



## MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2007 NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Nishioka called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with eleven members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian Kessler, Tom Heinrich Paul Holtrop, Jim Harwood, Brandon Mitsuda, Nadine Nishioka, George Nakano, Chris Niemzyck, Rose Niimoto, Chuck Pearson, and Milton Ragsdale. (Seventeen seats, one vacancy -quorum is nine members).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gary Andersen, Hank Chapin, Dwight Jackson, Salvatore Lanzilotti, and Taylor Rock.

**GUESTS:** Mike Wilcox (SORT); Hubert Minn (Mayor's Representative); Councilmember Ann Kobayashi; Mike Legrande; Jeremy Lam; Pat Chung, Ed Chung, Linda LeGrande; Marlene Alvey, Sandra Shim; Ed Chang; Stan Lum; Grace Fukuhawa, Brittney Peterson; Paul Dole; Larry Reifurth (Governor's Representative); Representative Kirk Caldwell; Senator Brian Tanaguchi; James Gonser and Mary Vorsino (Honolulu Advertiser); Sherri Hiraoka (Townscape Inc); Sgt. Egami, Officer Tony Kahapea, Captain Kilantang, and Lt. Ishida (Honolulu Police Department); Captain Clyde Shimaburkuro (Honolulu Fire Department); Dan Midler; Pat Lee (Consultant for Honolulu Alternative Mass Transit); Bryan Mick (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

#### PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

**HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD)** –Captain Shimaburkuro reported that for the month of March there was one structure fire, 39 medical emergencies, one search and rescue, and one miscellaneous call.

**Fire tip of the month:** Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and the second major cause of death among older adults. If you are cooking and must leave the kitchen for a few minutes, turn off your stove. Keep a fire extinguisher (with a minimum rating of 2A10BC) in or near your kitchen and learn how to use it. Inspect the fire extinguisher regularly to ensure that it has not expired.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Mitsuda asked if the Manoa firefighters need anything, because he is sure the Board would support their requests. Captain Shimaburkuro replied that their requests are included in this year's budget proposal. Mitsuda asked that the Board be apprised of any future needs.
- 2) Heinrich commented that in the near future, McCully Fire Company 29 will be relocated. He wonders what effect that may have on the Manoa station, and asked that the Board be kept up to date on this issue.
- 3) Niemzyck asked if HFD has some sort of a working relationship with the University as far as the evacuation of people with disabilities. Specifically he would like to know if HFD has a list of exactly what rooms these people reside in. Captain Shimaburkuro replied that HFD does have some plans for non-university buildings. For the University, they only know specifically of some workers, not the students as the students move around from semester to semester. There are general procedures for HFD to follow when it comes to evacuating a person with a disability. Kessler wanted to confirm that UH does not provide HFD with a list of where people with disabilities reside. Captain Shimaburkuro confirmed that. The Chair asked for the contact

information for the Manoa fire station. Captain Shimaburkuro said Manoa Station's number is 523-4992. Pearson commented that the head of the University housing, Laurie Furakawa, would have such a list of disabled students locations.. He will ask her. Niemzyck added that he has been talking about this issue for years to no avail.

**HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD)** – Lt. Ishida distributed his report. For the month of February, Beat 750 (upper Manoa Ewa) saw a decrease in burglaries (-2), thefts (-2), and no change in unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (UEMV), while Beat 751 (Upper Manoa Diamond Head) saw an decrease in burglaries (-7) and UEMV's (-3), while thefts (+1) increased, and Beat 752 (lower Manoa) saw an decrease in burglaries (-1) and thefts (-2), and UEMV's (-9).

**Police tip of the month:** Did you know that there are many different ways to report criminal activity to the Honolulu Police Department? You can submit a written letter, addressed to the Chief of Police, or the respective geographic District the criminal activity is afoot, with as much information as possible, ANNONYMOUSLY. On top of that, the Honolulu Police Department must investigate any and all criminal complaints, EVEN IF IT IS ANONYMOUS. The more information given to the police on criminal activity, it will always help in fighting crime together.

Lt. Ishida added some diagrams on pedestrian safety were attached to the handouts.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Mitsuda thanked HPD for being responsive and for including the diagrams. He added that speeding on East Manoa road, Manoa Road, and Woodlawn has been a persistent problem, especially since there are no pedestrian activated stoplights. He worries especially about the areas near the elementary schools. He would like to request that speed trailers be set up. Lt. Ishida explained that the speed trailers have been redeployed for now outside of Manoa, and therefore Manoa officers have been using lasers to conduct speed enforcement. Mitsuda said this should not be an issue of how many tickets are written, but rather driver education – that's why he likes the trailers.
- 2) Pearson asked if the problem with the three lunch wagons on Woodlawn Drive has been resolved. Lt. Ishida said that as long as they don't park for more than 24 hours in one place, there is little HPD can do.
- 3) Pearson commented that the chart of the beat area covering Woodlawn shows a high theft rate. He wondered what types of thefts are happening in this area. Lt. Ishida said you cannot tell from the chart, only that those thefts were not classified as a burglary or UEMV.
- 4) Kessler asked if HPD has the list of disabled dorm residents talked about earlier in the meeting. Lt. Ishida explained that they do not have specific plotting data for individuals living in the dorms, but they do have a comprehensive evacuation plan which takes into consideration people with disabilities.

