



MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2007 NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Harwood called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with ten members present. He explained that Chair Nishioka was unable to attend tonight.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Andersen, Hank Chapin (arrived 7:10 p.m.), Brian Kessler, Dwight Jackson, Tom Heinrich (arrived 7:10 p.m.) Paul Holtrop, Jim Harwood, Brandon Mitsuda, George Nakano, Chris Niemzyck, Rose Niimoto, Chuck Pearson, and Milton Ragsdale. (Seventeen seats, one vacancy -quorum is nine members).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Salvatore Lanzilotti, Nadine Nishioka, and Taylor Rock.

GUESTS: Mike Wilcox and Evelyn Souza; (SORT); Hubert Minn (Mayor's Representative); Larry Reifurth (Governor's Representative); Representative Kirk Caldwell; Dave Smith (DLNR); Lt. Reyes, Sgt. Egami, Captain Kilantang, and Officer Hendricks (Honolulu Police Department); Captain Ed Pablo (Honolulu Fire Department); Bob Farrell and Ivonne Cardenas (Makakilo.com); Rachel Naville (OISC); Tony Warspring; Dave Smith (DLNR); Dan Middler; Jim Manke (UH Manoa); Pat Lee (Consultant for Honolulu Alternative Mass Transit); Bryan Mick (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) –Captain Pablo reported that for the month of February there was one overcooked food fire, 31 medical emergencies, 1 search and rescue at Manoa Falls, 6 false calls, 4 services calls, and one good intent call.

Fire tip of the month: Captain Pablo said this was very relevant as Waianae had their first big brush fire of the year yesterday. Brush fires cause great damage in our communities and use resources that could be better utilized elsewhere. Now is the time to prepare for brush fire season. Be responsible and extinguish fires properly. Even small sources of fire, such as cigarettes and charcoal, can cause immense destruction. Formulate plans and communicate with family members and neighbors to create a safer community. Report and remove hazards. Maintain a 30-foot wide firebreak by clearing vegetation around all structures. For further information on creating a safe space around your home, street, or community, contact Denise Laitnen of Firewise Communities at 808-281-3497 or go to www.firewise.org.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen asked about the incident in Manoa recently where a citizen found a mortar round. He would like to know what someone should do in a similar situation. Captain Pablo explained that the Fire Department was initially called to the Manoa incident, but they in turn called the Police. Anyone in a similar situation should dial 911 and ask for the Police as this falls under their jurisdiction.
- 2) Mitsuda asked if a community organization wants more information from the Fire Department, will the station send firefighters to meet with them. Captain Pablo explained that the Department has a community relations office; they can be reached by dialing 723-7139.
- 3) An audience member mentioned that there was graffiti on Lowery Avenue in need of removal. Harwood asked if he was referring to the Wai'oli Tea Room sign, and the resident confirmed it.

Tom Heinrich and Hank Chapin arrived at 7:10 p.m.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) –Sgt, Egami distributed his report. For the month of February, Beat 750 (upper Manoa Ewa) saw a decrease in burglaries (-4), thefts (-3), and unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (UEMV) (-5), while Beat 751 (Upper Manoa Diamond Head) saw an increase in burglaries (+3), thefts (+12) and UEMV's (+2), and Beat 752 (lower Manoa) saw an increase in burglaries (+2) and thefts (+3), while UEMV's remained constant.

Police tip of the month: 1) Make sure you have memorized your PIN (Personal Identification Number). Don't write it down on your ATM card or keep it with your card. Never tell anyone else what your PIN is and never have someone else enter your PIN for you. 2) Before you arrive at the ATM, have your card, and anything else you need for your transaction ready as you approach the ATM. 3) Look around before conducting at ATM transaction. If you see anyone or anything suspicious, cancel your transaction (push the cancel button) and go to another ATM. 4) If you are at a walk up ATM, stand between the ATM and anyone waiting so that they can't see your PIN or transaction amount. 5) Do not count your money at the ATM. Put withdrawn cash away immediately before exiting the ATM. 6) If anyone follows you after making an ATM transaction, immediately go to a well lighted, crowded area and call the police.

Sgt. Egami reported that at last month's meeting, Andersen had said there were people in Manoa District Park after the Park is closed. Officers did check the Park on February 27 and March 1, and two people were counseled about the Park hours. Checks will continue. In reference to the mortar round discussion earlier, anyone who comes across something like that should not touch it or move it, but rather call 911.

