



PĀLOLO 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, APRIL 9, 2014 PĀLOLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Paul Holtrop called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Quorum was established with nine (9) members present.** Note - This 13-member board requires seven (7) votes to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Frank Farm Jr., Gladys Gerlich-Hayes, Randolph Hack, Paul Holtrop, Beverly Mau, Darlene Nakayama, Earl Shiraki, Shaun St. Vincent, and Michael Weinstein.

Board Members Absent: Stephen Maybir and Rachel Orange.

Vacancies: There were two (2) vacancies; one (1) vacancy in sub-district 2 and one (1) vacancy in sub-district 3.

Guests: David Gronley and Captain Blake Takahashi (Honolulu Fire Department), Sergeant Gary Senada and Captain Henny Wasson (Honolulu Police Department), Dominic Dias (Board of Water Supply), Martha Torney (Governor Abercrombie's Representative), Ross Sasamura (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative), Cliff Kaneshiro (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's Office staff), Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say, Senator Les Ihara Jr., Jason Swanson (Hawaii Bicycling League), GG Weisenfeld (Executive Office on Early Learning), Deborah Pope (Shangri La), Gerald Hieda (Department of Transportation Services), Shinsuke Uehara, James Nekota, Lea Major, and Lori Snyder (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

FILLING OF VACANCIES ON BOARD: There were no nominations to fill the vacancies. This item was deferred until the next meeting.

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): David Gronley reported the following:

- March 2014 Statistics: There were 3 structure fires, 1 search and rescue, 28 miscellaneous calls, and 36 medical emergencies. There was 1 major building fire at 1441 Palolo Avenue; 8 companies and 1 Battalion Commander were at the scene.
- Keiki Fire Safety Tips: Create a "kid-free zone" in the kitchen around stoves, ovens, and hot items. Place pots and pans on the back burner, and keep cigarettes, lighters, matches, and other smoking materials out of children's reach or in a locked cabinet.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Sergeant Gary Senada provided a handout and reported the following:

- March 2014 Statistics: There were 10 burglaries, 28 thefts, 8 motor vehicle theft, 4 unauthorized entries of motor vehicles (UEMV), and 6,133 total calls for service.
- Keiki Safety Tips: Remind children to obey traffic laws, use crosswalk signals, and to avoid riding skateboards in the street.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Fire Alarms: Farm Jr. asked and Senada noted HFD and HPD were contacted when a fire alarm was pulled in a public place.
2. Mopeds: Gerlich-Hayes thanked HPD for addressing the moped noise on 7th Avenue. Shiraki voiced concern about air pollution from mopeds and noted safety checks should be required. Senada noted officers are citing mopeds for equipment violations.
3. Thank You: St. Vincent thanked HPD and HFD on behalf of the faculty and staff at Kapiolani Community College. An incident occurred on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at the Farmer's Market and HPD and HFD reacted with compassion.
4. Traffic Signals: Shiraki noted many pedestrians do not adhere to crosswalk signals.
5. Emergency Response Time: Shiraki asked how to get HPD to respond quickly to emergency calls. Senada noted HPD prioritizes calls, and the average response time is three (3) to five (5) minutes. St. Vincent noted on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 HPD responded to a call in less than two (2) minutes.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Dominic Dias reported the following:

- Main Breaks: There was one (1) water main break in March 2014 on 2442 Halenoho Place.
- Construction: The Kapiolani Boulevard water system improvements are underway and any major issues should be reported to BWS at 745-5000.
- Tours: Tours and educational programs provided by BWS include the Fred Ohrt Water Museum, Kalihi Pumping Station Tour, Halawa's Xeroscape Garden Tour, Nu'uuanu Watershed Tour, Recycled Water Facility Tour, and Waihe'e Tunnel Tour. To schedule a tour e-mail tours@hbws.org or call 748-5041.
- Contest: Thank you to the keiki who participated in the Water Conservation Week Poster and Poetry Contest. Submissions included over 1300 art pieces and over 200 poems.
- Follow-Up: The Leak Detection Team has been informed of and will inspect the two (2) water main reports from the March 2014 Palolo Neighborhood Board meeting.

Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP): There was no representative and no report was available.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: Ross Sasamura reported the following:

- Community for Keiki: April 2014 is Community for Keiki month. Mayor Caldwell thanks the Neighborhood Board members for their dedication to the community, impacting the island's keiki.
- Summer Fun Program: The City and County's Summer Fun Program will run from Thursday, June 12, 2014 to Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at various locations on Oahu. The registration fee is \$25 but is waived for eligible children receiving Department of Human Services (DHS) assistance. For more information, visit www.honoluluparks.com.
- City News Article: The April 2014 issue of City News is currently available.
- Kuaheha Slide: The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is scheduled to work on the Waiomao slide site during the week of Monday, April 7, 2014.
- Waiialae Avenue Traffic Signals: The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) will have a stable analysis in June 2014 to assess the need of a left turn signal on Waiialae Avenue and 10th Avenue.
- Waiialae Avenue Transitions: The contractor was informed to maintain the transitions on the existing pavement at St. Louis Drive and Waiialae Avenue, and the road grades will be adjusted before the road is repaved. If there are any concerns call Sasamura's office at 768-3343.
- Waiomao Road Graffiti: The graffiti on Waiomao Road was painted over on Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Playground Equipment: Farm Jr., Gerlich-Hayes, and Chair Holtrop voiced immense concern over the delay of the playground equipment installation. Sasamura noted the funding is available, but underlying issues such as repairs and installation must be addressed. Sasamura will follow up with an estimated cost and timeline for the project. Chair Holtrop requested a representative attend the May 2014 Palolo Neighborhood Board No. 6 meeting to inform the Board of the playground's progress.
2. Traffic Circles: Chair Holtrop voiced concern that the timeline of the traffic circles project would be similar to the timeline for the playground installation. The traffic circles project data is ten years old and the priority of the project to the community could have changed. Sasamura noted the funds were allocated specifically for the traffic circles and there was a lot of community input for the project.
3. Waiialae Avenue Concerns: Shiraki voiced concern about pedestrian safety with the traffic on Waiialae Avenue and 10th Avenue, and noted the narrow lanes on Waiialae Avenue and 10th Avenue make it difficult for cars, bicyclists, and large trucks to share the road.
4. Thank You: Gerlich-Hayes thanked Sasamura for addressing the construction equipment hazard on 7th Avenue.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – Cliff Kaneshiro provided a newsletter and reported the following:

- Kapiolani Boulevard Construction: BWS construction from McCully Street to Date Street will run until the end of 2014.
- Chinese Language Learning Center: The Chinese Language Learning Center was honored on Wednesday, March 13, 2014 for their commitment to the community.
- Council Meeting: The next full council meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at the Mission Memorial Auditorium at 10:00 a.m.
- Tennis Courts: Councilmember Kobayashi's office is working to get the budget for tennis courts in the playground.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Fireworks: Shiraki voiced concern over firework smoke, and asked to pass the concern to Councilmember Kobayashi.

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative: Martha Torney reported the following:

- Pinwheels: The Pinwheels in front of the State Capitol were installed to bring attention to child abuse and neglect prevention in Hawaii.
- Education: Hawaii is one of the fastest improving states in the United States, and was called a "model for the nation" by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Last year marked the first time Hawaii's fourth-graders surpassed the national average in mathematics. The State is changing curriculum for college readiness and the Department of Education (DOE) has put extra effort in underperforming schools to guide them to success. The Legislature included funding for early learning their drafts of the State budget.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Thank You: Hack thanked the State for getting information and finding a missing person. Nakayama thanked the State for the release of the \$750,000 to the Palolo Chinese Home.

