



## WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 12, 2007  
WAIKIKI COMMUNITY CENTER

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chair pro tem Poole at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jo-Ann Adams, Les Among, Helen Carroll, Ray Gruntz, Jim Poole, Jeff Apaka, Lawrence Basich, Louis Erteschik, Bob Finley, Walt Flood, Mary Simpson, Bert Benevento, David Chen, Jeff Merz, Richard Personius, Mike Peters.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mark Smith.

**MEMBERS' SEATS VACANT:** None.

**GUESTS:** Major Randy Macadangdang, Sgt. D. Nihei, Sgt. LaMontague (HPD), Corey Dillman, Anna Marie Preston (Councilmember Charles Djou's Office), Don Wiggam, Stefan, Lorna Johnston, William Cooper, Emily Reed, Jacob Masson, Christopher Novan, Joan Nagumu, Joseph LaPrestu, Representative Tom Brower, Jon Lott, Jeri Lau, Marilyn Berner, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Madelyn Sales, John Dew, David Sauer, Bill and Helen Sweatt, Gary Omori, Senator Gordon Trimble, Kristi Sue Ako (Senator Gordon Trimble's Office), Dirk Vandyu, Joan Manke (Neighborhood Commission Office), Pastor Bob Erb (Waikiki Beach Outreach Ministries), Dean Chu (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**ESTABLISH A QUORUM:** A quorum was present.

**SWEAR IN NEW MEMBERS IF REQUIRED:** Members who did not attend the installation ceremony earlier this month received the oath of office prior to the start of the meeting.

### **ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE TERM JUNE 1, 2007 – MAY 31, 2008:**

**CHAIR – Erteschik nominated Finley. Apaka seconded the nomination.** There were no other nominations. **Finley was elected, 15-1.** Gruntz opposed. Chair Finley assumed the chair and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

**VICE CHAIR – Apaka nominated Erteschik. Gruntz seconded the nomination.** There were no other nominations. **Erteschik was unanimously elected.**

**SECRETARY – Chen nominated Peters. Poole seconded the nomination.** There were no other nominations. **Peters was unanimously elected.**

**TREASURER – Peters nominated Chen. Apaka seconded the nomination.** There were no other nominations. **Chen was unanimously elected.**

**SUB DISTRICT 1 VICE CHAIR – Adams nominated Gruntz. Merz nominated Adams. Peters nominated Poole.** There were no other nominations. Each of the nominees provided brief comments. **Gruntz declined the nomination.** Gruntz suggested sub district vice chairs be given more responsibility by the Chair. A vote was taken with the following results: **For Adams:** Gruntz, Simpson, Benevento, Merz, Adams, Carroll. **For Poole:** Among, Poole, Apaka, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Martin, Personius, Chen, Peters. **Poole was elected sub district 1 vice chair.**

**SUB DISTRICT 2 VICE CHAIR – Erteschik nominated Flood.** There were no other nominations. **Flood was unanimously elected.**

**SUB DISTRICT 3 VICE CHAIR – Benevento nominated Merz.** There were no other nominations. **Merz was unanimously elected.**



7:15 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD EXPENDITURES:**

**OLELO CONTRACT FOR 2007- 2009** – Chair Finley reported a proposal has been received from Bob Farrell to continue to video tape the Board’s meetings at his current rate. **Flood moved and Among seconded to continue the contract. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL FOR CHAIR TO SPEND UP TO \$25 WITHOUT VOTE** – Chair Finley reported that this is to authorize the chair of the Board to spend up to \$25 a month without Board approval. He noted that the expenditures are listed in the treasurer’s report. **Flood moved and Apaka seconded to authorize the chair to spend up to \$25 a month without a Board vote. The motion carried 14-2.** Peters and Personius opposed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MAY 8, 2007 MEETING** – The following corrections were made:

Page 2, under Honolulu Police Department, item number 3 should read “Gruntz suggested that HPD find a tow truck service that would, if a person who had drank too much, to tow that person’s car, as well as take the driver home for a fee.”

Page 2, under Board of Water Supply, question number 1 should read “Gruntz states that his question and answer of Mr. Barry Usugawa, re/pH of our drinking water, was not posted on their web site, nor could he get the information in black and white, printed form, even when he went to BWS, in master plan for our drinking water we are expected to drink converted sea water, by the year 2020 or 2030, he did not want to drink that water.”

