



## MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2007 NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Nishioka called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. with nine members present. She mentioned that Mitsuda was on a trip and Kessler was unable to attend tonight but sent a letter that she would read following the public safety reports.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gary Andersen, Hank Chapin, Tom Heinrich (arrived 7:15 p.m.), Paul Holtrop (arrived 7:15 p.m.), Jim Harwood, Dwight Jackson, Nadine Nishioka, George Nakano, Chris Niemzyck, Rose Niimoto, and Chuck Pearson. Seventeen seats, one vacancy -quorum is nine members).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Brian Kessler, Salvatore Lanzilotti, Brandon Mitsuda, Milton Ragsdale, and Taylor Rock.

**GUESTS:** Hubert Minn (Mayor's Representative); Susan Miyao (Senator Taniguchi's office), Helen Nakano, Derrick Kiyabu (Hawaii 2050); Larry Reifurth (Governor's Representative); Sgt. Egami, Lt. Nishiyama, Sgt. Maekawa (Honolulu Police Department); Captain John Whalen (Honolulu Fire Department); Bryan Mick (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

#### PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

**HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD)** –Captain Whalen reported that for the month of April there were no major incidents, just medical calls.

**Fire tip of the month:** Prepare a fire escape plan. Map out your routes with at least two ways out of each room. Designate a location outside of the house where everyone can meet. Know where the closest phone is located to call 911.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Chapin asked why the large fire truck responds to all medical calls. Whalen explained that HFD is the first line of responders. Since there are just twelve ambulances to cover the whole island compared to forty fire stations, the odds are always in favor of a fire truck being closer to an emergency. Police also respond as every police car now carries an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). Harwood asked if it was necessary to use the fire truck, why not use a van. Whalen replied that the Department has discussed this before, especially for ladder 2 which averages ten medical calls a day. The Department could not afford to purchase a van for all forty stations though. The question would be best addressed to the Chief.

Heinrich and Holtrop arrived (7:15 pm). Eleven members present.

- 2) Heinrich proposed an idea to get the community involved with an effort to clean up old auto batteries. The thought would be to place them on a pallet at the fire station so the Department of Environmental Services (ENV) could easily haul them away at one time. Whalen commented that auto shops will take used batteries. Heinrich added that during a January clean-up, they found 38 batteries near the McCully Station after a bulky item pick up day. Pearson commented that the auto shops charge a small fee to dispose of your battery. Whalen added that usually, when you buy a new battery you would need to be disposing of a used one. He suspects the batteries might be from boaters as they go thru a lot of them.

**HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD)** – Sgt. Egami distributed his report and added that there were many good safety tips attached to the report. He added that the new format for the statistic part of the report includes the plotting points for each incident. For the month of April compared to March, Beat 750 (upper Manoa Ewa) saw burglaries remain constant, decrease in thefts (-4), and an increase in unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (+3), while Beat 751 (Upper Manoa Diamond Head) saw an increase in burglaries (+3) and UEMV's (+2), while thefts (-11) decreased, and Beat 752 (lower Manoa) saw an decrease in burglaries (-1) and thefts (-2), and an increase in UEMV's (+8).

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Egami said that in response to last month's concerns and comments, the speed trailers have been put up near Manoa School on Manoa Road and that officers are monitoring lunch wagons.
- 2) Andersen commented that the recent Virginia Tech shootings had sparked a lot of talk including the use of text messages during a crisis. He asked if HPD has the ability to use this option to communicate. Sgt. Egami said HPD does not. Andersen asked if the technology exists to do so. Sgt. Egami said not that he knew of, Nextel has the ability with their users, but that's about it. It is not part of the current upgrades to the enhanced 911 system. Andersen had heard the University of Hawaii was doing something along these lines. Sgt. Egami was not aware if they are or not.
- 3) Heinrich commented that as issues come up thru the community policing team next year the Boards and HPD can coordinate better with HPD Legislative Liaison's office to avoid the February rush that occurs at the Capitol.
- 4) Nishioka asked about Easter Sunday around 11:30 a.m. when she observed four police cars racing up Woodlawn Avenue, but yet there are no data plots on the distributed map that was for that area. Sgt. Egami said it might have been officers responding to an argument, which would not appear as a data plot since only major crimes are on the map. He added that traffic conditions sometimes cause multiple responding cars to stack up.