Officer Hendricks reported that he had some more information about Andersen's previous inquiry on candy flavored meth. It is called Strawberry Quik, and has been found on the mainland. None has been seen in Hawaii so far. Andersen had also asked about posting drug dealer's names and residences online, HPD does not do this. Mitsuda had asked about speeding statistics for the University area. The officers patrol a large area, and it is not possible to pull out the statistics for just the University area. The same holds true for Nishioka's question as to how many tickets and tow aways Manoa students incur. Mitsuda has asked about improving communication, but the community and Board in Manoa have actually been doing a good job of communicating with HPD. He added that if monthly statistics rise, counter measures can be taken such as deploying one of the crime reduction units.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen asked what the name of the HPD officer was that pulled the women out of the sinkhole was. He added that he is going to be nationally recognized. Officer Hendricks said Officer Zane Hamrick.
- 2) Mitsuda thanked HPD for their follow up work. He said his neighbors want to make their homes safer, how they should go about getting information. Sgt. Egami said they can contact a patrol officer directly or himself.
- 3) Andersen commented that he knows HPD does not currently post the name of convicted drug dealers online, but he wanted to know HPD's stance on the proposal at the legislature to start doing so. Sgt. Egami explained that HPD opposes the measure, as they think that information is private.
- 4) Heinrich commented that a community wide meeting with HPD, HFD, and Civil Defense was in order. Perhaps community policing ideas could be on the agenda. He also wanted to thank Manoa's HPD team who are helping with the graffiti wipeout effort this coming Saturday, 8:00 a.m. till noon. Everyone is invited. This is a Totally Against Graffiti (TAG) event, also known as Tag-Team.

- 5) Niimoto wondered how someone could find out what officers are in a particular beat. She added that there has been several auto break ins at the Manoa Valley Church across from the Fire Station. People don't feel safe leaving their cars now.
- 6) Vice Chair Harwood mentioned that some residents are having a problem with a lady on Puu Honua Street who claims the curb belongs to her. Can HPD help with someone who might be mentally unstable? Sgt. Egami replied they should call 911; it's a service type call. An officer can speak to the woman and assess her mental health. Harwood replied that the residents did that, but the responding officer was young and seemed to have no answers. Officer Hendricks said to try again, and to ask for a supervisor if you are not satisfied with the response.
- 7) Kessler asked if there was anything to report on the pedestrian fatality issue. Sgt Egami replied that drivers and pedestrians need to be aware, and HPD will be stepping up enforcement of pedestrian laws.
- 8) Chapin commented that in the mornings, East Manoa Road is crawling with pedestrians, who end up walking in the street three across. Most of these are seniors.
- 9) Pearson commented that there was a major effort one year ago to get a crosswalk installed near the shopping center. The community also wanted a pedestrian operated signal, but was unable to get one. Two years ago, the State Department of Transportation (DTS) gave a presentation on how useful these types of pedestrian operated lights are in reducing pedestrian accidents. The military bases in Hawaii have them. He would like to ask Mayor's representative Hubert Minn to inquire with DTS as to their current stance on installing these types of traffic signals.

FILLING IN OF BOARD VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT II – The Chair asked if there were any residents from subdistrict II who wished to serve on the Board for the remainder of the term which ends May 30, 2007. There were no interested residents.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII – Jim Manke reported that since the last time UH was on the agenda: 1) the December graduation ceremony was held. We are now two weeks away from Spring Break, which will give us some traffic relief. 2) U.H.'s centennial celebration kicked off with two great speakers, Richard Dawkins a controversial author, and Craig Venter, an ocean genome specialist. 3) Charter Day will be celebrated on March 25, and will mark the exact day that Act 224, the document creating the University, was signed 100 years ago. The Women's Campus Club, themselves founded in 1920 is sponsoring the tea party which will strive to recreate that era. The Club makes money of their small thrift club, and the tea event will also benefit them.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen said a CNN news story on government pork mentioned a Hawaii program using a product derived from shrimp heads in bandages due to its blood clotting properties.. Was that a UH program? Manke responded not that he knew of, although UH did have shrimp experts on staff.
- 2) Andersen mentioned that there was an interesting thrift shop open at UH on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- 3) Mitsuda asked where people can get more information on the speakers that have been lined up as part of the centennial celebration. Manke said it was on the website at <http://www.hawaii.edu/centennial/calendar.html>

- 4) Pearson wanted to thank UH for getting him some information he requested at the last meeting. It turns out that 93 percent of the 236 units in the faculty housing are occupied by faculty members. That is good, since so many people worked to obtain that housing for faculty.
- 5) Pearson asked if the candidates for the Manoa chancellor position were still being paraded around to the public. Manke said that portion was pau, the next step is for the president of the University system, David McClain, to make a recommendation to the Board of Regents (BOR). Hopefully, that will happen before their next meeting.
- 6) Pearson mentioned that in response to interim Chancellor Konan's request, the Board would like to have an active, on going conversation partnership and dialogue with the new Chancellor on student housing, parking issues, Manoa library, bike paths, and the two mile walkway along Manoa Stream.
- 7) Kessler asked if anyone has talked to UH about adjusting start times of classes in an effort to relieve traffic. Manke responded that there is not too much they can do about the morning rush, but over the past few years they have offered more classes in the afternoon. The employee's schedule is a lot more complex to try and tinker with. He is not sure if anyone has formally talked to the University about this.

