



MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD No. 7

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DRAFT MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010

NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Call to Order: Chairman Kim called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; a quorum was present with 14 of 17 members.

Note: This 17 member Board requires nine (9) members for a quorum and to conduct any official Board business.

Board Members Present: Kendall Amazaki, Kimberly Case, Rodney Chun, Eric Eads, Martin Eby, Kaleo Gagne, Tom Heinrich, Dwight Jackson, John Kim, Frederick Lee, Nadine Nishioka, Milton Ragsdale, George Simson, and Robert Whitaker.

Board Members Absent: Gary Andersen and Andrew Garrett.

Guests: Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Hubert Minn (Mayor Hannemann's Office), Senators Brian Taniguchi and Norman Sakamoto; Major E. Ching, Lt. G. Lum Lee, and Sgt. A. Kahapea (Honolulu Police Department); Firefighters Capt. George Kaopuiki (Honolulu Fire Department); Elmer Ka'ai (University of Hawaii Manoa), Michele Sansone and Torin Ching (Councilmember Kobayashi's Office); Robert Camello (Reynolds Recycling), Clifton Takamura, Grace Furukawa, Ryan Akamine, Kevin Killeen, and Mary Chanel-Benjamin (Neighborhood Commission Office)

FILLING OF BOARD VACANCIES:

Sub-District (SD) Three (3) – There was no volunteer to fill the vacant seat in SD 3.

CITY GOVERNMENT REPORTS:

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 7 – Lt. Lum Lee distributed a report, and reported that district statistics information can also be found at HPD's website: www.honolulupd.org/patrol/d7;

- 1) January 2010 Statistics Report – There were 16 burglaries, 21 thefts, and 10 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV).
- 2) Safety Tip: Identity theft occurs when personal information used to commit certain crimes including theft, fraud, forgery, etc. It is also a crime to possess confidential personal information of another person without authorization. Request copies of credit reports and review them carefully, file police reports to help with creditors who may want proof of the crime.
- 3) Contact HPD – The community policing team officers in your neighborhood can be reached at 529-3628 or by email: mmitchell1@honolulu.gov (Officer Mark Mitchell). Ask for the supervisor in charge if you feel your call is not being addressed.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- Burglary Arrests – Several arrests have been made; one person was found in a resident's yard (14 prior arrests and warrants in Maui), two more were found on bicycles, and another was caught using surveillance cameras.
- Community Awareness – Residents should be aware of surroundings and report suspicious activities. Pay careful attention to anyone that may be hanging around during daytime hours when everyone else is at work. An experienced burglar with extreme techniques can clean out a home of jewelry and personal documents in a matter of minutes. Secure homes and vehicles by locking doors and do not invite anyone with whom you are not familiar into your home. HPD have been randomly patrolling throughout the district.
- Fireworks – HPD continues to work on measures to curb fireworks violations. Perhaps reporting the 'bomblike' fireworks should be reported to the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.



Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain G. Kaopuiki reported the following information:

- 1) Company Statistics for December 2009 & January 2010 – During the month of December, there was 1 wildland and 1 rubbish fire, 26 medical and 11 miscellaneous emergencies. During the month of January 2010, there was 1 structure fire, 35 medical and 7 miscellaneous emergencies.
- 2) Major Incidents – A fire at 2265 Mohala Way occurred on January 1, 2010 was extinguished in a work time of 30 minutes by Company Nos. E22, E2, E29, L29 and BN2. Damage is estimated at \$32,000.
- 3) Unusual Incidents – There were downed power-lines due to high wind weather conditions at three different locations between January 20 and 21. Road closures and evacuations of some areas were ordered for safety in order for Hawaiian Electric to make necessary repairs. A moped fatality occurred on January 23 at the intersection of Oahu and Lowery Avenues.
- 4) Fire Safety Tips – Smoke alarms save lives and are an important part of a home fire escape plan. Since the late 1920s, properly installed and maintained smoke alarms have contributed to an almost 50 percent decrease in fire deaths. According to the National Fire Protection Association, people are twice as likely to survive a home fire if there is a working smoke alarm. An estimated 890 lives could be saved each year if all homes contained working smoke alarms. Please make sure your family is safe during a fire; have working fire alarms in your homes. Practice home fire escape plans and designate a safe meeting place outside your home.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- Round Top Drive (RTD) Fire – The fire was harder to extinguish quickly due to fire location with regards to high elevation and water resource difficulties.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS (STATE AND CITY):

