



MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015 NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETORIUM

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Eric Eads called the Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. **A quorum was established with 11 members present.** (Note - This 17-member Board requires nine (9) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.) Chair Eads welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced himself, the rest of the Board members, and Neighborhood Assistant K. Russell Ho.

Board Members Present – Gary Andersen, Jim Arcate, Denise Bilodeau, Rodney Chun, Kristen Collat, Eric Eads, Martin Eby, Micah Fisher (arrived at 7:06 p.m.), Ingrid Friedberg, Wyatt Gordon (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), Jim Hayes, Hunter Heavilian (arrived at 7:29 p.m.), Dale Kobayashi, Liz Larson, and Ellen Watson.

Board Members Absent – Muhammad Anwar Quadri and Patti Hoe.

Vacancies – There was one vacancy in Subdistrict 3 (C.T. 29.30 - Middle Mānoa).

Guests – Senator Brian Taniguchi and Russ Toyooka (Senator Brian Taniguchi's Office); Sam Lemmo (Department of Land and Natural Resources, Misty Kela'i (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative, Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts, Executive Director); Councilmember Ann Kobayashi and Steve Uyeno (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's Office); Captain Keith Nakanelua (Honolulu Fire Department, Mānoa Station), Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane and Sergeant Allen Ishida (Honolulu Police Department, District 7); Dominic Dias (Board of Water Supply), Erin Bishop (Oahu Invasive Species Committee), Stan Wakumoto, Gail Yuen, Karlen Porter, Leona Porter, Kiki Porter, Dan Trockman, Caroline Harada, Chester Naka, Bob Kern (Citizen), James and Sandy Jones (Owner/resident), Patricia Ancheta, Fonton Lee (Resident), Linda LeGrande (Citizen), Joaquin Villarreal, Cathy Cooke, Ron Iwami (Citizen), Anne Murphy (Citizen), Cat Peterson (Citizen), Heather MacGregor (Citizen), Teresa Kiyonaga, Carol Yasui, Jack Barile, YuFong Okoji, Robert Castro, Linda Kramer, Glenn Otaguro, Willa Loo, Joan Young, Herbert Higashi, Ruby Chun, Winona Lee, Neil Asaoka, Alan Yoshino, Royden Arashiro, Gordon Aoyagi (Resident), Helen Nakano (Be Ready Mānoa), Daniele Spivardela (Resident), Heidi Kuehuli (Resident), John Fielding, (PP), Franklin Chung, Alan Stockton, Dawn Kobayashi (Individual), Marilyn Naka (Individual), Edith T. Iwami (Individual), Joseph DePonio (Individual), Lila Gardner (Individual), Rick Holsile (Individual), Jane Fyrberg (Individual), Jolyn Rosa (Individual), Darryl, Wong (Individual), Frank Richardson, Anne Tam (Individual), Val Yoshikane (Individual), Eric Rita (Individual), Ralph Wheelock (Self), Masae Gotande (Self), Mark Musube (Individual), Tianshu Huang (Individual), Conrad Y. Deparini, Barbara Deparini, Stanley Sato, Dolores Lott, Patricia J. Ching, Nelson Smith, Nancy Smith, Carole Hagihara, Kokubun Steven, Ed Honbo, Bernard Keane, Ronsee K. Silva, June Kawasaki, Nancy T. Yoshida, Sharon Matsubarra, R. Douglas Bennett, Joann Yanazaki, Keith Nekenelu, Maron Kine Stotia, Yvonne Wong, Wendy LaGareta (Resident), Patricia Johnson (Hawaii Bicycling League, Crystal Fo, Romel Vila, Jeff Teves (Mānoa), May Whitten, Sarah Preble, Doris Noda, Kaldin Shugart-Schmidt, Duana Preble (Malama Manoa), Liz Ota, Kyle Cheng, Gary J.H. Wong, Barbara Vlachos, Raina Grigg, Aubrey Hawk, Toni Fasi, Ted Pizzino, Sharon Omizo, Matt Berry (Citizen), Dylan Armstrong (Citizen), Andrew Ghali (Me), Tami Lum, Therese Argond, Ron Broon, David Amodo (DVDmodo, Videographer), and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office).

At 7:02 p.m. Wyatt Gordon arrived at the meeting; **12 members present.**

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Keith Nakanelua reported the following:

- **February 2015 Statistics** – There were 3 structure and 1 wildland fires; 31 medical emergencies, 1 search/rescue, and 8 miscellaneous calls for service. There were no major or unusual incidents.
- **Fire Safety Tips** – **Cooking Safety Tips:** According to the National Fire Protection Association, more fires start in the kitchen than in any other place in the home. Two (2) out of every five (5) home fires start there. These steps can help to keep the family safe: 1. Cook only when alert and not when drowsy or have been drinking. 2. Keep an eye on what one is cooking. If one needs to step away from the stove, turn it off. 3. Keep dish towels, paper towels, and potholders away from the stove. Avoid cooking in loose clothing; loose

sleeves can easily catch fire. 4. Keep hot items away from counter or table edges. 5. If there is a fire, go outside and call 911 and stay outside.