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 7, 2007 MINUTES** – The Chair said some minor changes to the minutes had been submitted by Jim Manke from the University – one corrected the spelling of a name and the other corrected the number of a legislative bill. For informational purposes, he also relayed that the shrimp head project mentioned last meeting as part of a story on 'pork projects' was an Oceanic Institute project and not a University one. Pearson thanked Mick for the excellent minutes. **Mitsuda moved to approve the minutes as circulated. Nakano seconded. The minutes were approved as circulated, 11-0-0. (Aye: Kessler, Heinrich, Holtrop, Harwood, Mitsuda, Nishioka, Nakano, Niemzyck, Niimoto, Pearson, and Ragsdale).**

**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:** The Chair announced that the Board would be enforcing its time limits tonight. Mitsuda would time people and hold up a cue card with one minute left and 15 seconds left.

**COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI** –Councilmember Kobayashi mentioned that her monthly newsletter included pedestrian safety hints. She added that public hearings are upcoming on the Mayor's proposal to charge \$10 a month for a second day a week regular trash pick up in order to make room for curbside recycling. The previous administration tried to institute an \$8 dollar a month fee and was rejected, so this is likely to meet the same fate. The issue of adult residential care homes (ARCH) in Manoa is a hot topic, it seems like everyone likes them it's just a question of how many and how close to each other they should be.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Mitsuda thanked the Councilmember for always responding to his e-mails, especially Ben Park.
- 2) Niimoto asked where are care homes supposed to be located. Councilmember Kobayashi explained that they can be located anywhere. She added that there is a need for them, and the one currently proposed in Manoa is near McKinley Street. There is a resolution with the Council directing the Department of Planning and permitting (DPP) to look at if minimum distance requirements need to be instituted in regards to ARCH's.
- 3) Harwood commented that almost every mainland jurisdiction charges to pick up trash, Hawaii residents seem to think everything should be free. If a house is producing enough trash to fill up two large garbage bins every week, they certainly can afford the \$10 a month to have it hauled away.

**MAYOR'S REPORT-** Hubert Minn, Special Advisor, Customer Services Department (CSD), distributed Mayor Hannemann's newsletter. As noted earlier, public forums to discuss curbside recycling are coming up. Some answers to last month's questions are: a) DTS has determined that conditions on Woodlawn Drive do not justify installation of a pedestrian activated light. b) State law would need to be amended to implement Kessler's suggestion of folding Neighborhood Board elections into the regular statewide election. c) The City does not have the resources, land, or funding to do a raceway park. d) The curbing near Longs has been repaired. e) A consultant is analyzing the energy requirements at Manoa Valley District Park to determine costs of upgrading the circuits so the new lights can be turned on in the parking lot. f) The Manoa pool reopened on March 7. g) The new number for the 24-hour pothole line is 768-7777. Minn added that Mitsuda had requested that Lowery Avenue be repaved. The job is going to bid this month. The Chair asked what Minn's contact information is. He said 523-4590 and [hminn@honolulu.gov](mailto:hminn@honolulu.gov)

Questions, answers, and comments:

Mitsuda commented a resident had approached him and said the residents are not well informed as to when Board meetings are scheduled. Harwood said the Board use to have signs they would put up to publicize the meeting. Pearson responded those signs did not seem very effective, but the Board does have the budget to try it again. It was mentioned that Councilmember Kobayashi's contact information is 547-7005 and [akobayashi@honolulu.gov](mailto:akobayashi@honolulu.gov)

**REPRESENTATIVE KIRK CALDWELL** – The Representative handed out his report. He commented that he has introduced a House resolution on care home regulation. Some say we are against old people, but that's not true. Baby boomers are aging and there is an increased demand for these types of homes. But we need to be careful to not turn our residential communities into hospital zones. Senator

Tanaguchi has promised to work with the Representative to bring both sides together to find a compromise agreement.

Questions, answers, and comments:

Harwood asked the status of the HB 1831 dealing with fencing efforts to keep out feral animals. Representative Caldwell replied it passed out of the House and went to the Senate. It has been amended to be a pilot project. Harwood asked what sort of pilot project. Representative Caldwell said it would now appropriate a small fund to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) who would select an area on Oahu to try out the fences and measure their effectiveness. Caldwell's contact information is 586-8475 and [repcaldwell@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repcaldwell@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**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)

**GOVERNORS REPORT** – Larry Reifurth, the recently appointed Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), distributed the Governor's newsletters. He said the legislature is kicking into its second gear as they move into conference committees. There is still a lot of good legislation alive out there. One is a proposal backed by DCCA to reinstitute the regulation of healthcare insurers. This had been the norm until the law expired last year. There are other bills DCCA supports still alive which deal with securities and mortgages. For instance, one provides grant money for people who 'harden' their house against natural disasters. An update on the PEG services for Olelo – a second draft of the Request for Proposals (RFP) has been issued, and people can view and comment on it at DCCA's website. His contact information is 586-2885 and [lreifurth@dcca.hawaii.gov](mailto:lreifurth@dcca.hawaii.gov) .