Pearson left to set up the pizzas at 7:25 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 4, 2007 MINUTES** – Chapin amended the minutes because Senator Brian Taniguchi last name was misspelled in several places. **Harwood moved to adopt the minutes as amended seconded by Jackson. The minutes were approved as amended, 10-0-0. (Aye: Andersen, Chapin, Harwood, Heinrich, Holtrop, Jackson, Nishioka, Nakano, Niemzyck, Niimoto).**

**Letter from Brian Kessler** - The Chair read into the record a letter sent from board member Brian Kessler. "To members of the Manoa Neighborhood Board and members of the community: Although I regret I could not be here tonight due to an accident while playing with my daughter last night, I want to thank all of the board members, elected officials, police, and fire city/county and state agency representatives for the opportunity to serve with them these past two years. It has been a wonderful experience on grass roots government and I fully support the Neighborhood Board system and its role in our community. I look forward to continuing my community service having recently been appointed and approved by the Senate to fill a vacancy on the State Independent Living Commission working with people with disabilities and have taken on new responsibilities with the Elks lodge as an officer, Government relations Chair and Public Relations Chair. To all members of the Manoa community it has been an honor and pleasure to serve you. I wish all the new and continuing board members best wishes on the term ahead. God speed to our community, city, state, country, and our leaders. Best, Brian Kessler."

**FILLING IN OF BOARD VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT II** – The Chair deferred this item.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEFERRAL OF PRESENTATION BY ST FRANCIS SCHOOL-** The Chair announced that item 9.1 under New Business has been deferred at the request of the presenters.

## COMMUNITY INPUT:

**COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI** –Councilmember Kobayashi was not present but her report was available on the table.

**MAYOR'S REPORT-** Hubert Minn, Special Advisor, Customer Services Department (CSD), provided answers to last month's questions: a) The request for an asphalt sidewalk on Metcalf cannot be met because the City's walkway policy is to construct only concrete sidewalks using the improvement district (I.D.) program to do this. Asphalt walkways have a high initial construction cost and high future maintenance costs in order to be ADA compliant. If the community wants a sidewalk in this area, they need to avail themselves of the I.D. process and work thru their councilmember. b) Jim Manke from the University followed up on the complaint from Ms. Ozaki about loud noise late at night from the neighboring KEO fraternity house. James Frizzel, who oversees the fraternity; apologized and said he will take care of the noise/partying issue and offered his phone number (228-0404) should future problems arise. c) Minn mentioned he had a handout available tonight on the issue concerning the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) stance towards the Honouliuli wastewater treatment facility. There will be a recycling workshop held on May 8 at Mission Memorial Auditorium and one in Kapolei later in the month.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) The Chair conveyed Ms. Ozaki's thanks.
- 2) Heinrich commented that he hopes Minn continues on as the Mayor's representative to the Board. Jim Manke is not on tonight's agenda, but he will continue to be the University representative to the board until the end of the year despite his retirement. The end of the semester at UH is near, and at least one party house in Manoa has gone quiet. He added that the new Neighborhood Board needs to take a look at the sidewalk ordinance (24-12) which requires property owners to share some of the costs of improving sidewalks adjacent to their property. This has been on the books since 1963 and needs to be reexamined. Minn commented that as far as he knew, he would continue on as the Mayor's representative to the Manoa Board.
- 3) The Chair complemented the work that the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) did on Kahaloa Road.

**REPRESENTATIVE KIRK CALDWELL** – No one was present from the representative's office, Pearson commented that session was about to end and everyone was probably down at the Capitol.