Mayor Hannemann's Report – H. Minn reported the following information:

- 1) City Complaints – Complaints to the City usually takes about 10 days before a response via the Honolulu.gov website. It has been a helpful tool in quicker response time rather than wait until the next Board meeting. Some complaints that are pending include garage sales in the Woodlawn area.
- 2) Transit Rail – Mayor Hannemann will hold a rail transit update public meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at the State Capitol auditorium. The presentation on “Jobs, The Economy, And Our Island's Future”, will include a question and answer session. Mayor Hannemann says rail construction is the best source of new jobs in the State and the best economic engine we'll have during this recession. He also felt it is vital to provide the public with first-hand information about the status of the rail project.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- Five Lane Intersections Near Manoa Stream – A suggestion was made perhaps replacing the stop signs at this intersection with an actual street light due to navigation and daily congestion situation.
- East Manoa Road and Kalawao Street – A suggestion was made to assist in congestion also was adding a right turn lane at this intersection.

Councilmember Kobayashi circulated her monthly report and relayed the following information:

- 1) Bulky Item Discussion – During the Feb 9, 2010 City Council meeting, the bulky item bill will be discussed; beginning at 1:00 p.m. The City is proposing a \$500 fine for households found with items placed at curbside prior to the night before a scheduled City pick up. While many Manoa residents comply with this rule, others have found items placed fronting their homes that do not belong to them. The fine may be difficult to fairly impose as residents cannot identify who may be illegally placing those bulky items.
- 2) Waste Spills – On January 31, about 2,700 gallons of untreated wastewater spilled into a storm drain that emptied into Palolo Stream which passed through the McCully area which eventually emptied into the Ala Wai Canal. The spill was due to construction debris that was lodged in the sewer line; the debris was related to a Palolo Avenue road paving project where a construction company paved over manholes. Approximately 4,000 gallon of untreated wastewater was intercepted from going into the storm drain and taken for treatment at the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City has been taking water samples of the bacteria count in the waters from Palolo Stream to the canoe launch area near the McCully Street Bridge.

- 3) Public Infrastructure Committee (PIC) – The PIC looks for most cost efficient and environmental friendly solutions to improve how our City's infrastructure accommodates the public. Resolution 10-11 urges the City and State to initiate a coordinated pilot project to evaluate reclaimed asphalt technologies for Oahu road construction.
- 4) In-Pavement Flashing Lights at Crosswalks – In light of the recent fatalities and the efforts of community groups to urge drivers to be vigilant while driving, the Full City Council passed Resolution 09-360. This legislation urges the City to install in-pavement flashing lights at non-signalized crosswalks to improve pedestrian safety. With the passage of this resolution, the intent is for drivers to recognize pedestrians through this flashing crosswalk, therefore becoming more diligent and aware while driving. The last moped accident in the district according to records was back in 1966; the district has been blessed with many courteous drivers.
- 5) Councilmember Kobayashi can be reached at 768-5005 or akobayashi@honolulu.gov.

Governor Lingle's Report – L. Reifurth reported the following information:

- 1) Public Housing and Services – Legislators are urged to find funding for upgrading public housing and to keep ongoing public services available.
- 2) Budget Stabilization Funds (BSF) – Governor Lingle recommends that lawmakers approve placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot that, if approved, would set up a BSF that sets aside five percent of the general fund. In the future, this fund will help reduce the need to raise taxes during periods when citizens can least afford to pay more taxes.
- 3) Time Warner Cable – A three year process to extend the Ollelo Oahu franchise was extended from six to seven channels statewide. The extension will also enable outer islands to 17 channels. Public schools will be able to conduct online classes.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- Pro Bowl (PB) – The 2011-12 Pro Bowl will again be held before the Super Bowl; as it was in February 2010. Mayor Hannemann has been advocating bringing back the PB to Hawaii and has met with National Football League President Roger Goodell regarding the matter. Mayor Hannemann also is proposing forming a host committee.
- Public Utility Commission (PUC) – The PUC reached agreements with several vendors to provide at least 15 percent more to increasing renewable energy sources spreading out savings at a much needed time for the State.

At 8:15 P.M. – Member Eby left the Board meeting; 13 members remaining.