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) The Chair asked if in light of his recent promotion, he would continue on as the Governor's Representative to the Manoa Board. Reifurth replied he expected that he would.
- 2) Kessler asked if the appraisal of Paradise Park had been done. Reifurth replied it had, and the University was in possession of the appraisal.
- 3) Holtrop asked about the grant money for hardening home. He wonders if there are criteria to qualify, such as being in a flood zone if one is to get money for flood proofing one's home. Reifurth said he would have to locate the rules and check, and he will follow up on this.
- 4) Mitsuda congratulated Reifurth on his promotion to Director and asked that the Board's concerns about disabled residents at the University be taken back to UH.
- 5) Pearson commented that Gregg Takayama would be replacing Jim Manke as UH spokesperson, Manke is now on public radio. The Chair added that Manke had sent in a report to the Board about the University, which stated the new Chancellor will start on July 1, 2007. The Chair added that she took a tour of Manoa Valley with the incoming Chancellor, Virginia Henshaw, and relayed the Board's concerns including the Lyon's arboretum to her. The new Chancellor has pledged to come to the Board meetings and maintain open communications.

**UPDATE ON KAMANELE PARK** - Pearson reported he has gotten an update from Board of Water Supply (BWS) spokesperson, Su Shinn. January of next year is the earliest the Park can be ready, as the work is slated to end in October. A copy of the restoration plans have still not been given to the Board. The good news is that the work is slightly ahead of schedule right now.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Holtrop asked if Pearson knew for sure that restoration plans exist. Pearson said that Mike Smith from the City committed to doing the plans a month ago, but it's possible they are not yet completed.
- 2) Heinrich pointed out that Pearson was not running for reelection, and the Board should plan in the near future for someone else to take on this task so that there is a smooth transition into the new Board. Pearson suggested Harwood, but someone explained he is not running either. Pearson then suggested Heinrich. The Chair thanked Pearson for his hard work on this issue.

## RESIDENTS AND OTHERS-

**CARE HOMES (ARCH)** - Linda LeGrande introduced herself as a 30 year resident of Manoa and passed out maps showing the proposed care homes near her house on Mohala Way. She said that Manoa is a historic neighborhood full of old homes with big setbacks. A concentration of care homes will negatively impact the neighborhood. The residents want a 1000 minimum foot distance between all care homes. This desire was expressed to the Board in 2001. The residents are not against ARCH's, just a concentration of them. Existing houses have added more beds, and recently applied for more beds, which if allowed will put a stress on the sewage system and increase the traffic. She added that this issue is island wide. Administrative rules were supposed to be crafted to regulate ARCH's, but they never were. Heinrich commented that he was the chair in 2002 during a presentation, and there needs to be a continuing effort on the Board's behalf to deal with this issue. As the Board will be different following the upcoming election, he thinks that in June a reorganized transportation and planning committee should be formed. Linda added that her e-mail is [mohalaway@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:mohalaway@hawaii.rr.com) Kessler asked if the Board would be considering a resolution on this topic tonight. The Chair replied it was not on the agenda, therefore no.

Paul Dole, an employee at the Manoa Cottage Care Home, commented that the number of people living in Manoa versus the total population of the care Homes needs to be looked at. There is a real shortage of care Homes on the island.

Sandra Shim, the owner of Manoa Cottage Care Home, introduced herself. She said she did not know the residents were upset about her plans to expand until she read the newspaper article. Her only desire is to take care of the elderly in a safe and joyous way. The average age of their guests is 90; they basically come to spend their last days on earth at these facilities. Over half of these people come from the area in and around Manoa, which means it is easy for their families to come and visit them. They feel safest being in a community that they are familiar with. She is happy to meet with the community. She can be reached at 943-8767 or [shims003@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:shims003@hawaii.rr.com).

Heinrich commented that this is a big issue, but the Board must limit itself to advising government. Most of the discussion has been site specific and neighbor relations type of stuff, which is not proper for the Board to comment on. However, comments about the distance requirements could be given to the Department of Health (DOH) and perhaps the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). Representative Caldwell has offered to serve as a mediator outside of this meeting. The Chair added that the Board cannot write a resolution in a neighbor vs. neighbor issue, but the meeting can serve as a forum for residents to voice their concerns.

Ed Chung said he had lived in Manoa for twenty years and supported the 1000 foot minimum distance idea. He hopes that care home operators are sensitive to the residents. There are all ready eight homes near his house, and plans for more. There are also other social services type buildings such as the Weinberg building. He added he does not like the increase in traffic that these establishments bring. He wondered if a historic community was being turned into a commercial one. Perhaps the State should build and operate senior homes like they are now doing for homeless people.