**SENATOR BRIAN TANAGUCHI** – No representative present, but it was announced his report was available and his contact information is 586-6460 and [sentanaguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sentanaguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**GOVERNOR'S REPORT** – Larry Reifurth, Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), distributed the Governor's newsletters as well as a packet put together by the State Department of Health (DOH) which includes information on how to fight seasonal flu and a second pamphlet containing useful information for family health emergencies. The Governor's newsletter included information on the selection of the commemorative design for the Hawaii quarters. The design features King Kamehameha the Great, the eight main islands in the chain, and the State motto. The Governor based her decision on recommendations from the Hawaii Commemorative Quarter Advisory Commission and the results of an online poll in which this design had a plurality of the votes (28 percent). The legislature closes their session tomorrow. The Governor has already signed many good bills, including one that eliminated time constraints for people to claim their property from the State and a bill to appropriate \$950,000 to keep Kahuku Hospital operating. She vetoed SB1642 SD1 HD 1 which hinders the ability of county and state government to efficiently and effectively handle public service personnel management. Most of her

vetoed have been overridden. Her office and various departments continue to review bills. Members of the public who would like to submit comments about particular bills can do so by fax at 586-0006 or e-mail at [governor.lingle@hawaii.gov](mailto:governor.lingle@hawaii.gov)

Questions, answers, and comments:

Heinrich congratulated Reifurth on his recent promotion, and to DOH Director Fukino. He added that Fukino had a very positive meeting with Manoa residents on the issue of adult residential care homes (ARCH). She made several good suggestions and a follow up meeting has been scheduled for next week.

In response to a request from the Chair, Hubert Minn provided his contact information as 523-4590 and [hminn@honolulu.gov](mailto:hminn@honolulu.gov). He added that the City website is excellent and many concerns can be taken care of by visiting it, such as reporting potholes and bulky item pick-up schedules. Chapin commented he renewed his automobile registration online, and it was a cinch. Minn added the next feature would be an online form to report abandoned vehicles.

**UPDATE ON KAMANELE PARK** - Pearson reported he has gotten an update from Board of Water Supply (BWS) spokesperson, Su Shinn. Mid June should see the demobilization of equipment from the Park. DPR will develop plans for the restoration of the Park and send them to the Board for comments, hopefully sometime next month.

**UPDATE ON MANOA LIBRARY-** Heinrich said that there was some information on this in Senator Taniguchi's report. A request has been sent to the Department of Education to provide a location for temporary library services for 24 months while the renovation proceeds. The budget included \$500,000 to build two portable classrooms on Noelani Elementary School's property which will be given to the School once the renovation is done, as well as \$1.2 million for construction costs. No meeting with the architect has been scheduled as of yet.

Questions, answers, and comments:

Andersen commented he had heard that some international standard was to be used in the renovation. Pearson wondered if this was related to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. Andersen said it was something other than LEED. Pearson commented that usually building codes are local, so he is surprised to hear international ones are being considered. Andersen added that if taxpayer money is to be extended, then the highest set of standards should be followed.

**RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS** – The Board recognized and gave leis to Brian Kessler, Chris Niemzyck, Chuck Pearson, Hank Chapin, Jim Hardwood, and Salvatore Lanzilotti. A lei was also presented to Chair Nishioka for her willingness to serve as Chair.

The Board recessed at 7:45 pm for refreshments.

The meeting resumed at 8:12 p.m.