Senator B. Taniguchi circulated his monthly report and relayed the following information:

- 1) 2010 Regular Session – The session convened on January 20; bill introduction deadline was January 27. Senator Taniguchi serves as Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Labor, and member of the Committee on Higher Education. You can access information on legislative timetables and measure before the Legislature via its website: www.capitol.hawaii.gov, or by calling the Public Access Room at 587-0478.
- 2) Gubernatorial Appointment of Judges – Hearings have already been held on Mr. Edward H. Kubo, Jr. for First Circuit Court judgeship and Mr. Lawrence M. Reifurth for an associate judge position on the intermediate Court of Appeals. At least three other judicial appointments are expected to be sent to the Senate for consideration and action before the end of session on April 29, 2010.
- 3) Art at the Capitol (AC) – The 2010 AC event is scheduled from Friday, March 5 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. as part of First Friday.
- 4) Civil Unions Senate Bill 458 – Amendments and Bills are being considered by the House of Representatives.
- 5) Pro Bowl (PB) – The State contributes \$4-5 million dollars to host the PB; however, it also supports Hawaii's economy.
- 6) Senator Taniguchi can be reached at 586-6460 or by email: sentaniguchi@capitol.hawaii.gov; his next annual legislative town meetings will be held Thursday, February 18, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the McCully-Moilili Public Library and Saturday, February 27, 2010 at Noelani Elementary School library from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Representative I. Choy circulated his monthly report and newsletter; he relayed the following information:

- 1) Coqui Frogs – The frogs have been reported to have been imported in plants to Oahu from the big island of Hawaii. There seems to be a shortage of agriculture inspectors contributing to the import problems. Call Representative Choy if you are experiencing the frog invasion. Log onto the State agriculture website to hear what the frogs sound like. The frogs have been reported in the Manoa and Diamond Head districts.
- 2) Debit Side – At the start of 2010 Session, the budget shortfall will be \$1,200,000,000, and we will need to cut spending by about 50 percent. The biggest budget decrease will come in Health, Human Services, Education and Public Safety. Every other department will also have their share of cuts.
- 3) Credit Side – In an effort to ‘find some money’, revenue enhancements will need to cover 25 percent of the shortfall. This may include broad-based tax increases such as a half percent increase in our general excise tax or other increases that will affect only certain transactions with our State; revenue enhancements will also include fee increases. To the extent of allowable law; the Hurricane Relief fund, Emergency Budget and Reserve Rainy Day Funds will be raided to come up with the 25 percent.
- 4) Neighborhood Watch Tips – Watch each other’s homes; make sure that your homes and vehicles are secured and locked; ladders left out encouraged thieves to use to break into your homes; install security lights with motion detectors; consider a security system; when walking your dog, carry a flashlight and a notepad to note down license plates in event you witness anything out of the ordinary; and finally, don’t be afraid to call 9-1-1 to make reports.
- 5) Rep Choy can be reached at 586-8475 and by email: repchoy@capitol.hawaii.gov. View all past newsletters on-line at: hawaiihouseblog.googlepages.com/repisaacchoy.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- House Bill 444 – Currently, the bill is in the House with several proposed amendments being considered. Representative Choy thinks the bill would be best for all if tabled indefinitely and should be added to the ballot during the next election to allow voters to decide—a few Legislators should not decide. The Representative did not support the bill, however, he felt pending amendments make the bill more favorable.
- Illegal Fireworks – Options include a ban on fireworks, greater citations with higher fines, and home rules to; all should be considered by Counties. There is a strong support for a total ban on all consumer fireworks.
- Round-a-Bout – A request in 2001 to add safety measures such as a possible traffic signal; however, City engineers responded that the round-a-bout was working well without a light. Perhaps the City Department of Transportation (DTS) should revisit a possible safety solution.

RESIDENTS’/COMMUNITY TOPICS or CONCERNS – There were no concerns reported.

University of Hawaii Manoa (UHM) Report – E. Ka’ai circulated his monthly report and also provided the following information:

1. UH President Greenwood Addressed the Hawaii State Legislative – Announcement of three new initiatives include: 1) Increase the number of educated citizens in Hawaii. The Hawaii Graduation Initiative will aim to increase the number of college graduates by 25 percent by the year 2015. It will focus on access, affordability, and student success, as well as strengthening the pipeline of education in Hawaii from early childhood through college. UHM will be committed to increasing educational capital by increasing the participation and success of students, particularly Native Hawaiian, lower-income students, and those from underserved regions. 2) Contributing to the workforce and economy. An increase emphasis will be placed on improving innovation and technology transfer. A President Advisory Group of Experts will be appointed to study UH’s successes, challenges and opportunities, and to advise the university on how best to advance its goal of building a multi-billion dollar research industry here in Hawaii. Crucial to these efforts will be the university’s ability to repair and maintain its’ educational and research facilities statewide, including the availability of funding. 3) Advancing UH’s reputation for excellence and the ability to build the State’s capacity. To address this issue, Greenwood announced the “Project Renovate to Innovate” initiative. This effort will focus on rebuilding infrastructure, bringing indirect cost rates in line with peer institutions, and increasing the creating of small businesses based on UH technology developments. Monies spent on repairs, maintenance and construction will lead directly to jobs for Hawaii’s construction workers and support to allow faculty and staff to compete for additional funding. Greenwood believes no other State investment will have so many immediate benefits while paving way for long term growth of research, education and training.

2. U-PASSES – The u-pass is a semester bus pass for students only for use on the City bus. There are two types of u-passes, 1) the mandatory u-pass which is charged per student/semester \$20 as part of their tuition and fees. This pass w is a sticker that is placed onto their student identification card. This mandatory pass is available year round to students. The spring 2010 u-pass is valid only from January 1 to May 31, 2010. 2) The other u-pass is the opt-in u-pass which is not available during the summer months. Outreach, medical, and law students can purchase this pass for \$125 per semester. The UH parking office will no longer sell or issue u-passes; cash, credit and debit cards are accepted for purchase of u-passes.
3. UH System Spring 2010 Enrollment – Opening enrollment for UH system for the spring 2010 semester reached an all-time record of 55,761 students, the highest spring enrollment in the institution's history. All 10 campuses experienced increases.
4. UHM Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) – A plan review use application is scheduled for hearing by the City Council's Zoning Committee on February 9 to allow implementation of the 2007 LRDP. This plan includes future building and projects that are on the capital improvement plan (CIP) and/or are anticipated for development within the next five to ten years.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- U-Pass – There have been about 2,000 opt-in passes and 10,000 mandatory passes issued so far for this school year; a study is ongoing for more efficiency. E. Ka'ai will present study reports as well as asking TheBus if a tracking system is available to track u-pass use.
- Cancelled Classes – There is concern that students are not able to register for some courses due to class cancellations. English as a Second Language classes, for instance, are being advertised but no classrooms are currently available. This is being addressed by President Greenwood.
- Campus Bikeways – Due to many of the injuries caused by 'wheels' on-campus use over the years, UH is finally considering cutting down on pathways for such use. Safety measures are being considered.
- UH Rainbow Shuttle – Shuttle services for UH games will increase encouraging student attendance.
- Stan Sherriff Center Drainage Resolution – Comments should be submitted to Councilmember Rod Tam's office.
- Wahine Basketball – The attendance since Coach Dana Takahara-Dias (9-18) was hired has increased. Marketing and promotions by UH have also brought fans from all over Oahu to support both men and women's basketball teams.

Reynolds Recycling (RR) – R. Camello circulated a flyer and reported the following information:

1. Location and Hours – The new redemption center at 1212 University Avenue at the Church of the Crossroads parking lot is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; closed from noon to 1:30 p.m. each day for lunch.
2. Redemption Products - RR will buy all Hi-5 deposit beverage containers and non-ferrous scrap metals. This will include scrap aluminum, copper, and brass. According to State law, all copper transactions require a notary.
3. Noise and Traffic Control – There is ample parking available; average turn-around time is 15 minutes per transaction with trailers set up to direct noise away from homes. RR is committed to serving the community and in the 28 year history of RR, there has been no complaints of any offensive odors or vector control issues.
4. Contacts – There were no other concerns; however contact RR by phone at 487-2802 or on the web at: www.reynoldsrecycling.com.

All Other Community Concerns –

- Pamoa Road (between Kolowalu St and Alaula Way) – A resident suggested that the road be zoned as a 24-hour "no parking" area due to vehicle congestion. Councilmember Kobayashi's office will look into the problem.
- Honolulu.gov Website – City complaints can be transmitted via the City complaints department who will route the complaint to the appropriate department; confirmation/answer should be received within 10 days.
- Firework Concerns – The Board is currently consideration a resolution.
- Hale Kipa (HK) Letter – A letter was received by Chair Kim that according to Punky Pletan-Cross based on initial and continued monitoring of the facility at 3593 Loulu Street, the Office of Health Care Assurance of the State of Hawaii does not find the HK facility to be in any violation of its license that warrants closure of this location. Councilmember Kobayashi said she has received many residents' concerns such as swearing

in public, smoking near homes, loud noise, and mail stolen. The senior community is afraid to even leave their homes due to threats; many homeowners that pay high property taxes are upset because they live in fear in their own community. Residents are seeking Board assistance with a resolution.