Pearson said the DOH should answer the question as to why they never came up with a set of administrative rules like they were supposed to. Representative Caldwell added that the bill under

consideration has been referred to the Judiciary Committee, but has not been scheduled yet. Nishioka encouraged people to testify to the Legislature when the bill does come up.

Stan Lum, a long time Manoa resident and an employee of Manoa Cottage introduced himself, and implored the residents to not form a mean spirited herd mentality on this issue. Some neighbors have been very disrespectful and even violent towards the care homes. He said that Manoa Cottage's number one priority is resident care. Equally important is good neighbor relations. The squeaky wheel gets the oil, and now it's the care homes turn to squeak. He hopes residents do not resort to vigilante tactics. The issues that have been brought up are non-issues. Residents are free to talk directly to the care homes about any concerns they have.

Heinrich said that people who mistakenly thought he was still the Manoa chair have been sending him letters on this issue. He encourages people to contact their subdistrict representatives on the Board and let them know how they feel about this issue.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

**MYADVERTISER.COM** – James Gonser introduced himself, and announced that the Advertiser has launched several online community sites. These are designed to publicize the little stuff that won't make it into the regular paper. Manoa is one of the communities that has its own site, and residents can submit articles and photos for posting here. Breaking news about an area from the Advertiser's website is also reposted on these sites as well. Any Advertiser articles about Manoa will be posted here as well, including articles about University of Hawaii at Manoa sports. Gonser introduced Mary Vorsino, who is the Advertiser's mobile journalist (mojo) for urban Honolulu. Tonight's handouts have both their contact numbers on it. Manoa's site also has a blog which is maintained by Kristen Brummel, a teacher from Noelani Elementary School, as well as a calendar of events and contact information for various groups such as HPD, HFD, elected officials, and the Neighborhood Board. Other communities on Oahu will soon have their own pages. By July there will be 22 Oahu community pages. After that, outer island sites will be launched. His contact information is 535-2431, 754-8286, and [jgonser@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:jgonser@honoluluadvertiser.com). He endeavors to get submitted articles and photos posted as quickly as possible.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Someone asked when Malama o Manoa should submit their article about an upcoming historic walk. Gonser suggested submitting it several times so it gets posted more than once.
- 2) Someone asked what the URL was. Gonser said it was [www.myadvertiser.com/manoa](http://www.myadvertiser.com/manoa)
- 3) The Chair reminded Board members that they should not submit articles signed as if they are acting on behalf of the Board. The Chair asked what days and times does the site get updated. Gonser said daily, and several times a day on Monday thru Fridays.
- 4) Kessler asked if forums will be added in. Gonser replied there are some, but they are not used much. Kessler than inquired if video clips could be posted as well. Gonser said he looked into that, but that is too much work for his current manpower levels to do.
- 5) Heinrich asked if the McCully community has their own page. Gonser said they did, but that each page would include news from neighboring communities, so that Manoa and McCully would have news from each other on their respective pages. Heinrich observed these pages are different than the Advertiser main website, which mirrors the hard copy version. Gonser agreed that this was very different. Heinrich asked if there would ever be migration from the community sites into the main paper. Gonser said this reverse publishing is a possibility, and if he sees anything he thinks might be good for the main paper he will alert a mobile journalist.

- 6) Niimoto thanked them for creating these sites. Resident Matt Brummel commented that the site answers a lot of questions and asked if minutes were posted on the site. Gonser said links to minutes are. He added that they will not post op-ed pieces, with the exception of the blogger and the discussion forums.
- 7) The Chair asked for the upcoming Easter egg hunt to be added on to Manoa's site.

**MANOA WATERSHED PROJECT** - Sherri Hiraoka of the environmental firm Townscape, Inc. introduced herself. She said there are three flood control projects that her firm is involved with. One is a short term project FEMA grant that DLNR has applied for to implement improvements near the Woodlawn Bridge and two areas at the District Park. Another one is a long-term (five years) Ala Wai Watershed project. This is to improve flood control and restore the ecosystem. The last one is a mid term Manoa Watershed project, and participants include the US Army Corps of Engineers, DFM, DDC, ENV, and DPP. This will look at flood control in Manoa Stream on both sides of Woodlawn. This analysis is just beginning, and will include non-structural solutions like easement flips and drainage plans, as well as structural solutions like additional walls and basins. Overall maintenance plans are also being evaluated. It is important to do things in the upper part of the watershed. This is a stakeholder driven process, and last week various agencies along with elected officials met with about 90 stream owners. The concerns expressed included erosion and maintenance. The notes from that meeting will be posted online. An Environmental Impact Statement will be done; the notice of intent was recently published. A scoping meeting will be held on April 25 at 6:30 pm at Noelani School. She added that her contact information is 536-6999, [sherri@townscapeinc.com](mailto:sherri@townscapeinc.com), and the website is at <http://manoawatershed.oceanit.com>