Comments followed: Search/rescue – The search/rescue was at Mānoa Falls.

At 7:06 p.m. Micah arrive at the meeting; **13 members present**.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane distributed the monthly report and reported the following:

- February 2015 Statistics - There were 6 motor vehicle thefts, 5 burglaries, 19 thefts, and 5 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV). There were 5,777 calls for service for District 7. For more statistical breakdowns, visit [www.honolulupd.org](http://www.honolulu.honolulupd.org).
- Safety Tips – Personal Safety Tips included report suspicious behavior, be aware and be prepared, and do not be taken by surprise.
- Community Policing Team – The contact information for the East Honolulu Community Policing Team were listed on the last page of the monthly report.

Comments followed: Statistics – Andersen requested statistics to compare with February 2014. Lieutenant Sukekane mentioned that many Neighborhood Boards ask for different types of statistics. Through discussions with the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO), HPD will compare monthly statistics with the previous month's statistics for non-violent crimes.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Dominic Dias reported the following:

- Main Break Report – There were two (2) water main breaks – at 3577 Woodlawn Drive and at 2907 Kahawai Street.
- Water Projects – The Woodlawn Drive Water System Improvements Phase 1 project's completion date was extended to late April 2015.
- Telephone Scam Warning – BWS would like to warn the community of a telephone scam, where BWS customers are being targeted in an attempt to fraudulently collect money. BWS has received reports of a dozen incidences where customers were contacted by a person claiming to be a BWS employee and were told they owe a large sum of money and were threatened that the bill amount must be paid immediately to avoid water service shut off. Anyone who receives unexpected and/or aggressive phone calls in reference to a past due bill are encouraged to call the BWS for verification. Do not give any information to the caller. Here are a few tips to help protect yourself from scams that may use water bills as a lure:
 - Know account status. Call BWS customer service staff at 748-5030 or sign up for online billing services for accurate information about the account.
 - Understand BWS collection procedures. BWS does not call customers outside its business hours of Monday-Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., to request for payment.
 - BWS does not call customers, demand payment, and collect payment all in the same phone call.
 - If a customer is contacted for overdue payment, he or she will be asked to call 748-5030 to make credit card payment.
 - Safeguard one's personal information. Never give a credit or debit card number or other personal information to any caller or visitor without knowing the true identity.
 - Hang up on suspicious callers. If one feels pressured for immediate payment or personal information, hang up the phone and call BWS customer service at 748-5030. This will ensure one is speaking to a real representative. Residents are encouraged to call the Honolulu Police Department at 911 if they observe any suspicious activity. The community may also call the BWS at 748-5000 to file an additional report.
- National Fix-a-Leak – Monday, March 16 to Sunday, March 22, 2015 is National Fix-a-Leak Week. During the observation, all residents are encouraged to check for property leaks and to fix them promptly. Checking for and making timely repairs to property leaks helps to save water, lowers the combined water and wastewater bill, and prevents potential damage to one's home. For more information about leak detection call 748-5041 or visit www.boardofwatersupply.com. Free leak detection dye tablets are available for pick up at the BWS public service building at 630 South Beretania Street.

Comments followed: Aging Infrastructure – Andersen was concerned about the aging infrastructure.

Oahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) – Erin Bishop was not present and no report was available. Chair Eads mentioned concerning Little Fire Ants (LFA), use the "peanut butter test" and send to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA).

THREE (3) ABSENCES LETTER FOR MARTIN EBY – Martin Eby explained that his three (3) absences were due to a trip to the mainland and to two (2) medical operations. Eby wanted to remain on the Board. **As there were no objections, the Board took no action to declare his seat vacant and Eby remained on the Board.**

FILLING OF VACANT BOARD SEAT: One (1) in Subdistrict 3 - (C.T. 29.30 - Middle Mānoa), Due to the Resignation of Liz Larson – Chair Eads asked for a volunteer to fill the vacant seat. As there was no volunteer, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

COMMITTEE, PERMITTED INTERACTION GROUP (PIG), AND DELEGATE REPORTS

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Committee Delegates – No report.