Page 4, under questions and answers, item number 6 should read “Peters suggested using...”

Page 6, under Senator Gordon Trimble, question number 2 should read “Gruntz stated that it was a sham that DLNR Director Peter Young, was not re-confirmed by the legislature.”

The minutes were accepted, Personius abstained.

Gruntz noted that the Board of Water Supply tape portion of our meeting is not complete as aired. It was edited, by who, our Bob Farrell says he did not do it!

**CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Chair Finley announced the following:

The facelift at the Waikiki Community Center is in progress.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Chen reported for the month of May the Operating/Publicity Account starting balance was \$1815.10, there were expenditures totally \$112.73 leaving a balance of \$1702.37, and the Refreshment Account had no expenditures leaving a balance of \$120.00.

The treasurer’s report was unanimously accepted.

7:20 p.m.

**CITY AGENCIES:**

**HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT** – The fire department was not in attendance.

**HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT** – Sgt. Nihei distributed a written report and highlighted/added the following:

Statistics for last month included: 15 sex offenses, 11 robberies, 48 burglaries, 209 thefts, 115 unauthorized entry into motor vehicles, 24 motor vehicle thefts, 59 assaults, 25 harassments, 52 property damage, 21 drug/narcotics, 21 family offenses, 34 DUI, 74 liquor law violations, 172 miscellaneous public

cases, 160 vehicles towed, 157 motor vehicle accidents, 24 arguments/non family, 218 nuisance complaints, 209 parking violations, 187 suspicious circumstances, 432 miscellaneous service calls.

Statistics on nuisance complaints, such as loud music, mufflers, illegal camping, etc., were not available at this time.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. In response to Adams who noted a large difference in the arguments/non family statistics for May compared to April, Sgt. Nihei noted spikes do occur, but that there may have been an error in the written report.
2. Among requested monitoring of an ongoing problem with persons walking their dogs around 10:00 p.m., not cleaning up after their dogs in the area by the Holiday Inn. Follow up will be done.
3. Peters noted ongoing problems with noise and other undesirable activities in the Food Pantry parking lot between 10:00 – 11:00 p.m. Sgt. Nihei encouraged anyone observing problems to call police when they see them occur.
4. Gruntz expressed thanks for recent arrests of pedophiles.
5. Carroll reported ongoing night time problems with noisy motorcycles in the Hobron Lane area.
6. Apaka expressed thanks for the department's traffic control efforts at Kalakaua Avenue and Lewers Street during the recent Waikiki By Moonlight event.
7. David Sauer reported the Spinners Bar and Grill in his condominium has closed, it had been the source of ongoing problems. He also noted ongoing problems with building management using police to harass building residents.
8. Lorna Johnston reported on noise problems with a private company's garbage trucks operating at 5:00 a.m. It was noted the State Department of Health has the regulatory authority over noise problems such as this one. Peters offered his assistance and will follow up with Johnston.
9. Teri Lau expressed concern with encountering homeless persons sleeping behind the Waikiki Police Station, and a person camped out near Liliuokalani and Kalakaua avenues. Sgt. Nihei noted the circumstances of each case determine what action can be taken, and that is difficult to take these types of cases to court.

Discussion followed with Erteschik, Among and Martin offering suggestions such as police referring homeless persons to shelters and enforcement through loitering laws. Major Macadangdang reported it is not a crime to be homeless and police do not target the homeless, and that sleeping on the beach is illegal. Chair Finley noted that there will be a presentation at a future meeting on a University of Hawaii study about the homeless situation in this area. Pastor Bob Erb, Waikiki Beach Outreach Ministries, provided comments on the homeless the works with and challenged persons to donate ten percent of their salaries to solve the problem.

10. Christopher Novak, a condominium manager, thanked Apaka for his assistance in having a sidewalk cleaned and requested his assistance in having some curbs painted. Novak also thanked police for their assistance in dealing with problems in the condominium such as break-ins of cars, drug dealing, refuted his building's residents' claims about use of police to harass residents, and noted that a new security company has been hired.

7:45 p.m.

**CITIZENS' CONCERNS:**

**HOBRON LANE/ENA ROAD ORGANIZATION FOR SAFETY** – Lorna Johnston reported they have met with the Department of Planning and Permitting on their organization's suggestions for traffic improvements to deal with traffic impacts from the Allure project, which has received a Special District Permit, in the area bounded by Ala Wai Boulevard, Kalakaua Avenue, and Ala Moana Boulevard.

