



MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2007 NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: At 7:02 p.m., Chair Paul Holtrop called the meeting to order with ten members present and introduced the members of the Manoa Neighborhood Board.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Andersen, Rodney Chun, Eric Eads, Francisco Figueiredo (arrived 8:27), John Kim, Dwight Jackson, George Nakano, Tom Heinrich, Paul Holtrop, Rose Niimoto, Milton Ragsdale, and Nathan Say (appointed at meeting). (Seventeen seats, three vacancies -quorum is nine members).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brandon Mitsuda, Nadine Nishioka.

GUESTS: Hubert Minn (Mayor's Representative); Jim Harwood; Ron Boyer (Governor's Representative); Susan Miyao (Senator Taniguchi's Office staff); Kim Fassler (Honolulu Advertiser); K. Numasaki, Officer Jesse Okumura (Honolulu Police Department); Clare Hanusz (UH Faculty Housing Tenants Association); Malcolm Yorkston; Grace Furukawa; Ian Fleet (UH Faculty Housing Tenants Association); Councilmember Ann Kobayashi; Maynard Young; Jim Manke (University of Hawaii); Hubert Minn (Senior Advisor Department of Customer Services); Cathy Cutshaw (UH), Miriam Stark; Vicky Yamashiro; Ron Lockwood (Chair, McCully Neighborhood Board); Francis Oda (Group 70); Daniel Daren; Garrett Apvzeu-Ito; Chuck Pearson; Nathan Say; Captain Shimaburkuro (Honolulu Fire Department); Bryan Mick (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

FILLING OF VACANCIES: The Chair asked if there were any people interested in filling the vacancies. No one indicated that they were.

PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Captain Shimaburkuro reported that for July there were three brush fires and two rubbish fires. There were 26 medical emergencies and six miscellaneous calls. And there was the unusual incident of the brush fire on Waahila ridge.

Fire tip of the month: As August is the start of a new school year, be careful while driving near schools and mindful of students crossing the street. Take time to teach your children how to cross the street safely and remind them to call 911 for emergencies.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Heinrich said that on Sunday morning he participated in a hike of the area burned by the recent Waahila Ridge fire. He observed that the power lines were very close to the burned area. He wanted to know how the Fire Department's response takes into account the lines. Shimaburkuro replied that the lines are not much of a factor in the response; the two important factors are protecting personal properties and maintaining access to the fire so it can be contained. Heinrich asked that the Board be informed of any equipment desires the Manoa station has so that the Board can lobby the Council and/or legislature for the funds. Shimaburkuro thanked Heinrich but said he was unaware of any such wish list at the present time.
- 2) Andersen asked if the Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) shuts down the power lines when a fire occurs. Shimaburkuro said no. Andersen asked why is that not standard practice, would seem reasonable to not expect the fire fighters to work around live lines. Shimaburkuro said he would have to ask HECO that question.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) – Officer Okamura distributed his report and added that there were many good tips on burglary/theft prevention attached to the report. For the month of July compared to June, Beat 750 (upper Manoa Ewa) saw burglaries decrease as well as unauthorized entry into motor vehicles remain constant, with an decrease in thefts (-2), while Beat 751 (Upper Manoa Diamond Head) saw burglaries (-1), thefts (-2) and UEMV's (-1) decreased; and Beat 752 (lower Manoa) saw burglaries (-5) (-6), and UEMV's (-10) all decrease.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Heinrich commented that Manoa is overdue for a community wide presentation on neighborhood watches and citizen patrols. It's been several years since the last one.
- 2) Eads commented that a resident told him that in the morning, many people getting their coffee are parking illegally on Huapala off East Manoa road creating a hazard. Niimoto asked if HPD writes tickets for illegally parked cars on Sundays. Okamura said tickets are written 24/7, and advised anyone who sees cars parked illegally to call HPD. Niimoto replied that Sundays are packed full of cars parked illegally on Huapala. Okamura added that the recent installation of no parking signs has made it easier for officer to issue tickets.