#### **PRESENTATIONS:**

**HAWAII 2050 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN)** - Coordinator Derrick Kiyabu introduced himself and distributed a flyer for an upcoming community meeting on May 5 at McKinley High School from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The State legislature created the Sustainabilities Task Force which will deliver its report to the 2008 legislature. Public input will continue to be gathered after the May 5 meeting including a survey in June. Visit <http://www.hawaii2050.org> for more information.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Heinrich asked if some of the sustainability work that UH had done had been forwarded to the Hawaii 2050 people. Kiyabu was not sure, but thought some stuff had been.
- 2) Andersen asked where the quote at the top of the flyer came from. Kiyabu said it came from the task force's website. Andersen replied he is interested in this effort and wishes it well. He asked if Kiyabu was a planner. Kiyabu explained he was not, and his job was to do community outreach not the actual planning. Andersen asked that if we are to imagine 2050, don't we need to know the carrying capacity of these islands. Kiyabu said it is a great question, but it can be hard to pin down a number. He pointed out that if you do set a number, it just takes one person to 'ruin' it. The question has been brought up before. Andersen said carrying capacity is "the number of individuals who can live within a given area without degrading the natural social, economic, cultural and environmental resources for current and future generations." The number is not fixed since technology improvements allow the number to be raised. However, he feels the improvements have not kept up with population increases, and the resulting environmental damage continues to shrink the carrying capacity. The average American leaves an ecological footprint of 12 acres. We must think in terms of carrying capacity and not land area. Andersen gave Kiyabu a copy of his report and asked it be entered into the minutes:  
"A common fallacy is to equate existing and seemingly open on "unused" spaces with the kind of resources and ecologically productive land needed to support human life under modern conditions. In fact, the criterion for determining whether a region is overpopulated is not land area, but carrying capacity. Carrying capacity refers to the number of individuals who can be supported in a given area within natural resource limits, and without degrading the natural social, cultural and economic environment for present and future generations. The carrying capacity for any given area is not fixed. It can be altered by improved technology, but mostly it has changed for the worse by pressures which accompany a population increase. As the environment is degraded, carrying capacity actually shrinks, leaving the environment no longer able to support even the number of people who could formerly have lived in the area on a sustainable basis. No population can live beyond the environment's carrying capacity for very long. The average American's "ecological footprint" (the demands an individual endowed with average amounts of resources, i.e. land, water, food, fiber, waste assimilation and disposal, etc. puts on the environment) is about 12 acres, an area far greater than that taken up by one's residence and place of school or work and other places where he or she is. We must think in terms of "carrying capacity" not land area. The effects of unfettered population growth drastically reduce the carrying capacity in the United States."
- 3) Kiyabu thanked Andersen and added that his contact information is 550-2661 and [derrick@haced.org](mailto:derrick@haced.org)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**VARIANCE APPLICATION FOR MCCULLY CHOP SUI SIGN** – The Chair yielded the floor to Heinrich. Before he read the proposed resolution, Chapin asked if the people who submitted the application, Mauna Kea Galleries, were in attendance. The Chair explained they were not. Heinrich then read his proposed resolution, "Whereas the popular McCully Chop Sui restaurant located at 2005 South King Street recently closed after 57 years of operation and the achievement of landmark status of the makai Diamond Head corner of the busy intersection of 2000 South King Street and 1000 McCully street in our McCully-Moiliili-Manoa community, often referred to as Three M, and Whereas the Mauna Kea galleries, established in 1995, specializing in museum quality vintage art from Hawaii and Polynesia is the new tenant of the corner space formally occupied by McCully Chop Sui in the James M. Chrones Building completed in 1948, and Mauna Kea Galleries is now renovating and restoring the building façade and interior in a sensitive and historic preservation manner, and Whereas it is reported that the City and County of Honolulu has ordered the removal of the historic landmark neon McCully Chop Sui sign

located at the McCully Street-South King Street corner of the building, Now therefore be it resolved that the Manoa Neighborhood Board Number 7 strongly requests that the City and County's Department of Planning and Permitting through whatever appropriate variance process, allow the historic McCully Chop Sui sign on the James L. Chrones Building at the makai Diamond Head corner of the intersection of South King Street and McCully Street to remain in place and to continue to serve as a landmark reference point and icon of the history of our McCully-Moilili-Manoa community of that mauka gateway to Waikiki."