State House Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say: Speaker Emeritus Say reported the following: Crossover: Over 168 Bills were crossed over from the House and the Senate on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Economy: Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say noted not to have high expectations for the funding of all submitted grant-in-aid (GIA) requests, and recommended Hack show his presence at the conference, starting Monday, April 14, 2014.
2. Marijuana: Shiraki asked for the status of marijuana legalization. Speaker Emeritus Say noted the Department of Health (DOH) will determine what the dispensary of medical marijuana will be in Hawaii. There is no legislation in the decriminalization of marijuana.
3. Pono Choices: Shiraki asked for the status of the issue Pono Choices. Speaker Emeritus Say noted the Board of Education is going to determine the curriculum for sex education. Also, parents can choose to opt out their child from sex education.

Senator Les Ihara, Jr.: A representative was not present, and no report was available.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS: Olelo Time Slots: Shiraki asked for the correct Olelo time slots for the showing of the Palolo Neighborhood Board No.6 meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

- Community Recognition Award: There was no community recognition award presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Hawaii Bicycling League (HBL): Jason Swanson spoke on behalf of HBL in support of the Oahu Bike Plan. HBL provides bicycling programs for all ages and explained some of the Palolo Valley street projects in the Oahu Bike Plan. Swanson encouraged the community to contact HBL if there was a street that needed fixing up for bicycle safety. For more information on HBL visit the website at www.HBL.org or e-mail at bicycle@hpl.com.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Improvements: Hack asked for more information about the types of road improvements necessary prior to creating the bike routes. Swanson will e-mail the Board with a response.
2. Sharing the Road: St. Vincent noted the community in and around University of Hawaii at Manoa declared all motorists share the roadway with bicyclists, and recommended this type of declaration be done with the City. Sasamura asked for patience from the community as different techniques for bike lanes are being implemented.
3. Bike Safety: Shiraki was concerned about the safety of bicyclists and recommended riders get bicycle training. Swanson noted HPD issues citations, and HBL distribute the rules, regulations, and safety tips.

Preschool Open Door (POD): GG Weisenfeld of the Executive Office on Early Learning provided a registration form and presented on the POD program. There was a new change in the Legislature in 2010 that requires children to be five (5) years old by July 31 of the school year in order to enter kindergarten. The Executive Office of Early Learning has been brainstorming ways to address the needs of the young children. \$4 million was allocated in the budget for POD for this school year. Open enrollment for the POD program began Saturday, March 1, 2014 and will end Wednesday, April 30, 2014.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Job Loss: Hack asked for confirmation that a number of early childhood educators will be losing their jobs. Weisenfeld talked to DOE, and understood those teachers will not lose their jobs but will move to a different position.
2. Benefits of Early Learning: Hack emphasized the benefits of early child care, and Weisenfeld noted 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of five (5).

Hearing no objection, Chair Holtrop took the agenda out of order to III. E. State Senator Les Ihara, Jr.

State Senator Les Ihara, Jr.: Senator Les Ihara, Jr. highlighted two (2) bills; one (1) bill would require lobbyists to itemize their expenditures, and another bill would allow voter registration the last week prior to the election.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Bill Prices: St. Vincent inquired about bills crossing over without having a price attached. Senator Ihara Jr. noted that discussion occurs at the budget conference on Wednesday, April 23, 2014, and the bills do not include a price until the amount available for the bills is released. The State is required to have a balanced budget, and 75% of budget is already committed leaving only 25% for programs. Speaker Emeritus Say voiced agreement with Senator Ihara's statements.
2. Grants: Hack asked if it would be helpful to have a team of experts from the community help decide on the grants. Speaker Say replied there are only 60 working days to make a decision and everyone has a bias on their favored projects. Senator Ihara Jr. noted a large amount of GIA requests were received, and there is not enough in the budget to accommodate every request.
3. Minimum Wage Increase: Gerlich-Hayes voiced concern over the fairness of the minimum wage increase; some employees worked years to get their promotion while others will receive the pay increase automatically. Senator Les Ihara Jr. was aware of the concern noted that the wage increase might cause pressure for employers to raise wages for the higher paid employees, causing the cost of business to increase.