Andersen asked for a point of parliamentary procedure in relation to the minutes. Holtrop commented that he had put the approval of minutes at the end of the agenda in order to assure that the presentation from the University of Hawaii (UH) gets on the Olelo broadcast. Andersen replied that was not his inquiry, but rather is approval needed since Les Kondo, while Director of the Office of Information Practices (OIP) indicated that approval was not necessary although Robert's Rules of Orders does call for it. Holtrop said the point of parliamentary procedure was not proper at this juncture, but he would respond. His interpretation was that Kondo was referring to the necessity of the Board adopting the minutes as an official record under the Sunshine statute.

PRESENTATIONS:

UH LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN –Cathy Cutshaw, vice-chancellor of the Manoa campus, introduced herself and said she is responsible for campus planning and will present the current draft of the Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). The plan still needs to be worked on before it goes to the Board of Regents (BOR) in September. It will go out to public hearing after that. The last draft of an LRDP to be approved was the 1987 version. A 1994 updated version was approved by the BOR but not by the City and County. A committee was formed after that to work on it, and they hired Group 70 in 2004 to help. As the University's administration changed, the committee was dissolved. In May 2006, it was reformed and continues to work with Group 70 to update that 1994 plan and get it all the way thru the City approval process. This update will weave in such concepts as sustainability, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards in construction, and water and energy conservation. When the LRDP is totally complete, work on a total campus master plan will begin with the LRDP as one of the guiding documents. Francis Oda from Group 70 introduced himself and said the 2007 LRDP will incorporate four major themes. 1) To create a globally connected Hawaiian place of learning, leadership, and service. The concept that UH Manoa is part of the Waikiki Ahapuaa will be utilized. A Hawaiian presence will start to be created on campus. True entry/exit points onto campus will be created. 2) Transform Manoa into a livable urban campus where people can live, work, and play. Right now, campus life starts to die down in the middle of the afternoon. 3) Create and preserve outdoor spaces for living and learning. 4) Make UH into a leader in sustainability, and allow the campus to serve as a laboratory for sustainability related initiatives. For instance, 60 percent of the campus is now impermeable to absorbing water. The goal is to reduce that to 40 percent. The term for this is urban forest. All new buildings must meet the silver standard of certification. Oda explained that on the displayed map, some buildings which are not slated to break ground in the next five years were still outlined, so that there would be some sort of place holder on the map. The map also showed where the gateways, malls, and parks would be located. Well defined vehicular and pedestrian gateways would be created. One of the

problems with the current campus is that it is hard to tell when someone is off or on campus. Students are often forced to walk on remnant vehicular concrete roadways. This will be replaced by water permeable pedestrian friendly walkways. These walkways will lead to open plazas. Group 70 is proposing to take out the Varney parking circle and make it a pedestrian plaza. Future buildings will be sustainable buildings, designed with kamaaina architectural styles. Green landscaping will be emphasized. Existing and future roofs will be made green, and these plants will serve to capture water and serve as a secondary irrigation source. Another goal is to reduce the demand for off campus parking, and to that end a national firm specializing in campus parking solutions has been retained. A future presentation will be give to the Board when some of the more technical details are available.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen asked if the paths mentioned for pedestrians, cars, or bikes. Oda replied that the goal is to separate bikes and pedestrians. Mixing mopeds in with either group is also dangerous. Moving parking to the perimeter of campus will hopefully help to accomplish this.
- 2) Andersen asked what was required to obtain a Silver LEED certification. Oda explained that the LEED rating system assigns points for various substantiality features, and a particular color requires a certain minimum amount of points there are many ways to go about earning a specific amount of points though, such as using certain technologies or installing certain waste recycling systems. Andersen asked if wind resistance or earthquake resistance played any role in this. Oda explained that those are covered by the building codes, not by LEED.
- 3) Eads asked if any other campuses have followed a similar LRDP. Oda replied yes, many campuses in the California system are good models. It was realized early on in this process that the Manoa campus is one of Hawaii's biggest urban developments. UH Manoa could become a premier campus. Heinrich commented that in 1994, when he was involved with that draft of the LRDP, it was noted that the daytime population on the Manoa campus was bigger that the population of such places as Lihue and Kailua-Kona. He added that the proposed renovation of Manoa Library will also have a requirement of silver LEED certification. He said that the Board's committee can take us this topic. There is basically two steps to be done, one is the near future permit issue with the City, and the second in long term visioning especially in regards to transit orientated development (TOD). Heinrich observed that rail would impact everything.
- 4) Holtrop asked what material the permeable walkways mentioned earlier would be constructed from. He worried that wheelchairs and crutches might find it difficult to utilize if it cracks. Oda explained that the material has not been decided on, but said there was permeable concrete for example. Holtrop asked if that was durable. Oda replied that it's actually three times stronger than normal concrete. He added that there will be identified handicapped walkways.
- 5) Holtrop asked if the concept of an urban forest can be reconciled with safety and maintenance issues. He wondered if foliage along walkways for instance gives potential attackers places to hide. Oda replied that some species do grow fast and are hard to maintain. Native Hawaiian plants and other slow growing common varieties would be used. Maintenance is always an issue, even now. Safety concerns are addressed by building well lit walkways with plenty of emergency call boxes. In addition, if the plan is successful in increasing the amount of people on campus at night, that will serve as a deterrent for crime as well. Campus maintenance has greatly improved in the past few years.
- 6) Holtrop asked how much of the LRDP addressed fixing what's already on campus. Oda replied the design specifications would apply to both new buildings and renovated buildings. There is also a Capital Improvement Project (CIP) program that prioritizes fixing existing buildings. Cutshaw added that the Comprehensive Master Plan will also address this issue.