**Heinrich moved that the Manoa Neighborhood Board adopt the resolution, Nakano seconded.** Andersen asked if this sign was in the Manoa Board's boundaries. Heinrich said it was outside of the district, but that section 1-7.1 of the Revised Neighborhood Plan allows Boards to look at planning issues without regard to Neighborhood Board boundaries. Andersen asked about the use of the phrase 'it is reported' in the resolution, he would like to have confirmation of all statements. Heinrich explained he recently talked to one of the owners who said they had received a notice of violation from the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). The owner is working with DPP, and the Mayor's office has supported the owner's efforts. The variance request along with the \$600 submittal fee has been submitted. Andersen questioned why the agenda said 'occupants' of the space while the resolution used the term 'proprietors.' Harwood explained he wrote the language on the agenda, and 'owners' was the correct term. Andersen replied he remembered a controversy about a sign in Manoa, and he does not think this is something the Manoa Board should be wading into. Pearson asked exactly what does the owner want permission to do with the sign. Heinrich explained they want to retain the sign as is. They have already invested \$2400 in a neon design along the building façade to complement it. The Chair mentioned that the Burt Café sign still remains even though the café closed years ago. Holtrop asked if someone will inspect the mounting for its soundness. Heinrich assumed they would, and the Historic Hawaii Foundation may have already done so. Nakano asked what was the notice of violation was issued for. Heinrich said that the sign advertises something a business that is no longer in operation, and that is a violation of the Land Use Ordinance. Andersen wondered if anyone remembers the details of the issue with the sign in Manoa. Heinrich said the Manoa issue was a landlord-tenant dispute, and that's why the Board got in hot water for taking up the issue. Chapin said he likes the idea of keeping a historic sign up. Andersen asked what the McCully-Moilili Neighborhood Board #8's position was on this issue. Heinrich said Board #8 would be taking it up at their next meeting, but he suspects they will support the effort to save the sign. Andersen said he thinks the Manoa board should wait for McCully to take it up first. Heinrich said the resolution could be deferred, but reiterated that the Plan does not require that to happen. **The resolution was adopted 9-1-1 (Aye: Chapin, Harwood, Heinrich, Holtrop, Jackson, Nakano, Niemzyck, Niimoto and Pearson. Nay: Andersen Abstain: Nishioka)**

**TREASURER REPORT** – Holtrop reported that there was \$1,757.40 in the operating and publicity account. \$217.42 was expended last month. \$120 remains in the refreshment account.

#### **OTHER BOARD ISSUES:**

- a) Holtrop announced that makakilo.com's contract to videotape Board meetings was over after tonight. Anyone interested in bidding on the next contract should be present at the June meeting.
- b) Pearson mentioned that all the refreshments for tonight had been donated - thanks to Safeway, Pizza Hut, McDonalds, and Starbucks.
- c) Andersen commented that Pearson had suggested that in addition to videotaping, the board do some sort of community survey. He asked Mick if the Board could afford to do both. Mick said he would do an estimate for the board.
- d) Heinrich reminded continuing Board members to check that their contact information was up to date with the Neighborhood Commission Office.

- e) Pearson said he has a copy of the Paradise Park appraisal. It was about \$1 million for the land and \$1 million for the leasehold interest. Pearson said people could get their own copy at the University's Office of Procurement for a six dollar fee. Holtrop asked if it was available electronically. Pearson was not sure.
- f) The Chair announced she was selling tickets for the Manoa Waioli Lions Club to which she belongs, which would be hosting a breakfast on June 2 from 6:30 a.m. till 10:30 a.m. at the Manoa Elementary Cafeteria. Tickets are five dollars. All the money raised will stay in Manoa.
- g) Hubert Minn thanked Bryan Mick for his work on the monthly minutes.
- h) Nakano announced that on Sunday, May 13, from 8 till noon, Malama o Manoa will host its annual historic residences walk. It will start at Kamanele Park and costs \$25. Call Helen Nakano at 988-5671 for more information.
- i) Andersen commented he liked when Howard Yoshioka from Manoa Valley District Park came to the meeting and provided update about upcoming events. Last weekend, there was a major swim meet at the Park which residents were unaware of. He added that the farmers market Monday mornings at 6:45 a.m. in the district park is shrinking, and the Board should help publicize it better.
- j) Niimoto announced that on Friday, Manoa Valley Church would be selling sushi all day starting at 9:00 a.m.
- k) Heinrich announced that on May 5 the second major Totally Against Graffiti (TAG) team clean up will be held. Local businesses supported the effort along with HPD and the attorney general's office.
- l) The Chair thanked the retiring board members again, as well as Bryan Mick for his work with the board. She also wanted to thank the community for their participation. The board will have vacancies next term, so please check out the website if you are interested in serving on the board.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Bryan Mick, Neighborhood Commission Office Staff