At 8:55 P.M. – Member Case left the Board meeting; 12 Board members remaining.

BUSINESS AND REPORTS:

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) –The Board considered these two CIPs for proposal:

- 1) Initial planning for expansion and widening of the UHM campus.
- 2) Manoa Valley District Park upgrades.

Neighborhood Commission Meeting of January 25, 2010 –

- 1) NCO Executive Secretary – All the best to Mrs. Joan Manke as she retires at the end of January 2010. A successor will be announced by Mayor Hannemann as soon as possible and must be confirmed by the City Council.
- 2) NCO Agenda Template Survey – Input from Board members are still being sought to complete a summary report to NCO. Written solicitation of comments will occur once we receive evaluation instructions from the NCO.

Bulky Items –

1. Trading Pick Up Schedules – There was a suggestion to have the City pick up less frequently in Manoa to offer more service to the Moiliili area—idea will be considered by Councilmember Kobayashi.. Residents should be vigilant in keeping in trying to identify those who may be abusing the City service by dumping items in front of other properties. The City is also urged to not exempt seniors from bulk item fines as this may encourage others that to dump at said residences.
2. Vehicle Batteries – Residents can call Inter State Batteries for battery pick up service.
3. Aloha Aina Recycling – Residents are urged to take advantage of events throughout the year to support school recycling programs.

BOARD ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING:

Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – There is no objection to table the December 2, 2009 minutes to be further review. However, the following amendment is noted tonight.

- Page 6, under Board Recess vote, replace “Whitaker” in the “Aye” votes with Gagne, and replace “Gagne” in the “No” votes with Whitaker.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Amazaki reported the following information:

1. December 2009 Statement – The Operation Account reflected \$33.59 for printing and postage expenses, leaving the balance at \$1,258.58. The Publicity Account reflected \$250 for video taping of the November 2009 meeting, leaving the balance at \$1,250. The Total Appropriated balance was now \$2,508.58.
2. January 2010 Statement – The Operation Account reflected \$39.07 for printing and postage expenses, leaving the balance at \$1,219.51. The Publicity Account reflected no expenses; the balance remained at \$1,250. The Total Appropriated balance was now \$2,469.51.
3. Budget Limit on Video Taping – There is a possibility of eliminating or limiting video taping of Board meetings beginning in July 2010 by the City due to budget constraints.

Sub-District and Membership Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) –

1. Maryknoll High School Community Center (MHSCC) – A scheduled meeting to discuss MHSCC will be held at the school on February 11, 2010 beginning at 5:30 p.m.; the public is welcome.
2. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) – There is continuing need for members Ragsdale, Heinrich and Whitaker to represent the Manoa Neighborhood Board on the task force regarding the MHSCC and the Alexander and Dole Streets issues. **Lee moved and Gagne seconded that Board members Ragsdale, Heinrich and Whitaker remain on the Task Force in regards to CUP for MHSCC and the areas of Alexander and**

Dole Streets. The motion **WAS** unanimously adopted; 12-0-0. (Kim, Simson, Lee, Chun, Amazaki, Eads, Jackson, Nishioka, Gagne, Whitaker, Heinrich, and Ragsdale)

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization – Whitaker reported the following information:

Transportation Improvement Program Revision No. 19 – This revision identifies one new project and requires Policy Committee approval and the solicitation of public comments. Please submit comments no later than Friday, February 12, 2010 to OMPO at 707 Richards Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96813 or by fax at 587-2018 or by email: OahuMPO@OahuMPO.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Next Scheduled Board Meeting – Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at Noelani Elementary School.
- 2) ‘Olelo Broadcast – The Manoa NB meeting is aired Saturdays on Channel 54 at 9:00 p.m.
- 3) The UHM Long Term Plan is available at www.hi.edu.com. It contains 300 pages.
- 4) Senator Taniguchi and Representative Choy Community Meeting – Saturday, February 27, 2010 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Noelani School library.
- 5) Jaycees Center at Honouliuli – A Day of Remembrance is being celebrated on February 21, 2010 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Submitted by M. Chanel-Benjamin

Reviewed by Chair Kim