Andersen called for a point of order. He would like an explanation of the portion on the agenda that reads "**Please Note:** The Board has adopted an agenda management policy to receive reports from representatives of community organizations and the University of Hawaii on a rotating quarterly basis." Harwood explained that the Board has voted to hear from elected officials every month, with reports from community groups rotating on a three month cycle. This was due mainly to help keep the lengths of the meeting down. Andersen commented that Roberts Rules of Order states that a meeting is supposed to address approval of meeting minutes up front, then unfinished business, and then move on to new business. Harwood replied that old and new business is listed in that order on the agenda, and only the approval of minutes has migrated to the bottom of the agenda. Heinrich commented that the Revised Neighborhood Plan (RNP) only relies on Robert's Rules for guidance and allows for lots of leeway in agenda setting. It is always the prerogative of the chair or their designee to set the agenda, and the board's to alter it. Andersen disagreed with that assessment, as his the RNP says Roberts Rules "shall govern" the board when the Plan is silent. Harwood suggested that this issue ought to be discussed later. Andersen added he just does not want approval of minutes getting deferred month after month until the Board once again has a year's worth of minutes to be approved.

COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI – No representative was present.

REPRESENTATIVE KIRK CALDWELL – Representative Caldwell distributed his report. Yesterday, 379 bills crossed over from the House to the Senate. That is 100 more bills than last session. One of Caldwell's bills still alive is a game management measure that would seek to erect fences in order to protect forests from wild pig damage. Manoa elected officials recently had a community meeting that was well attended and covered many issues. Senator Tanaguchi's report is available tonight and recaps that meeting. Lowery Avenue was promised to be repaved this summer at that meeting. The Governor had proposed three innovation bills. One was crossed over as is; the other two were merged with other bills and crossed. A bill changing how the Sunshine Bill applies to Neighborhood Boards is still alive as well, much to the delight of Nakano.

Questions and comments:

- 1) Nakano thanked Representative Caldwell for the Sunshine Bill, but questioned why the committee had amended it to have an effective date of 2107. Representative Caldwell explained this is a common practice and is known as a 'defective date.' This allows the implementation date to be negotiated in conference. Two-thirds of all bills have this at the crossover stage; it will be changed before any final vote.

- 2) Mitsuda asked what the status of the feral pig problem was. He added that residents are scared that hunters will leave their dogs in the valley. Was the eradication effort being limited to dogs and knives only? Representative Caldwell said that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is presenting tonight. They have met with the community in drafting the rules for this eradication project. He mentioned that DLNR stepped up to the plate and dealt with the corpse recently when a large sow passed away in a stream. He acknowledged that there were some community concerns about hunting dogs, but stressed that DLNR only deals with responsible hunters who take their dogs out. There is poaching going on in the valley though. DLNR's hunters have to remove the corpses as well as all of their dogs. No guns or arrows can be used. Some people don't like dogs or knives being used due to humane concerns.
- 3) Niemzyck asked how long the hunting season was. Representative Caldwell said for one year. They want to monitor the comments it generates and also its effectiveness during this time period. Some have said the pigs will just move over to Palolo and Tantalus. Niemzyck asked when the hunt would start. Representative Caldwell replied it started last month.
- 4) Kessler asked if the disaster preparedness bill would create another department. Representative Caldwell explained it would not be like the bill that created the Homeland Security Department, but would rather create an agency which coordinates between various public safety agencies without having any oversight power. Agencies such as Civil Defense are oriented towards responding to disasters, which they do very well. But the next step is to anticipate disasters before people alter their environment. He added that Manoa would look much different if it had been planned better – things like ridgelines and streams and rivers would be taken into account when deciding where to build structures. Kessler asked if this agency would consider only natural disasters, Representative Caldwell said it would cover man made ones as well.
- 5) Pearson offered the Representative congratulations on becoming the Majority leader. He wanted to convey Manoa's desire to be a test area for a pedestrian activated crossing signal. He also wanted to congratulate the legislature for passing the clean-elections bill. Other states have had good results with similar legislation. Representative Caldwell agreed that fronting Long's would be a good place to test the pedestrian activated crosswalk. He added that the clean elections law has not passed its final hurdles yet. There is still debate as to if it should start with just County races, or targeted State races.
- 6) Heinrich asked that at a future meeting, things like civil defense, shelter requirements, etc, be discussed. He wonders why more buildings are not required to meet shelter requirements. He added that the plan for school safety zones has been shelved, and they ought to be reactivated at part of the pedestrian safety effort. Representative Caldwell replied he put in three bills to beef up buildings to meet shelter requirements. All three died, due to cost factor. Next year, better estimates will accompany these bills when they are reintroduced.
- 7) Andersen asked if Hawaii had laws and or templates for social distancing, isolation, and/or quarantining. If not, are there any bills containing any of these terms. Representative Caldwell said he has seen some bills that relate to programs to be used in the event of a pandemic. These are programs designed to get sick people food in their house. In a drastic situation, martial law might be declared which would allow Homeland Security laws to take effect.
- 8) Harwood commented that retrofitting buildings for shelters should be approached like sewers, lets do what we can every year by prioritizing the buildings and spending only what we can afford. Representative Caldwell said that was a good idea.
- 9) An audience member asked what the bill number was on the game management bill. Representative Caldwell said is was HB1831 HD1. The audience member asked if there were