Mānoa Community Plan Committee – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Paradise Park Presentation – Darryl Wong thanked the Board for the opportunity to make a presentation at the February 2014 meeting. He is a second generation owner of the property and his son is the third generation. In 1994 his application was denied. There was no requirement to do another Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). There was no funding for Paradise Park under the University of Hawaii (UH). Instead of doing an EIS, there was concern about the safety of Albizia trees. His sister-in-law came up with the idea of a Hawaiian cultural experience in the Mānoa Room. Regarding the narrow road, Honolulu Emergency Services Department (HESD) vehicles cannot get through. The City and the State do not want the road or to maintain the foliage. The plans do not include any new structures, but has a 300 people maximum or approximately 120,000 visitors per year. Wong always wanted to communicate with the community. In the 1960s the area was zoned residential and Wong's father wanted to preserve a "green belt" in Mānoa.

Comments followed:

1. Dale Kobayashi mentioned that last November 2014, there was no public input. Since then, there were 600 signatures collected by Save Mānoa Valley. Kobayashi remembered the same issues from the 1960s.
2. Martin Eby was concerned about the liquor license. Wong replied that the Treetops Restaurant promotes responsible drinking and there no liquor served after 7:00 p.m.
3. Jim Hayes reported that last Saturday, February 28, 2015 his sister met with Representative Isaac Choy and wanted more communication with the community and a traffic study. There are an estimated 200,000 visitors to Mānoa Falls 44,000 ample parking for hikers. 150 – 200 parking spots today. The Catholic Church and the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association (HSPA) are previous owners of the property. The 1994 EIS reported that there would be no impact on the area. Hayes mentioned an increase in the number of restrooms and added that the public was not informed
4. Wong responded that although the permit allows for 430,000 visitors and 24 buses per day, Wong estimates only 125,000 per year. He cannot know the future and cannot put it in writing. Hayes supported the project and ADUs.

Comments from Community Members:

1. A community member mentioned the traffic with 44,000 hikers and with 125,000 or 430,000 people per year.
2. Dylan Armstrong, a Subdistrict 4 candidate for next term, works for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) noted light/noise pollution.
3. Wong added that the permit has conditions and had no control over the numbers of people.
4. A community member mentioned that there is a limit to tourism.
5. A former policeman from Kauai added about tour boats to Fern Grotto and sanitation at Mānoa Falls.
6. A community member mentioned that there was no aloha and the "Not in my back yard (NIMBY)" sentiment.
7. A new resident, who had 30 years of experience in local government, noted that the project needed to build for 430,000 visitors and 500 parking spaces.

8. A community member mentioned the Outdoor Circle to raise money for the Albizia trees problem to free dollars for road repair.
9. Regarding the Paradise Park Business Plan and liquor license, Hayes knew the background. Now that Wong got the permit, he can develop the plan.
10. A community member wanted to limit the number of cars.
11. Concerns for increased traffic/tourists and the democratic process were expressed. Chair Eads welcomed the community participation.
12. A resident was affected by the Paradise Park traffic.
13. A resident mentioned that the City infrastructure, the sewers and Board of Water Supply, cannot handle the load. Her tires were ruined by potholes and cost her money. Councilmember Ann Kobayashi added that Senator Brian Taniguchi tried to get the University of Hawaii (UH) with matching Federal funds to protect Mānoa Valley, This is not NIMBY.
14. Wong mentioned that "sustainable" means that the project covers cost of facility. The family never made a profit on Paradise Park, which was an idea of his father. Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)'s permit was issued to pursue a Hawaiian Cultural Park. Now, that they have the permit, they can "crunch the numbers." Wong wants to communicate with the Neighborhood Board and residents on the future plans.

(8:50 p.m.)

15. A community member noted that government agencies tells Wong what to do with his property. He requested that everyone have aloha.
16. A community member mentioned that last year 8.5 million visitors came to Hawaii. If Mānoa in listed in the brochures, then the number of visitors will increase drastically.
17. Someone questioned how Wong got the permit and did not believe Mr. Wong has not come up with a strategy yet.
18. Many Board members and community members requested an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
19. Wong, citing the cost, wanted the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be done by the community. His facility cannot hold 430,000 people. Wong would not be happy.
20. At last Saturday's meeting, someone heard that Wong wanted to "put the Polynesian Cultural Center out of business" Wong wants an authentic quality exhibit
21. Watson and Friedberg wanted written assurances. Wong wanted dialogue. Wong cannot make a signed agreement, because he has no control over the numbers. Wong wants to solicit public input on the project, which must be approved by DLNR. Chair Eads had his own e-mail list.
22. A community member mentioned 1200 cars per hour and requested a traffic study.
23. A community member mentioned tour company packages and to research luau numbers.
24. A resident wanted pono and to have input in shaping the Hawaiian Cultural Park.
25. Wong gave some historical background. In 1994 the permit to have an Environmental Center was denied. Then, the permits for Phase 1 and 2 were granted. Now, Wong can make concrete plans. Wong plans to come back in the future.

Save Mānoa – Ellen Watson announced a non-profit organization to stop development. She wants to get the narrow strip of Manoa Road and landscape the sides of the road.