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Heinrich commented that he has been in many meetings with Hiraoka as he is the president of the Ala Wai Watershed Association. He claimed that the actual number was 120 people attendees at the last meeting.
- 2) Pearson commented that the Woodlawn Bridge is important and would like to know at what meeting he can meet with the planners about this. Hiraoka replied that the April 25 meeting will be very preliminary, and there will be no plans ready by then to discuss. She suggests Pearson calls her with any concerns. There will also be future public meetings.
- 3) Harwood said that many people wanted a walkway / bikepath along the stream, but there were too many private ownerships to make it feasible. However, if easements are to be consolidated as part of this plan, maybe the walkway / bikepath could be revisited. Hiraoka said it was not currently part of the plan, but that it the idea could be taken back to the residents to see if they wanted to incorporate it. Pearson said he has two books on it, and it's a great idea to reactivate it.
- 4) Heinrich commented that House Speaker Say introduced a resolution in the House asking DLNR to address public use issues in regards to streams. The Chair added that the new Chancellor indicated to her that the University is willing to help with flood mitigation efforts. Hiraoka said they had been in contact with the University.

**RESIDENTS** – Dan Midler commented that the FBI graffiti is still present on Woodlawn Avenue. The Chair commented that is on private property, and therefore permission is needed before anyone can fix it. The Board can let Councilmember Kobayashi know. Midler added that the Manoa Stream wall is sinking. The Chair thanked Middler for the information.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**REPORT ON SEPTEMBER 14 MASS TRANSIT ALTERNATIVE MEETING** – Kessler said that his report is on the website and parts of it have been included in various minutes. He would just like to add that he thinks a project this big should have been voted on directly by the people, not just the Council.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS SUPPORTING AND OPPOSING THE FIXED GUIDEWAY TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE** – The Chair turned the gavel over to Vice-Chair Harwood. Harwood asked Heinrich to read two resolutions that the Board was asked to consider by the group known as Concerned Citizens for Transit Alternatives: 1) BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manoa Neighborhood Board strongly urges the City Council to reject rail transit as a transportation alternative for the City and County of Honolulu. 2) BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manoa Neighborhood urges the City Council to diligently investigate and to objectively select a transit alternative that is more cost effective than rail in the reduction of traffic congestion, such as High Occupancy & Toll (HOT) lanes.

Heinrich mentioned that April 13 is the deadline for scoping comments, and added a Board member would have to propose either of the resolutions for consideration by the Board. **Niemzyck moved and Niimoto seconded that the Board adopt both resolutions.** Heinrich commented that he opposes both of the resolutions. The City Council has already made a selection of the locally preferred Alternative (LPA), and the Minimum operating Segment (MOS) has also been selected. Only the technology has yet to be selected. Board comments should be tailored for the upcoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), not deal with things that are already decided. Harwood replied that the citizen organization that originally proposed the resolution never updated the language after the Council's actions. **Resolution #1 failed 0-9-2. (Nay: Heinrich, Holtrop, Harwood, Mitsuda, Nakano, Niemzyck, Niimoto, Pearson, and Ragsdale. Abstain: Kessler and Nishioka). Resolution #2 failed 0-7-4. (Nay: Heinrich, Holtrop, Harwood, Mitsuda, Nakano, Pearson, and Ragsdale. Abstain: Kessler, Niemzyck, Nishioka, and Niimoto).**

Harwood inquired what happened to the pro-rail resolutions. Heinrich said he would read the new resolutions he had prepared for tonight. The Chair asked if these were brand new resolutions. Heinrich explained they come out of the old resolutions, but is aimed more at the upcoming EIS. The Chair pointed out that this might not be proper since the Board was considering unfinished business. Heinrich concurred and agreed to defer his resolutions to next month, but encouraged people to submit their comments on the EIS. He added that the Manoa board is still inexcusably silent on this issue.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON SAVE OUR OAHU RACETRACK (SORT)** – Harwood read the following resolution:

“WHEREAS the closure of the Hawaii raceway Park on the Ewa plain may be responsible for an increase in racing on King Street, University Avenue, Manoa, And H-1 freeway, and other Oahu roads, and WHEREAS the incidents of highway street racing continue to be an issue of concern to the Honolulu Police Department and the general public, and WEHERAS Oahu is the only island in the State that does not have a raceway park; now therefore resolved that the Manoa Neighborhood Board number 7 supports the development of a raceway on Oahu as soon as possible, and be it further resolved, that the City Council is requested to direct DPP or any other agency to conduct a series of public meetings concerning the development of a automobile racetrack for Oahu, and the agendas of these meetings be published, and be further resolved that the results of these meeting be the basis for a report and its transmittal by December 2007 to the City Council for future public hearings and action, and that the report contain recommendations on the feasibility of a racetrack on Oahu whether public, private, or a public-private partnership, and that Hawaii Raceway Park be considered as it is the been In use for forty two years and may be available the soonest for use, and finally copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director all City Council members, the Director of DPP, all neighborhood Boards, the Chair of OMPO, and the Chair of SORT.”