The agenda returned to New Business: C. Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art: Deborah Pope, Director of Shangri La reported on the shoreline safety concerns on the property. Concerns included diving and jumping from the shoreline into shallow water, jumping from ladders and tightropes, illegal drinking from minors, and an increase of people on the property. As a result, numerous injuries have occurred; two men suffered permanent quadriplegia, and Emergency Medical Transport (EMT) was called to the site five (5) times in 2013. Warning signs were posted and a security guard was hired. A six (6) foot aluminum fence will be installed along the shoreline that will increase safety and still allow access to the water. The project is to begin on Monday, April 21, 2014 and should last for a month.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Fence Height: Shiraki noted people will still be able to jump over the fence. Pope replied six (6) feet is what is allowed and they are trying to address the issue as soon as possible.
2. Safety Guards: St. Vincent was aware that Shangri La hired extra safety guards that are working hard to address the safety issues.
3. Claims: Pope noted the injuries have resulted in claims against the organization.

The Department of Transportation Services (DTS): Gerald Hieda provided a handout and reported three (3) updates relating to TheBus and the Handi-Van services:

- Revised Transfer Rules: Currently, single-cash fare riders can transfer from one bus to another without any additional fares. Riders are counterfeiting transfers, selling transfers, and passing transfers to other riders. Beginning Tuesday, July 1, 2014, TheBus Transfer will have a detachable coupon in addition to the body of the transfer to allow for up to two (2) connections. Transfers will not be valid for return or round trips, and will only be valid for up to two (2) connections until the time shown at the top of the ticket.
- Reduced Reservations Window: The Handi-Van will now reserve rides up to two (2) days in advance instead of seven (7) days, in order to decrease service delays and create more timely service.
- Volunteer Program: The City partners with community groups to keep the public transit facilities maintained. DTS provides the materials and supplies while the community groups provide the people and time.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. TheBus Fare: Shiraki asked how much a fare would cost from the Palolo Chinese Home to Makakilo. Hieda approximated \$2.50.
2. HandiVan Qualifications: Hieda noted an application must be submitted in order to verify qualification for the HandiVan.

Candidate Forum: Gerlich-Hayes explained the rules and procedures of a candidate forum. The secretary sends a letter to the candidates and receives their attendance response. The candidate must speak for themselves and the campaign manager is allowed on special occasions. The Palolo Neighborhood Board No.6 meeting would run shorter that night when the forum is held. The first candidate forum would be held during the July 2014 Palolo Neighborhood Board No.6 meeting, and the second in October 2014.

Gerlich-Hayes moved and St. Vincent seconded to hold a candidate forum during the July 2014 meeting, and Gerlich-Hayes would create the ground rules. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0; (Aye: Farm Jr., Gerlich-Hayes, Hack, Holtrop, Mau, Nakayama, Shiraki, St. Vincent, and Weinstein).

Chair Holtrop noted the Senator Ihara's bill that would allow late voting registration is HB2590.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bulky Trash Pick-Up: Take out by the morning of Wednesday, April 16, 2013.
- Farmers' Market: The Farmer's Market is every Wednesday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. at Palolo District Park.
- Olelo Broadcast Slots: The Palolo Neighborhood Board No. 6 meetings are aired on Channel 49 the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:00 noon and the 4th Thursday at 9:00 p.m, or online anytime at <http://olelo.org>.
- Social Media: The address for the Palolo Neighborhood Board No. 6 facebook page is located on the agenda.
- Agenda Requests: Contact Chair Paul Holtrop by e-mail (preferred) and phone number, listed on the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO) website.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The minutes for March 12, 2014 were **ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0; (Aye: Farm Jr., Gerlich-Hayes, Hack, Holtrop, Mau, Nakayama, Shiraki, St. Vincent, and Weinstein).**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Hack reported a monthly spending of \$23.84 for total a balance of \$541.79.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by: Lori L. Snyder, Neighborhood Assistant I
Reviewed by: Rise Doi, Neighborhood Assistant I
Reviewed by: Paul Holtrop, Chair