King Street Cycle Track – Malia Harunaga, from the Honolulu Bicycling League, (HBL) and an associate shared the following:

- The Hawaii Bicycling League is a 40-year old non-profit organization that is working to enable more people to ride bicycles for health, transportation, and recreation through advocacy, education, and events.
- The O'ahu Bike Plan is the master plan created by the City to guide the development of O'ahu's bikeways. The O'ahu Bike Plan suggests modest additions to the bike infrastructure in Manoa, adding bikeways around Punahou, University of Hawaii, and up into the valley. More information about future bicycling infrastructure in this neighborhood is available online at: <http://www.hbl.org/content/manoa-oahu-bike-project>.

At 10:05 p.m. Neighborhood Assistant Ho departed the meeting. Chair Eads assigned Board Secretary Jim Hayes to complete the minutes.

King Street Cycle Track Presentation (Continued) –The Hawaii Bicycling League (HBL) continued with the following main points:

- Visual presence of people on bikes is increasing
- Business along King Street are in support (22 on record as supporting)
- Biking along the cycle track is not inherently dangerous, if people act responsibly
- HBL asks HPD to ticket people on bikes who break traffic rules

Questions followed presentation from the Board and community:

1. Is it already the law that people on bikes have same rights as people driving cars? Answer: Yes.
2. What force of law, if any, does the Bike Plan have? Answer: None, but it is a roadmap for future progress. SB416 was killed today, bills like that need more support in order to pass.
3. How is the cycle track affecting road efficiency? Answer: Project is in its infancy and assessments are ongoing. To date there has been no evidence of drive time increases when driving on King Street from Alakea Street to the UH.

COMMUNITY REPORTS AND INPUT

Residents and Others for Matters Not on the Agenda – Chair Eads recognized Watson, who asked if there is a way to restrict leaf blowing on Sundays? Councilmember Ann Kobayashi responded that it has been considered before, but it does not work.

Input Received by Board Members from Community Members – There was none.

Honolulu City Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – Councilmember Kobayashi indicated she only stayed this late because she knew Hayes would have comments for her and she made no verbal report.

Questions followed:

1. Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) – Hayes asked if Councilmember Kobayashi attended the BLNR meeting with the Paradise Park issue was on the agenda? Councilmember Kobayashi replied that she did not.
2. Paradise Park and Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) -- Hayes asked why was the Paradise Park issue not raised on her past month's flyers and why is the ADUs issue not on this months? Answer: Councilmember Kobayashi replied that there were other important things on the report and that report was not the only vehicle used to inform the public. Councilmember Kobayashi is always on TV and speaking at other events about various issues. Hayes indicated that is all well and fine, but the big issues never seem to make it into the flyer. For instance, this month there is an entire page on awards given out and one (1) item on current legislation that only mentions a resolution to rededicate the Blaisdell Center as a War Memorial, items that are hardly contentious issues. Councilmember Kobayashi responded that giving credit to the community through awards is important.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative – The City News March 2015 was distributed and Misty Kela'i reported the following:

- Rehab of Manoa Streets is in the works. There are a number of phases, including 81A and B related to Manoa Road, along with other roads being planned currently.
- Sewer rehab is also in the works.
- The roof of the Manoa Park (old) Gym needs some roof improvements, which is being planned.
- Honolulu zoo needs ti leaves
- Waianae Police Station is looking for art submissions

Questions from the Board and community followed:

1. Andersen – Is Oahu Avenue in line for resurfacing? What specifications are applied to these jobs?
2. Andersen – Where exactly is the sewer work planned? Manoa Road?
3. Other Board members – What is the status of the Kanewai Park construction? When will it be completed? There is debris everywhere, it should be addressed and the park should return back to park use.

The Mayor's representative did not have answers for these questions but will try to follow up.

State Representative Isaac Choy – Representative Choy was not present. However, a report was available.

State Senator Brian Taniguchi – Senator Taniguchi distributed his newsletter and reported that Art at the Capitol will be this Friday, March 6, 2015 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Comments followed: Baseball – Andersen asked if Senator Taniguchi Brian if he supports a Pony League Baseball team? Brian answered that he has supported 2 all-star teams in the past and sponsors a softball team currently.

Governor David Ige's Representative – No representative was present and no report was available.

Be Ready Mānoa Committee – Helen Nakano reported on the free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training at the Manoa Public Library and at the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) headquarters.

BOARD ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Patti Hoe reported that there was some mailing in the last month. Current balance is \$380.22. The Treasurer's report was filed.

Reports from Board Officers and/or Board Members

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Input from Board and Community – The Scottish Festival is this weekend.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned around 10:50 p.m.

Submitted by:
K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant and Jim Hayes Secretary

Reviewed by:
Nola Frank, Neighborhood Assistant