any other bills this session that dealt with the feral pig population. Representative Caldwell said there were not.

SENATOR BRIAN TANAGUCHI – No representative present, but his report was available.

MAYOR'S REPORT- Hubert Minn, Special Advisor, Customer Services Department (CSD), distributed Mayor Hannemann's newsletter. He promised to provide via- e-mail a summary of his report to the Board members in the next few days. There is no scheduled start date for Lowery Avenue yet. It should go out to bid this spring however. Last month, there was a comment about the need for leptospirosis warning signs near Kaahumanu Stream. The State Department of Health posts these signs, so all requests for signage should be directed to them. In response to Andersen's suggestion last month, a vending machine that distributes cans for \$.75 will be placed outside Manoa District Gym. Efforts to eradicate the mimosa pudica in the District Park have begun. HPD earlier addressed the complaint about after hour activity in the park. A resident has mentioned she often sees lawn clippings clogging the streams in Manoa. A more exact location needs to be provided so the City can determine how to proceed. Manoa Valley District Park does not give public notice as to who has reserved the facilities, but anyone can inquire with the staff. The DPR staff is responsible for removing any graffiti to the park buildings. Last month, Harwood asked about Honolulu's efforts in the area of sustainability, and a short report was prepared as a result.

- Sustainable community plans provide a basis for maintaining and improving the quality of life and the environment for the major portion of our island.
 - Contain growth boundaries
 - Protect agricultural lands
- Protected open lands through cooperative approach to keep Waimea Valley from being developed.
- Transportation initiatives
 - Operate 10 hybrid electric buses and are purchasing 40 additional hybrid electric buses to conserve energy and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
 - Emphasis on transportation alternatives including TheBus, carpooling, biking (bike racks on buses)
 - Support for mass transit options including rail and ferries.
- Energy efficiency - Minn added that he is working on an energy committee tasked to come up with a ten year plan.
 - Building codes contain energy efficiency measures as standard practice.
 - Participant in HECO Energy Efficiency Program to reduce the City's electric consumption. The City has received over \$500,000 in rebates for participation.
 - Participant in the U.S. Department of Energy Rebuild America/Rebuild Hawaii program.
 - Converted traffic signal lighting to LED technology to save more than 75% on energy costs than conventional incandescent bulb signals and established LED technology as the standard.
 - City facilities:
 - Many City facilities converted to use more energy efficient systems including replacement of lighting systems with more energy efficient systems, air conditioning upgrades, use of Energy Services Performance Contracting for the Fasi Municipal Building and HPD Headquarters.
 - Ordinance 06-06 requires all qualifying City facilities larger than 5,000 square feet to meet LEED Silver Standard of environmentally sensitive design.
 - Increased use of bio-diesel fuel in City fleet.
- Waste conversion
 - Converts over 50% of municipal solid waste to energy through H-Power and Bill 38 (2006) requires the City to increase that amount by 2010.
 - Developed program to recycle sludge from the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant to fertilizer pellets to reduce landfill disposal. Sludge from the Honouliuli Wastewater