**SECOND FLOOR SIGNAGE** – A restaurant owner requested changes to ordinances be made to allow for second floor signage which his and other businesses need to help customers find their businesses. Chair Finley reported the Board discussed this matter in the past when Duke Bainum was a member of the City Council for this area and recommended changes be made to the law. Erteschik will follow up on the ordinances. Simpson provided additional comments on work she is doing seeking to have the ordinances changed.

**THEBUS ROUTE AND SCHEDULE CHANGES** – Among noted TheBus routes numbers 2, 8 and 13 have been modified with changes to the routes and schedules and suggested riders to check the new schedules.

**ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL SITE** – Apaka reported there are plans to replace the hotel with a 15-story high rise and it was previously believed a low rise building for an art gallery and other businesses was to be built.

**HOMELESS IN WAIKIKI** – Erteschik noted the Board had a subcommittee to work on this matter and suggested it be reestablished, and also noted there are homeless who may have jobs, street people and vagrants who don't have or want jobs, and each group has different problems. Chair Finley appointed Benevento to chair the subcommittee. Erb provided additional comments on assisting the homeless.

**PROBLEMS IN FOOD PANTRY PARKING LOT** – Wiggam expressed thanks to the police efforts to deal with ongoing problems.

**SEWER PROJECT IMPACT ON PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACCESS ALONG ALA WAI CANAL** – Johnston noted the sewer project is adversely affecting pedestrian and bicycle access along the Ala Wai Canal.

**THEBUS STOP LIGHTING** – A resident noted a TheBus stop on Kanekapolei is not well lighted.

8:05 p.m.

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY** – Chair Finley noted receipt of a written report. Gruntz requested information on the pH factor of the water supply.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

**SENATOR GORDON TRIMBLE** – Senator Trimble reported the following:

1. Bills that passed the legislature have been forwarded to the Governor. There may be a special session in July to work on over riding bills the Governor vetoes.
2. He has contacted a private trash collection company about complaints about collections made at 5:00 a.m. on Kuhio Avenue.
3. This is hurricane season and encouraged everyone to be prepared, including having an emergency supply of food and water.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Gruntz thanked Senator Trimble for his comments on the way the legislature treated then-Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Peter Young, during his reconfirmation hearing.
2. Gruntz questioned where the water from the Hilton Lagoon went. Senator Trimble had no details at this time.

3. Carroll questioned, and Senator Trimble noted he believes the Governor signed Senate Bill 600, to exempt from taxation, 100 percent of capital gains realized during taxable years 2008 – 2012 from the sale of leased fee interest in condominium units to association of apartment owners or residential cooperatives. She also questioned if U.S. Representative Abercrombie is working on similar legislation on the federal level.
4. Among reported dust from the Hilton Lagoon project is becoming quite a problem for boat owners in Ala Wai Harbor.

**REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT NISHIMOTO** – Representative Nishimoto reported the following:

1. He distributed copies of his monthly report that lists highlights on the past session of the legislature.
2. The Kapahulu Senior Center will hold its fundraiser this Saturday.
3. He has awarded grants to teachers in each of the schools in his district, grants to students at Kaimuki and Kalani High Schools, and leadership awards to an outstanding student at Kaimuki Intermediate School.

**REPRESENTATIVE TOM BROWER** - Representative Brower distributed the monthly report and highlighted/added the following:

1. Suggestions for bills and resolutions for the next session are welcome.
2. The developers of the Hilton Lagoon project have all the necessary permits.
3. Senate Bill 600 was one of 155 bills signed into law by the Governor to date, his report includes a list of bills of interest.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. In response to Merz, resurfacing of Ala Moana Boulevard is a State project and will take eight months.
2. Gruntz suggested there be a law to allow 'universal summonses to aid in the enforcement of certain crimes.
3. Carroll suggested informational meetings be held with landowners on Bill 600. Representative Brower will follow up.

8:22 p.m.

**COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES DJOU** – Anna Marie Preston, from Councilmember Djou's Office, distributed the monthly report and highlighted/added the following:

1. Councilmember Djou has introduced Bill 49, relating to regulate roosters in residential areas. The bill has passed first reading and referred to committee. He has also introduced a resolution for the City to comply with the Clean Water Act.
2. The Council has passed the budget for the next fiscal year.
3. Councilmember Djou has been working with Representative Brower on concerns about the Hilton Lagoon project and the developer has the necessary permits.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Gruntz questioned if construction work on the Hilton Lagoon project is allowed on Sundays. He and Among noted dust control measures are not adequate, with dust getting on boats in Ala Wai Harbor and

cars in the area. Erteschik noted that there may have been some violations, and that water from the lagoon may have been legally pumped into the ocean, and will follow up on EPA regulations.

2. Merz reported that a former Jack-in the Box restaurant that was painted pink has been repainted yellow.
3. Merz noted receipt of comments from residents of Ainahou Hale about the conversion of a parking lot into a park.
4. Among questioned if there are plans to develop a bowling alley on the Ala Wai Golf Course. Follow up will be done.
5. Chair Finley noted Bill 49 will not affect the zoo.

**MAYOR'S OFFICE** – Chair Finley noted Keith Rollman was unable to attend the meeting.

**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE** – Chair Finley reported Marsha Weinert is traveling with the Governor to Indonesia.

**WAIKIKI IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION** – Rick Egged was not present.

8:30 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**UPDATE BY JOAN MANKE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION** – Joan Manke, Executive Secretary, Neighborhood Commission, reported the following:

1. The Installation Ceremony for newly elected Board members was held June 2. A number of those elected are long time members. Members of the Waikiki Board were thanked for working for their community.
2. Work is being done to respond to the City Auditor's report on the Neighborhood Commission. One matter raised relates to the efficiency of the Boards, and Manke noted Boards' work is regularly recognized in the media. Also, Olelo broadcasts this and other Board's meetings every month. The City Council also established a task force, and the Neighborhood Commission has established a permitted interaction group on the Auditor's report.
3. Proposed revisions to the Neighborhood Plan are being reviewed by the City Corporation Counsel's Office, and are expected to be completed later this month. There will then be a public review.
4. The recent elections for Neighborhood Board members included a trial of on-line voting which provided an opportunity for those living in areas with uncontested races to vote since they did not receive mail-in ballots. Ten percent of the votes cast were made on-line. The use of on-line voting saves money by not having to print ballots and candidate profile information, and not having to pay for postage.
5. During the past session of the legislature, bills were introduced to make changes to the State Sunshine Law to allow a Board to hold a meeting without a quorum so reports can be heard, and allow Board members greater leeway in attending other organizations' meetings. The bills passed the House, but failed in the Senate.
6. The Commission Office has hired two new staff and tow additional staff are to be hired. Work is being done on training programs for staff.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Gruntz suggested persons interested in becoming Neighborhood Commission commissioners, contact the City Council or the Mayor's Office.

2. For the Neighborhood Board members' election, 70,000 persons who did not vote in a previous election were added to the list to receive ballots.
3. Training programs may be conducted in August or December, when a number of Boards recess their meetings. Gruntz noted that the training would result in Neighborhood Assistants not being able to attend Board meetings. Manke noted service to Boards will not be affected.
4. Merz expressed thanks for the Installation Ceremony.
5. Merz inquired about planning information for Waikiki.
6. Adams noted problems with on-line voting. Manke noted there were some problems with the vote identification numbers – the type style was difficult to read. Adams also suggested on-line voting include voters being able to print their own ballots. Manke noted there would be a problem authenticating such ballots. The present system catches double voting made on-line and mail-in.
7. Erteschik questioned if, and Manke confirmed that the Mayor is committed to the Neighborhood Board system. Also, the Neighborhood Commission did submit testimony to the legislature on the sunshine law bills and public testimony was also submitted.

8:50 p.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PARKS** – Peters reported the City Council has decided to name a small park on Kalakaua Avenue near Planet Hollywood after the late Don Ho. Chair Finley thanked Board members for their suggestions on ways to honor Ho.

**CHAIR REPORT:** Chair Finley reported that former member Lawrence Connell was transferred to Ft. Lewis in Washington state for military duty, and has been promoted to full colonel. Apaka provided additional comments on Connell.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. Waikiki Residents Association annual meeting, July 9, 2007, Waikiki Yacht Club, 7:00 p.m.
2. Adams commended Neighborhood Assistant Chu for his work.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dean Chu  
Neighborhood Assistant