- 7) Andersen asked how much modification to the existing infrastructure this plan will require. Oda explained that the next stage will deal with that topic; this stage is simply a cursory glance at the infrastructure. He added that there are no major upgrades planned for the next six years. Andersen asked if solar power was being considered as an option. Oda replied that the Plan and design guidelines encourage study of them in a cost-effectiveness view as well as wind power and solar water heating.
- 8) Nakano commented that he was encouraged by the term LRDP. It seems to him that he heard tonight that LRDP is subservient to the CIP plan. And that will be contained within the master plan which he has been trying to get for years. The buildings on campus are a hodgepodge. He would like to know what the status of the Master Plan is. Oda said the next stage will consider CIP considerations. This stage addresses aesthetics. Nakano asked if this was therefore putting the cart before the horse. Oda said this was simply a start, and before the Campus never had control of its funds, and was unable to hire the architects. Thanks to autonomy, this will be the first time that the campus is in complete control. Oda added that this plan does have a specific CIP budget in mind while designing the LRDP.
- 9) Niimoto asked if the idea to place trees on rooftops could expose the roofs to damage from the plant's roots. Oda replied that it was possible to do this safely, and that a material like sod would be laid down first and act to filtrate rain water allowing it to be recycled.
- 10) Andersen asked if the School of Architecture was involved with this plan. Oda explained that one of the professors from that school is also the campus architect. In addition, some other professors and students are involved. Andersen said that he thinks there are two great buildings on campus, George Hall and the Energy House.
- 11) Heinrich commented that it might be useful to see plans and photos of campus projects since 1990. The 1994 LRDP projected that there would be two or three projects on going simultaneously at any one time. In reality, there once were nine. Heinrich added that several years ago, there was a Moiliili town center meeting which generated some of the ideas which are in this new draft of the LRDP.
- 12) Audience member Harwood commented that he hoped the Hawaii's Bicycling League was brought in to help plan the bike features. He also asked what will be done to retrofit old buildings that are energy hogs. Cutshaw replied that their supplemental budget request is targeting retrofitting those energy hogging buildings.
- 13) Audience member Garrett Apvzeu-Ito said he was one of many faculty people here. Faculty housing is a big challenge. The faculty has been working with Cutshaw and they are exploring a potential new project in Manoa. He liked the plans presented tonight.
- 14) Audience member Ian Fleet asked if faculty housing was specifically addressed in this plan and if there would be places for kids to play in the faculty housing. Oda responded it was not, but would be at a later stage. A separate study is underway to look at possible sites for future faculty housing. Cutshaw added there is a serious shortage of faculty housing and no graduate student housing. Funding models will be part of that study, and children play areas will also be incorporated. Holtrop added that as a resident of faculty housing, he is glad that UH recognizes the need for faculty housing.
- 15) Heinrich commented that the three year anniversary of the great flood is almost here. There are still on going efforts to prevent a reoccurrence, and those plans might have an impact on the LRDP and where new faculty housing is placed.