- Treatment Plant has been combined with green waste to provide mulch for use in facilities like parks and golf courses.
- Strong emphasis on recycling through curbside green waste pickup and bulky item pickup programs.
 - Trees
 - Encourage the planting of trees and shrubs.
 - Develop Urban Reforestation Master Plan.
 - Participant in the U.S. Forest Service, Center for Urban Forest Research, project to provide a new street tree management and analysis tool to use tree inventory data to quantify the value of trees through energy conservation, air quality improvement, CO₂ reduction, storm water control, and property value increase.
 - Water
 - Emphasis on maintaining sustainable water resources
 - Continued water conservation awareness
 - Diversification of water resources to use recycled water instead of potable water for irrigation where possible.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Niemzyck asked if Bill 38 had specific numbers in it. Minn said not right now, but he would keep the Board informed as the bill gets developed.
- 2) Heinrich asked who the City contact person was for the clean stream project. Minn replied Ty Fukumitsu of the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) was.
- 3) Andersen asked Kessler to bring up an issue he had raised prior to the meeting. Kessler said that the Neighborhood Board election was estimated to cost \$320,000 dollars this year. Could this cost be reduced by having the Board elections as part of the primary statewide election? This could also raise participation rates in both elections.
- 4) Harwood mentioned that he passed on a letter from a resident to Minn about potholes and would like him to follow up.
- 5) Audience member Evelyn Souza of Save Our Oahu Race Track (SORT) asked if the Mayor has any plans for a raceway park. Minn replied he would have to ask him.

GOVERNORS REPORT – Larry Reifurth apologized for missing the last meeting but assured the board that his colleague, Tung Chan, had relayed the Board's concerns back to him. But before he got into that, he wanted to do short presentation. His daughter swims for legendary swim coach Al Minn, whose nephew is none other than Hubert Minn. A great article on Hubert and the Minn's family involvement was recently published, and he would like to present Hubert with a laminated copy of the article. 1) The Board has asked how the Board of Education gets paid and what their compensation rate was. Four bills which would have adjusted this all failed to crossover at the legislature this year. Right now, the rate is \$100 per meeting and they usually meet once a month. 2) The Governor does not have a middle name. 3) The Governor did not support the 'death with dignity' bill that died this session. She thinks there is a difference between refusing medical care and assisted suicide. 4) The Department of Health (DOH) would not use quarantine measures if we had an avian bird flu outbreak. Social distancing is more effective. Air and ship captains are supposed to report sick passengers so they can be examined for signs of a contagious disease upon docking. The DOH is willing to send a representative to a meeting. 5) Two bills dealing with Sunshine law and how it applies to Neighborhood Boards are still alive, they both would allow more Board members to attend public meetings held by other organizations. Both have a defective date which was explained by Representative Caldwell earlier.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Kessler asked that if the BOE is paid per day, how many days are they working annually. Reifurth replied that at least in the 1990's, the full board met 12 times a year, plus committee meetings. Kessler wonders if working for one hour counted as a day's work. Reifurth was not sure, but pointed out the outer island representatives would have given up a whole day to attend a meeting, regardless of its length. Hubert Minn commented that when he was on the BOE thirty years ago, the rate was \$50 stipend per day, which like today's rate is not enough to make a living. In fact, the rate was just enough to disqualify Minn from unemployment pay when he shut down his business.
- 2) Andersen commented that he got a call from the DOVE foundation asking him to support higher standards for movie/TV industry among other topics. For some reason, Andersen got the feeling that he was talking to a computer, so he asked. The voice said it was a person. Andersen then asked who the first president of the United States was. The voice was unable to answer. The internet reveals many complaints about this scam, and Andersen feels this nationwide problem in coming to Hawaii. Cammy Argyle was the computer's name. He would like to know if it's legal for a computer to claim it's a human. Every technological improvement opens up a possibility for abuse and fraud. Harwood asked what could be done about this. Andersen suggested that legislation be drafted that would make it illegal for a computer to represent it self as a human being.
- 3) Harwood relayed that a resident heard a rock slide fence was being installed in Puuhonua, and wanted the Board to try and get some details. Representative Caldwell replied that DLNR deserves credit. They got funds to build a debris retention wall; they are not installing a fence. They have identified three areas where debris is coming down. This project will filter out rocks and mud in those areas. Later on, they will be installing some water dispersion measures.

MALAMA O MANOA- Pearson reported the quarterly meeting is Wednesday March 14. Henry Curtis from Life of the Land will be presenting. The meeting will be in the Manoa Gardens recreation room.

UPDATE ON KAMANELE PARK - Pearson reported he has gotten some responses, and thanked Minn for his assistance in getting those. He added he had met today with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the Board of Water Supply (BWS). The use of the Park will extend into next Fall; originally the project was to be done by the end of February. The water line reconstruction project is scheduled to go until August, but we can count on a 60 day extension for unforeseen delays. The permit expires in August. He has requested the restoration plans and specs for Board review, as the Park must be reconstructed in such a way that it does not become a mosquito gathering place. The Park will hopefully be open by January 2008 according to Pearson's projections. BWS will continue to give monthly updates, and a phased withdrawal ought to be discussed. Pearson has come across some of the history of the Park. Kamanele Park was a gift from UH to the City in 1915. Princess Kamanele once had her fishponds in the Park in the 1500's.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen asked what the complete name for Princess Kamanele was. Pearson said it was really, really long. Andersen suggested that the complete name be used when the park finally reopens. Maybe this would deter further use of the Park for a baseyard. Pearson added that there is an old plaque in the Park from 1915 that he needs to read more closely. He also thinks the suggestion that the Park needs more benches is a good one.
- 2) Holtrop asked what the penalty was if the contractors do not get out of the Park by the time the permit expires. Answer: a grumpy Chuck Pearson.
- 3) Heinrich asked if he heard correctly that the Park should reopen in January. Pearson said that is his personal projection based on all the information he has gathered. Heinrich added that Malama o Manoa has discussed installing historical place signs in the valley and Kamanele Park would be