**Nakano moved, and Ragsdale seconded to adopt the resolution.** Kessler asked if this resolution asked for State or public funds to be committed. Wilcox said they were. Kessler asked if it was implied. Wilcox said it was, and there is a bill at the legislature to provide for some funds in this effort. Heinrich asked what SORT stands for. Wilcox said Save Oahu Racetracks, Heinrich confirmed it was plural. He added that the resolution that was read was one he had formulated based on input from various cases including the resolution SORT submitted to the board. He wrote it as to not address funding sources,

business plan considerations, and alternatives. It is simply calling for a series of public meetings. **The motion failed 7-2-2 (quorum is 9 votes). (Aye:** Harwood, Heinrich, Holtrop, Nakano, Ragsdale, Kessler, Nishioka. **Nay:** Pearson and Niimoto. **Abstain:** Mitsuda and Niemzyck.)

Harwood read the resolution offered to the Board by SORT:

“WHEREAS Hawaii Raceway Park has been closed since April 2006 and the motorsports community of Oahu has had no racing venue since then; and WHEREAS, the problem of speeding on local streets and highways has grown to the point where the Honolulu Police Department has set up a special speeding task force; and WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu, the most populous County in Hawaii is the only County in the State to not have a motorsports facility; and WHEREAS, there has been no progress to date toward private or public development of a new motorsports facility on Oahu; now therefore BE IT RESLOVED that the City and County of Honolulu and the State of Hawaii should work to expedite the process of getting an operational motorsports facility on the island of Oahu as quickly as possible, without waiting for the development of a new racing facility; and to this end BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of Honolulu is requested to expedite the process of putting a park symbol on the public infrastructure map as a first step in preserving the Hawaii Raceway Park site as a racetrack; and BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, the Director of the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting, the Honolulu City Council, the Governor of the State of Hawaii, all neighborhood chairs, and area legislators.

**Holtrop moved, seconded by Ragsdale to adopt the resolution.** Heinrich commented that he opposed the resolution as written; he specifically does not like the phrases “without waiting for the development” and “placing a park symbol on the public infrastructure map.” He thinks there have been too many changes to that area to make the change to the public infrastructure map in this manner. Kessler said he would be more inclined to support this resolution if the plan included the idea that SORT would raise money rather than use taxpayer money. Harwood added the big picture is that we need a park raceway, and everyone is picking on small items. If this resolution fails, than the whole concept fails. Mike Wilcox from SORT said that House Bill 567 directs a study to be conducted and was amended to include acquisition funding. There has no doubt been an explosion in street racing and drifting since the raceway park’s closure. The Park symbol is simply the first step in County acquisition. Pearson commented that SORT relies on emotional laden statistics to justify their position. He wonders what hard evidence they have to show reopening the Park would stop kids from street racing and go to the track instead. Wilcox said there are examples from across the State, and even the Country, such as San Diego which saw a 95 percent reduction when they opened legal racing venues and created an educational program to support it. Pearson asked if HPD supports SORT’s efforts. Wilcox said that HPD has lobbied on their behalf. Niimoto said this seems to her as if SORT is approving of people’s bad behavior. Wilcox acknowledged that some people feel that way, but pointed out that the law has been recently changed to address dangerous speeders (extra fines for those going over 30 mph of the posted limit). Increased citation has not led to safer roads however. He thinks that criminalizing something that is legal in most other parts of our country is not a good solution. He compared this to the effort to get skate parks, and how that was a positive proactive solution. The Chair commented that she had been to the Raceway Park a few times before it closed. She understood that the races were about who could most accurately predict their finish times. She wonders if the people engaged in street racing are really interested in trying to hit a target time or rather go as fast as they possibly can. Wilcox explained that some races are the prediction format, while other are about speed. He added that the track and the cars allowed on the track both have safety features. The Chair asked if there was always Emergency Medical Services (EMS) on site during races. Wilcox said at the beginning, the City did not want to provide EMS. But the sanctioning body requires EMS to be present, and in the future this would be paid for by entry fees. The legislature also has passed a bill to protect the government from liability. The cost of the Park would eventually be paid back to the City, unlike the soccer park for example. Niemzyck asked if the entry fees would be used to pay the City back. Wilcox said yes, and they are looking for a partnership like the outer islands have. There, the City leases the facility to a private non-profit. Honolulu does this for its public golf courses. Heinrich said that the title of the resolution was “Resolution requesting the City

& County of Honolulu to provide for a motorsports facility on Oahu,” yet the State is mentioned in the body. Also, the need for the Park symbol is not explained. He would like another resolution to be submitted to the Board that explains the plan a little better. Harwood said that the Park symbol had been fully discussed at a previous meeting. Wilcox added that they are not experts in City and State processes, but was told by the City that is the first step if the City Council is to proceed. Although this is primarily a City issue, the State is involved with the funding aspects of this plan. Harwood asked if that helped, but Heinrich still thinks that an adequate explanation of the park symbol has yet to be given. Harwood suggest perhaps it could be deleted. Heinrich said only the makers of the motion could do that. **Holtrop called for the question, seconded by Mitsuda. The motion to call for the question passed 10-1-0 (Aye: Heinrich, Holtrop, Mitsuda, Nakano, Pearson, Ragsdale, Kessler, Niemzyck, Nishioka, and Niimoto Nay: Harwood). The motion to adopt the resolution failed 5-3-3 (quorum is 9 votes). (Aye: Harwood, Nakano, Pearson, Ragsdale, Niemzyck, Nay: Heinrich, Holtrop, Kessler Abstain: Mitsuda, Nishioka, and Niimoto)**