Andersen moved to reconsider agenda item 2.1, filling of vacancies. Eads seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 10-0-0. (Aye: Andersen, Chun, Eads, Kim, Jackson, Nakano,

Heinrich, Holtrop, Niimoto, and Ragsdale). **Andersen nominated Nathan Say to fill a vacancy in subdistrict four.** Say introduced himself and said he was a graduate student at the University living on campus and he also worked at a center in Kalihi which helps service people with disabilities. He would like to bring disability issues up to the Board; he mentioned that the Manoa campus alone has 600 people with disabilities. **Say was appointed unanimously 10-0-0. (Aye: Andersen, Chun, Eads, Kim, Jackson, Nakano, Heinrich, Holtrop, Niimoto, and Ragsdale).**

The board took a recess at 8:15 p.m. to swear in Nathan Say

The Board reconvened at 8:17 p.m.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI –Councilmember Kobayashi distributed her newsletter which was light and included some recipes. She said that there were council committee meetings today to discuss trash and the proposed extension of the landfill. Tomorrow, the committee meetings will be on a bus fixed guideway as an alternative to rail. The jurisdictional dispute as to who owns Manoa road is still ongoing. But all parties did agree to chip in \$3000 each to have the brush and trees cut along the disputed portion of the road. One house had \$11,000 in damages from a falling branch, so it's a safety issue as well. The Courts may ultimately have to decide this.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen asked if the Board of Water Supply (BWS) was one of the parties in the Manoa Road ownership dispute. Councilmember Kobayashi replied they were, and had donated money for the clean up along with the Catholic Church, the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Kamehameha Schools. A map from 1892 indicates that it was a government road, but the government denies ever having accepted it from Kamehameha Schools. The Agee house was owned by several groups until it burned down, and it too had many property owners until it burned down. Many people claim they own the land around the road, just not the road. Heinrich commented that he and other residents protested to Paradise Park about their dinosaur display. He added that the Board planning committee should take this up as part of a bigger discussion of trees in the valley. There are also ownership disputes over Manoa Falls trails. He added that there is a proposal before the Council tomorrow for a Memorandum of Understanding to be entered into with several Department Heads and the Federal Government concerning the Manoa Watershed Project.
- 2) Eads asked if the meeting tomorrow on the fixed bus guideway was open to the public. Councilmember Kobayashi replied it was, and starts at 9:30 am. She mentioned that whatever technology is selected must be eligible for federal funds.

Figueiredo arrived 8:27 pm, 12 members present.

MAYOR'S REPORT- Hubert Minn, Senior Advisor, Customer Services Department (CSD), explained that he was incorrectly identified as the Deputy Director on the agenda.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Eads said a resident had conveyed their concern that the legal parking along University Avenue as you approach the entrance to Mid-Pac School causes traffic to get tight around the school's start and end times. Perhaps the parking could be removed from that area. Heinrich added that the proposed plans for the 'Kamanele Gateway Park' would have addressed that issue, as it's long been a problem. Those plans were cancelled by the current administration. He added that if traffic counts have not been done recently in the areas near Mid-Pac, Manoa Valley District Park, and Manoa Marketplace it ought to be. This could help in realigning the bus routes which will eventually be looked at in Manoa. He also wanted to comment that there

has not been signage put up informing residents that the Fire Company 29 has temporarily relocated.

- 2) Niimoto mentioned that the recent heavy rain produced new potholes on Woodlawn near the Waioli Tea House, as well as on Pawaina Road. Minn replied that the best way for Oahu residents to inform the City of potholes is the online pothole form, located on CSD's website (also linked on the Neighborhood Commission Office website). Holtrop thanked the City for filling in the ones at the five way stop.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT – Ron Boyer, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), introduced himself and mentioned he had previously lived in Manoa for 10 years. He still has a P.O. Box in Manoa as an excuse to visit the valley. Director Reifurth was on the mainland. He did have an update on the public access contracts. The Request For Proposals (RFP) went out on Monday and is listed on the State's procurement website. October First is the deadline for responses. He also wanted to report that Laura Thielen was named the Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). That appointment must be confirmed by the 2008 State Legislature.