a good site. Mid-Pac school has expressed interest in becoming a Park steward; they need to be followed up with. The Kamanele Gateway Master Plan was cancelled by the City, but he thinks the Board should revisit it. Pearson mentioned that Andersen has requested a copy of that plan. The Park has been used as a construction baseyard for five years, and the community was never consulted. The subdistrict representatives and the residents need to get more upset and involved.

RESIDENTS AND OTHERS- Rachel Naville from Oahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) distributed a handout on the threat of Tokay geckos. These can grow up to a foot long, live in trees, are aggressive to the point that they will bite, and will eat bird eggs if they find them which threatens our native bird populations. They have been found on Hualani Street in Manoa. OISC will conduct night surveys, which mostly consist of listening as the Tokay has an unusual call – it actually sounds like their name “To-Kay.” OISC members will be in full uniform and driving a state vehicle. If residents hear or see one, please call the OISC hotline at 643-PEST (7378). Naville played an audio clip of a Tokay gecko call. Harwood asked if they eat coqui frogs. Naville replied that there are no coqui frogs in Manoa, but plenty of birds for the Tokay to prey upon. Mitsuda observed that the Tokay call sounds like something out of Jurassic Park. He asked if residents should try and capture one if they encounter it or just call the hotline. Naville recommended just calling, as they bite extremely hard. In fact, the only way to make one let go is to plunge it and your body part under water and hold it there. They are not highly mobile, so odds are if you spot one OISC can respond before it moves far. Mitsuda asked what the response time was by OISC. Naville said 24-48 hours. Andersen held up the flyer and asked the camera to get a close-up.

Tony Warspring from upper Manoa said he had several items he wanted to bring to the Board’s attention. 1) A UH Lab School alumnus told him that UH has not decided what to do with the fire damaged buildings, but that erecting a parking structure was one option under consideration. 2) Any update on cellular towers in upper Manoa on Kumakoa Street. He thinks the request by Keith Kurahashi to put another tower was denied and he was asked to take the other ones down. One tower is still up. 3) Does the City plan to fix the broken sidewalk near Longs on Woodlawn Drive. Both curbs were cracked and broken by heavy machinery that was used to clean the streams. 4) The tea room at five corners is still an eyesore. Whoever owns it needs to maintain it, there’s a weed patch and invasive trees. 5) Has the City provided an update on the inoperable lighting at the Districts Park’s new parking lot? Is the problem related to copper thefts? The field lights stay on till midnight sometimes. 6) His friend, Dan Middler, earlier alluded to the graffiti near the five stop intersection, and at the house located intersection of East Manoa Road and Lowery Avenue. Has HPD send a letter to that property owner asking them to remove the graffiti? Dan and I are willing to donate time to help remove it if someone supplies the materials. 7) There has been an influx of feral chickens and ducks in the valley, and this may have contributed to the leptospirosis problem. This could also be an avian bird flu threat. He would like to add that he is against the UH Kakaako lab testing Avian Bird Flu in its facilities. 8) Can a request be made to rebuild the footbridge at the bottom of the stream in Upper Manoa that was wiped out by the flood? 9) Can DPR erect a covered bench at the end of the walkway that parallels Manoa stream, as well as put out more garbage cans?

PRESENTATIONS:

Harwood mentioned that next month, James Gonser from the Advertiser would be presenting on the recent launch of MyAdvertiser, a community driven website. Also presenting will be the Oahu coordinator for the Hawaii 2050 Sustainabilities Plan. **(Note – the Hawaii 2050 Sustainabilities Plan presentation was deferred to the May meeting).*

FERAL PIG POPULATION REDUCTION – Dave Smith of DLNR’s Division of Forestry and Wildlife introduced himself. A feral pig reduction program has been launched in Manoa. Manoa is an excellent pig habitat; it previously had no hunting allowed. Feral pigs can damage property and pose a safety threat to people. The aim is to use public hunters to reduce the population down to non-nuisance levels. There has been some worry about hunting dogs conflicting with hiker’s dogs. DLNR is trying to minimize that. The hunters have also been asked to be sensitive when packing out the pig corpses. The program will go on for one year, two days a week on Wednesdays and Sundays. Hikers are asked to not take their dogs with them on those days. 54 permits have been issued so far, there has been 10 hunting days.