**REPORT ON GREEN BUILDING FOR MANOA LIBRARY** – Harwood distributed his report on the March 3 meeting:

### 1. Introduction

The Manoa Library is in the process of being redesigned and rebuilt. As part of that process, a number of community meetings have been held and will be held for stakeholders. This meeting, called an “Eco-Charette”, was held for the purpose of providing to the building designers ideas for energy conservation and sustainability in order to meet LEED Silver standards of building design. LEED, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an organization founded by architect and planner professional organizations in 1993. Membership is limited to agencies and organizations, not individuals. LEED standard categories are Platinum, the highest standard, through Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Hawaii State Law mandates LEED Silver for all new State buildings over 5,000 sq. ft., including the new Manoa Library. Attendance was limited to 30 members of the community representing government organizations, utilities, architectural firms, library patrons, and library employees. One attendee slot was allocated to the Manoa Neighborhood Board in the person of Vice-Chair Jim Harwood, the author of this report. Another Neighborhood Board member, Tom Heinrich, attended as a library patron. Ms. Christel Collins, the Manoa Library Manager, was in charge of the meeting.

### 2. Explanation and Examples of Green Design Elements (30 min.)

A Power Point slide show and a video were shown, illustrating how LEED categories and scoring for the different standards are determined. There are 20 to 30 LEED-qualified libraries now in existence, 4 of them Platinum or Gold. Examples of schools meeting LEED standards in the Pacific Northwest and Pennsylvania were shown, along with features of the buildings that contributed to the LEED rating. Some features that were illustrated were-

- Exterior shelves across large window openings to reflect light to the upper interior
- Interior light diffusers to scatter light throughout the room
- Photovoltaic panels on various parts of the building
- Eaves and recesses to shade the wall during the summer and accept sunlight in winter
- Flat roofs planted with ground cover to control runoff and stabilize inside temperature
- Berms and swales to direct building runoff to landscaping
- Passive cooling roof coatings
- Cooling towers that conduct warm air out
- Bike racks and showers for biking employees

### 3. Summary of Site Plan and Library Space

Architect Gary Kawakami of Architects Plus, Inc. showed a drawing of a representative building on the lot. It is a one story building of 14,000 sq. ft. over a parking area ½ level below grade, with room for 37

stalls. The library currently has 16. We were told why we couldn't use the Astronomy building parking next door; UH-Manoa has a deficit of 900 stalls according to city code, so none at Astronomy could be given up to the library. Stairs and an elevator go from grade and the parking level to the main floor. Except for the specifications given above, the illustrated building was not meant to be a proposed design; it was simply to show the arrangement of building, parking, and available lot. A protective wall to divert flood waters was shown.

#### 4. Group Exercise: Suggestions for Green Elements in Various Categories (1 hr 10 min)

To qualify for a LEED rating, the building and lot must carry design elements and details in various categories that contribute to energy savings or environmental and sustainable aspects usually not present in conventional design. The LEED program provides a "New Construction Registered Project Checklist" which consists of categories and items that, if present in your building design, you can check off and therefore get credit of one or more points. Adding up the points in the entire checklist determines the level of LEED standard that applies to your building. Large sheets of blank poster paper were taped up to a library bookshelf. Labels of the various LEED categories were stuck to the top of the paper sheets. We participants were to suggest items to be included in the new library design that would qualify for LEED points. The suggestions were listed by the facilitator under the category names on the poster sheets as we made them. Mr. Stuart (Stu) Simpson, Facilities Senior Planner and LEED Building Advisor with the State of Washington, was our facilitator and organized this Eco-Charette. Library Manager Christel Collins advised us not to hold back because of cost or complexity, to just go ahead and suggest anything whether it was perceived as LEED-specific or not. Following are the categories and some of the suggestions from the participants. *Categories:* Sustainable Site: Since the library site and its restrictions are already determined, there wasn't much flexibility in adopting LEED checkpoints for this category. Suggestions that did apply were-

- **Alternative transportation:**

Bus stop within ¼ mile and also near UH shuttle stop (extra point?)  
Bicycle racks (for public); changing rooms and showers (for staff cyclists)  
Electric outlets for staff and patrons' electric cars  
Certain parking spaces reserved for hybrids  
Priority parking for mo-peds  
Underground parking

- Light pollution reduction
- (\*) Grasscrete pavement, allowing water to drain through