Questions, answers, and comments:

Heinrich commented that the Governor's veto of the pedestrian safety bill was overridden and that she is now refusing to release the funding. The public does not understand her technical objections. Boyer explained the bill was passed five times with the funding source being the general fund, and the Governor would not have vetoed that version. The sixth version saw the funding source changed to the Highway Fund. This fund receives federal monies at a rate of 80 percent federal funds for 20 percent of State funds, so drawing money out represents a large loss of Federal monies. In addition, the Governor objected to giving money to the counties when State highways and bridges need so much work.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII – Jim Manke extended his congratulations to Holtrop on his election as Board Chair. He reported that campus has been very quiet this summer with the exception of the recent fire on the ridge. The Security response went well on campus, except when it came to communicating with the East-West Center. They have now been added to the communication network. Summer commencement is very soon, and in two and a half weeks Fall classes begin. Manke asked when the Board would like the Chancellor to attend a Board meeting. Holtrop said any meeting is fine.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen commented that his question about the alma mater had been answered. He thinks the campus now needs it to be played on a campus P.A. system. The recording could be digital which is fairly cheap. The PA system could also be utilized in emergency situations. Manke replied that cheap is a relative term. Andersen commented that he believes there are already speakers in place; it's just a matter of connecting them to an audio source. Manke replied that perhaps the Campus radio station, K.T.U.H., would be natural organization to tackle this.
- 2) Heinrich inquired what the status of the Freer Hall project was, and also what type of centralized security center is planned for U.H. Manke replied that there was money budgeted for a central security center, but the plans have not yet been approved. The idea will be to have the security and I.T. department housed in the same building.
- 3) Audience member Harwood said that Oda had mentioned bike paths as part of the LRDP. U.H. also has been working on a master bike plan. He asked if these two efforts being coordinated. Manke said they were, and that the campus architect has been talking to both groups.

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 11, 2007 MINUTES – The minutes were adopted 11-0-1. (Aye: Chun, Eads, Figueiredo, Kim, Jackson, Nakano, Heinrich, Holtrop, Niimoto, Ragsdale, and Say. Abstain: Andersen.)

PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION, AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Heinrich said that there was no report yet. He will work on preparing an agenda which will be field at the same time as the regular agenda. He asked that people submit issues to him, as the first meeting will primarily consist of listing and prioritizing issues. Andersen commented that he wants Say to be part of the committee. Heinrich agreed with that proposal.

TREASURER REPORT – Niimoto reported that for July, \$14.68 was spent to print the agendas and minutes, \$44.05 was spent to mail them. The Board currently has \$1404.54 in its operating account, \$2,500 in its publicity, and \$120 in the refreshment account.

DISCUSSION OF INVOICE FROM NOELANI SCHOOL FOR FACILITY USE – The Chair reported that the NCO/Board had received a letter from Noelani School informing them of the new rates for using the facility this year, and asking for payment from last year. Michelle Kidani from the NCO wrote back explaining that the NCO and Board were never informed that they would be charged for using the facility. The Chair recommends waiting for a response before the Board takes any action. The bill for last year came to \$546.52. Heinrich commented that this is a major issue as to how the Neighborhood Commission and/or Neighborhood Commission Office formulate budgets. The Boards have no input into their budgets. He thinks maybe the Manoa Board should set up an ad-hoc group to look at this issue.

OTHER BOARD ISSUES:

- a) The Chair announced that at the next Board meeting, a presentation will be done on a proposed cell phone tower in the Manoa Chinese Cemetery. Heinrich asked if the Board should canvass the immediate neighbors. The Chair said the presenter will do so.
- b) Nakano asked that Malama o Manoa be on the next agenda to talk about the eco-fair.
- c) Nakano asked if a roster of Board members could be distributed to the Board at the next meeting.
- d) Andersen asked if the Chair could check with OIP regarding his concerns on approving minutes that he earlier stated. The Chair said he would try, but as the Director of OIP recently left the Department he cannot guarantee when he will get an answer.
- e) Heinrich announced that Council's task force reviewing the audit of the Neighborhood Board system will meet next on August 13, 4:00 pm, in the Council committee meeting room. The Neighborhood Commission will next meet on August 27, 7:00 pm, at Honolulu Hale.
- f) Niimoto asked that an updated Board photo be taken for the website.

ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by:

Bryan Mick, Neighborhood Commission Office Staff