17 boars and five sows have been killed. Only archery, dogs or knives will be used. The dogs will also help to disturb the pig's breeding cycle. If 70 percent of the population is killed, the population will remain steady. DLNR wants feedback from the community.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Mitsuda asked if there are any more formal community meetings planned to discuss the progress of the program, maybe six months into the year program. Smith said none are set, but that is a good idea. The complaints that DLNR has received so far all seem to be about illegal hunters – there is poaching going on. The licensed hunters are very responsible.
- 2) Niemzyck asked what the estimated population was. Smith said there is no reliable way to calculate that for pigs. The best rule is when the population gets to the point of being a problem, it needs to be culled.
- 3) Pearson mentioned that at a presentation to the Board two years ago, someone mentioned that the hunters leave the pig intestines hanging on trees. Is that the practice still? Smith said DLNR has asked the hunters to bury whatever they are not hauling out of the valley as to be sensitive to the hikers.
- 4) Holtrop asked if this is population control or eradication. Smith said control, and added that eradication would require fencing and heavy hunting.
- 5) Ragsdale asked what the feasibility was of eradicating feral pigs from the entire Koolau range at one time.
- 6) Jackson commented that his gut feeling is that the population is increasing – he recently had a big one in his backyard. Smith mentioned that the pigs do move around seasonally.
- 7) Andersen asked what measures have other places in the world taken towards this problem, and did any of them ever try birth control. Smith replied that most of these pigs are mixed breed pigs. He added that at one time our Forestry Division was first in the nation for suffering from mammal deforestation. The introduction of fencing and hunting helped to fix this. In 1959, with the advent of Statehood, the focus shifted to game management. In the 80's the damage being caused by the game was realized and strategies shifted. Andersen asked about other jurisdictions methods. Smith said some places use professional hunters, and he does not think contraception will work in this instance.
- 8) Heinrich asked how people could contact Smith with questions. Smith said his number is 973-9786 or visit the website at <http://www.dofaw.net/>.
- 9) Harwood asked what citizens can do. Smith said they need to get involved. For instance, supporting Representative Caldwell's bill relating to forest protection. Harwood asked if there is an overall program to deal with feral animal populations. Smith said yes, and said there would be an upcoming two day workshop devoted to this ungulate management hosted by the Wildlife Society. He also mentioned that Representative Caldwell's bill would reverse the use of fences – keeping something in versus keeping something out. Harwood commented that Kamehameha Schools was fined by the Environmental Protection Agency for accidentally killing feral pigs when they laid out poison. The Schools said the poison was for rats. Harwood suggested maybe this poison could be used to lower the levels of pigs and rats in Manoa.
- 10) Kessler asked if the workshop information will be on DLNR's website. Smith said it would be.
- 11) Audience member Alyssa asked if other valleys have hunters. Smith said most areas do allow hunting, only wildlife sanctuaries don't.

- 12) Andersen asked why the term 'feral pigs' is used when the term 'wild pigs' seems to more accurate. Smith explained that feral means a wild animal descended from a domesticated forbearer. Andersen asked what the harm with calling them wild is. Smith said there is no harm and a lot of people do.

SAVE OUR OAHU RACETRACK (SORT) – Evelyn Souza from SORT introduced herself and Mike Wilcox. She explained that Oahu has been without a racetrack for more than a year now. The closure of the track is a safety issue, as the racing has moved onto the public roadways. The State appropriated \$1 million last year, the fight is now with the City Council and Mayor. Racing had been going on at Hawaii Raceway Park for forty years. These races featured diverse, sophisticated, very expensive vehicles. Wilcox explained that SORT was trying to preserve the sport of racing on Oahu. The land under the raceway park has been sold, and SORT is working to have the government condemn the land. SORT advocates the outer island model for Oahu, where the county owns the Park and leases it to a private operator. Users than would pay a fee. There are plenty of types of county subsidized recreational facilities, and all other Hawaii counties have a raceway park. There can be no doubt that racing on public roadways has increased since the closure.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Andersen commented that he use to be a street racer. He asked if racing produces pollution, and if so would SORT have to conduct an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prior to reopening any sort of raceway park. Souza replied they have never been required to do one during the forty years that the raceway existed, but they would be willing to do so if that's what was required to reopen it.
- 2) Kessler asked who brought the property and what their intentions with it were. Souza explained a company called Irongate purchased it and they plan to turn it into industrial space. Kessler asked if he heard correctly that SORT wants the government to buy it from Irongate. Souza replied yes, and Ironworks has paid \$13 million for it. No one lives there, so condemning it won't displace anyone. It's zoned as agriculture land; the parkway was operating with a variance. Kessler asked if SORT has tried to purchase the property when it was for sale. Souza said they wanted to, but no offer was ever made to them. Only a land exchange was put on the table. She added that SORT resents their obvious intention to flip the property and make a huge profit at the expense of displacing the racers. Kessler then asked who would run the raceway under SORT's proposal. Souza said that SORT would be the private contactor. Kessler responded by asking if they had a business plan. Souza said they did have one. Kessler suggested they partner with a mainland company to do this project. Wilcox said they were following the outer island model of having the County owned and leased model. Kessler asked if the City changed the zoning to allow for the raceway park, couldn't his proposal work. Souza said it is possible, but not very cost effective. Kessler explained his suggestion would not require the City to front the money to acquire the property. Souza explained that under their proposal, the City will make the acquisition cost back by leasing the raceway. Kessler pointed out that is only true if it turns out the raceway can be operated at a profit.
- 3) Heinrich commented that inspecting SORT's business plan was not really the purview of the Neighborhood Board. He applauded SORT for continuing to improve their presentations to the Neighborhood Boards, as he has been thru several of them.

