashi on this topic and related the following:
 - High profile areas of the City are the Mayor's focus.
 - It was good to included in this discussion.
 - The whole thought is to go after the property owner.
 - Still a whole lot of questions.
 - In urban Honolulu, there are not a lot of areas to establish a convenient center for bulky item rubbish.
 - This is an island wide issue.
 - Inspectors have been hired already and they will investigate complaints.
 - Illegal dumping has been taking place fronting some members' homes.
 - Send in your testimony regarding this bill.
 - For more information and phone numbers log on to www.opala.org.
3. Sewer Rehabilitation Project – Chair Orange briefed the board from a report received from The Limtiaco Consulting Group: We have not been able to work on the Palolo sewer rehabilitation project for about 4 months because we are waiting for the City to inspect the pipelines. The City recently reported that the pipeline inspection work will begin shortly and may continue throughout March. The inspection videos will be turned over to us and we will begin the structural analysis portion of our project. This is the last bit of information necessary to analyze the sewer system and we will be able to provide recommendations at that time. I would be happy to do a follow-up presentation to your group once we identify the problems and provide recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Legislative session: this topic will remain on the agenda to discuss topics of interest to the community and board.
2. Neighborhood Commission is following Senate Bill 2617 with regards to meeting notices going through email.
3. Human Trafficking Senate 2045 has been deferred.
4. Olelo Bill subject to a large reduction of monies from the State.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Olelo Broadcast Slots: Aired on Channel 49 every Wednesday at 9:00 p.m. For schedule and information call 834-0007, ext. 133, or email olelo@olelo.org
2. Bulky Trash Pick-Up: Take out by the morning of February 17, 2010 (3rd Wednesday of every month).
3. Contact Rachel Orange at rachelpualani@gmail.com with agenda item requests.

APPROVAL OF September 9 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The December 9, 2009 regular meeting minutes was circulated and amended as follows: page 3, RESIDENTS CONCERNS; PALOLO

PRIDE -(should read) "James Nekota", **UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 11-0-0 (AYE:** Carroll, Dunaway, Eisen, Gerlich-Hayes, Hack, Holtrop, Orange, Shiraki, Tanaka, Nakayama, and Tschudi.)

August 2009 Treasurer's Report –Deferred

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by:
Dean Harvest,
Neighborhood Commission

Reviewed by:
Rachel Orange, Chair