#### Energy and Atmosphere

- Daylight responsive lighting controls
- (\*) Solar photovoltaic panels
- Soil and ground cover plantings on roof *or* solar-reflective roof coating
- Energy star roof (already part of building code?)
- Highly efficient conventional air conditioning
- If practical, air condition using natural ventilation with silica gel desiccant system for humidity control
- Light reflecting shelves outside windows
- (\*) Skylights
- High performance windows (triple paned, heat reflective and UV opaque)
  
- Ceiling fans
- Vertical axis wind turbine generator(s) on roof
- Motion sensors on outside security lights so not on continuously
- (\*) Meeting rooms naturally ventilated

#### Water Efficiency

- (\*) Rainwater collection system
- Bio-swales (grassy troughs) to conduct runoff to landscaping
- Collect A/C condensate (if any)
- Automatic low flow faucets
- Waterless toilets and urinals – self composting
- If not waterless, low flow urinals and dual-flush toilets
- Landscaping using native plants with low water requirements
- Dry wells for excess rain runoff

#### Materials and Resources

- Bins for recyclables
- Furniture and finishes made with recycled and bio-base products
- Building materials made from bio-based products- bamboo, wood, etc.
- Regional building materials – local stone, concrete
- (\*) Reuse the present rock wall materials
- Use salvaged building materials whenever possible
- Use certified wood products (Certified and documented from sustainable forests)

#### Indoor Environmental Quality

- (\*) Take advantage of natural view planes in locating walls and windows
- Control outside air intake using carbon dioxide sensors
- Use separate ventilation for the janitorial storage and copy rooms
- (\*) “Daylighting” – utilizing natural daylight for interior illumination
- Indoor materials made from low volatile compound sources (don’t smell like plastic)
- Potted plants within the building

#### Innovation (a catch-all category)

- Readout displays of building’s alternative energy systems available to patrons and students for education
- (\*) Reading room open to the air located on the roof under its own shade roof
- Zinc tiles for building siding (white, reduce solar absorption)  
At this point, participants brought up the infamous Long’s Drug Store monolithic wall. The library building’s designers need to be sensitive to this objection by the community.
- Security cameras in parking garage operational 24/7
- Community recycling center
- Emphasize art integrated into building design, not as afterthought
- Culturally appropriate art by local artists
- Area within or around building allocated for temporary art exhibits
- Signage pointing out the “green” features of the building and grounds
- Include a kiosk with a computer/video screen showing the green elements of the building

#### 5. Summary of Green Building Goals (15 min)

After compiling as many “green” design items as we could think of, the participants were given sheets of eight round stickers to paste near the items that seemed most important. Two stickers were red, indicating priority. Deciding how to allocate these few stickers among all the worthwhile suggestions was agonizing for the participants, and led to much discussion and soul-searching. Finally, all the stickers were deployed and our facilitator, Mr. Simpson, summarized the effort we had made. The items that had the most red stickers and the largest collection of stickers are shown above with asterisks (\*). In closing, Mr. Simpson told us that if the library building is designed according to what we specified today, it would surely make LEED Gold. With that, and a cheer from the participants, we disbanded and went our separate ways.

**TREASURER REPORT** – Holtrop reported that there was \$1,757.40 in the operating and publicity account. \$217.42 was expended last month. That broke down to \$7.90 for correspondence costs and \$209.52 for the videotaping of the March Board meeting. \$120 remains in the refreshment account. The Chair said she would be responsible for getting refreshments for the next meeting.

**DISCUSSION ON TIME LIMITS AND FREQUENCY OF ELECTED OFFICIALS ON AGENDA** – The Chair said the time limits that were used tonight helped in insure there is time to hear from everyone. Heinrich agreed, and said since a new board will soon be elected this discussion could wait until then. The Chair also mentioned that residents don't want to wait a whole month to ask their questions and another month to get their answers, so she encourages people to contact their elected representatives directly.

**OTHER BOARD ISSUES:**

- a) Mitsuda encouraged everyone to think about creative ways in which the Board meetings could be publicized. Niimoto reminded everyone that the meetings are televised on Channel 54 Saturday nights at 9:00 p.m. Heinrich added that it's important for people to be encouraged to become candidates for the neighborhood board. Without quorum, sunshine law prevents the Board from doing any of its functions.
- b) Heinrich encourages people to pay attention to the Neighborhood Commission as they go to public hearings with the draft revised Neighborhood Plan. He also wanted everyone to know that the City Council task force that is investigating the findings of the audit of the Neighborhood Board system is meeting every other Monday, the next one is April 9. A Council resolution created this task force, so their findings might have a major impact on the system.
- c) The Chair said Dean Bingham thanked the Board for allowing him to present on Kennedy Theater's parking plans.
- d) She also said that she had received a letter from the City that the signs will be amended on the Ewa Alexander Street from Wilder to Dole to add tow hours of 2:00-3:00 p.m. (currently 6:30 to 8:30 am) Monday thru Fridays except on holidays.
- e) Mitsuda apologized in advance for missing next month's meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Bryan Mick, Neighborhood Commission Office Staff