Heinrich moved to add to the agenda for action "the Manoa Neighborhood Board supports SORT's proposal for the acquisition of Hawaii Raceway Park." Harwood pointed out that the agenda says "A resolution on this topic may be considered by the Board." Heinrich said that even with that disclaimer, the item is listed under "Presentations" and not "Unfinished" or "New Business." He thinks that OIP would have an issue with this. **Ragsdale seconded the motion.** Andersen commented that a 2/3's vote is required to add an item to the agenda. He added that it was 10:00 p.m. and there really was not time to debate SORT's proposal tonight, especially as there were minutes yet to be approved.

Nakano agreed that the Board needs more time to consider any resolution. He suggests that if SORT has a proposal already written they submit it to the Board for action at the next meeting. Souza said they did have one that they can turn over to the Board tonight. Pearson commented that this issue had bumped more important issues. Heinrich disagreed that this item was not as important as others. **Heinrich and Ragsdale withdrew the motion.** Harwood said action on this item was deferred to the April meeting.

Harwood deferred all unfinished business at the request of Kessler.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS REGARDING MASS TRANSIT – Four resolutions are on the agenda for the Board's consideration. 1) Resolution to have the east terminus of the fixed guideway system near UH and to be built in the first phase of construction. 2) Resolution to oppose the fixed guideway's UH connection making a flyover of the H1 freeway. 3) Resolution rejecting rail transit. 4) Resolution to select a more cost-effective transit alternative. **Pearson moved, seconded by Jackson that the Board adopt resolution #1.** Holtrop said that given the recent actions by the City Council, the #1 is moot. Harwood said it still would express the belief of the Board, and the issue might yet be revisited. Heinrich commented that the meeting is no longer being taped, and the community cannot watch the debate unfold. He then called for a point of order and said the Chair is required to yield the gavel when entering the debate. Heinrich added he also disagrees with Holtrop and thinks there is no rush on these resolutions. He asked Pat Lee when the next Council action would likely be occurring. Bob Farrell from Makkakilo.com informed the Board he was still filming the meeting. Pat Lee explained that the Minimum Operating System (MOS) was adopted by the Council on February 21. That is not the Master Plan, knows at the Locally Preferred Alternative (LAP). The LAP does include Manoa in it. The MOS allows for engineering to proceed. Heinrich asked if there were any imminent deadlines that would require the Manoa Board to take action tonight. Lee said there was not, and added that scoping for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would happen this summer. Heinrich suggested in that case this action should be deferred, although taken up before scoping begins. Harwood acknowledged that he should give up the gavel before entering debate on any issue. He deferred the resolutions on mass transit until next meeting. Pearson asked if his motion was withdrawn, and if so objects as the issue has been discussed and the Board should vote. Heinrich replied he has not adequately discussed the issue, and he think the resolutions could be combined. **Pearson and Jackson withdrew the motion.**

Pearson left the meeting. Holtrop left the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2007 MINUTES – Harwood asked if the Board objected to deferring this item until the next meeting. Andersen objected. **Andersen moved to approve the minutes as circulated. Nakano seconded.** Heinrich said he had some non-substantive corrections he would propose at a later time. **Andersen called for the question.** Heinrich pointed out that would now require two votes, one to cut off debate and one on the main motion. **Andersen withdrew calling for the question. The minutes were approved as circulated, 10-1-0. (Aye: Andersen, Chapin, Kessler, Jackson, Heinrich, Harwood, Mitsuda, Nakano, Niemzyck, Niimoto. Nay: Ragsdale.**

ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Submitted by:
Bryan Mick, Neighborhood Commission Office Staff