



WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

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DRAFT-REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013 WAIKIKI COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Robert Finley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., **with a quorum of 13 members present.** Note: This 17 member Board requires nine (9) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action. Vice Chair Erteschik was thanked for chairing the November 2012 meeting.

Board Members Present: Jo-Ann Adams, Les Among, Jeff Apaka, John Dew, Louis Erteschik, Robert Finley, Walt Flood, Liz Larson, Bill Lofquist, Jeffrey Merz, Michael Peter, Jim Poole, Rachel Simmons (arrived at 7:10 p.m.), Mary Simpson, and Mark Smith (arrived at 7:04 p.m.).

Board Members Absent: John Moore and Richard Personius.

Vacancies: None.

Guests: Ronald Javier, Raplee Nobori (Ainahau Gardens), Lieutenant Harrison Kim Han and Officer Kenji Swenson (Honolulu Police Department, District 6-Waikiki); Dominic Dias (Board of Water Supply), Victoria Scott, Larry Williams, Richard Sparks, Helen Carroll, Mary Kirchoff, Charles Johnson, Lauren Easley (Senator Brickwood Galuteria's Office staff), Jan Bappe, C. Francis Chun (Royal Order), Councilmember Stanley Chang, Rick Egged (Waikiki Improvement Association), Representative Tom, Brower, Captain Alan Park (Honolulu Fire Department), and Nola J. Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Captain Allan Park reported the following:

- **December 2012 Statistics** – Included 9 fires, 130 EMS/rescues, 5 hazardous conditions, 8 service calls, 41 good intent, and 6 false alarms, totaling 199 calls for service.

7:04 p.m. Board member Smith arrived; **14 members present.**

- **Fire Safety Tip** – Always supervise children when they are using a microwave oven. Use only microwave-safe food containers or dishes; never use aluminum foil or metal. If your microwave oven catches fire, keep the door closed, turn it off, and unplug it from the wall receptacle. If the fire does not extinguish, go outside and call 911. Purchase a microwave oven that has an independent testing laboratory label. Complete and return the product registration card to the manufacturer, so they can inform consumers of recalls.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Lieutenant Harrison Kim Han circulated the written report and highlighted the following:

- **Pedestrian Tips** – When crossing the street pedestrians are asked to look both ways and make eye contact with the driver, even on one-way streets.
- **Property Tip:** Remove all valuable items from vehicles to avoid break-ins. Most criminals breaking into cars carry a screwdriver.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. **Beat 662** – It was asked and clarified that the statistics for this area provided to the Diamond Head Neighborhood Board No. 5; a copy would be provided to this Board.
2. **Mahalo** – Chair Finley thanked District 6 for their first line defense for loud mufflers. The statistics regarding loud mufflers were requested to be included in the monthly report. Chair Finley noted that per a



constituent a moped rider with a loud muffler was circling a block and was asked to leave, but he did not. A call to 911 worked and the rider left.

3. Building Noise – It was advised to call 911.

7:10 p.m. Board member Simmons arrived; **15 members present.**

4. DUI Statistics in Beat 654 – It was asked if part of the problem and increase in DUI's due to the many nightclubs in the area. In response, officers are posted at Paki and Monsarrat Streets; speeders are issued citations.
5. Officer Keliinui – A Board member asked to relay regards from the Board welcoming him back to duty.
6. Fire Hydrant on Paoakalani Avenue – An audience member reported cars illegally parked at a fire hydrant with red curbing. Lt. Kim Han advised calling 911 regarding the parking violation with description of the vehicle (s) and location. This concern would be forwarded to the Beat Officer.
7. 911 Calls – A Board member asked and it was clarified that 911 dispatchers receives all calls. If it is not an emergency ask for police non-emergency and the call will be transferred.
8. Increase in Statistics – A Board member asked and it was noted that the increase could be seasonal or an opportunity, such as someone needing a ride and decides to steal a car. The number of arguments could be due to the holidays.
9. Toys for Tots Parade – The motorcycle club are issued permits.
10. Loud Mufflers – Concerns were raised regarding motorcycles with illegal mufflers participating in the Toys for Tots parade will be forwarded to the Commander. A member of the audience commented that the motorcycle riders are insensitive.
11. HPD Issuing of Citations on the Main Road – It was recommended if officers could issue citations on a side street, rather than on the main road. Follow up will be done.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Dominic Dias introduced BWS Chief Information Officer Henderson Nuuhiwa, and reported the following:

- Water Main Breaks – No water main breaks reported.
- On-going Projects – (a) University (King Street to Freeway); (b) Ward Avenue (Kapiolani Boulevard to Kinau Street); (c) Kona Street (Kamakee Street to Atkinson Drive).
- Monthly Billing – The BWS is switching to a new customer billing system later this month that will allow for monthly billing. Customers are advised of the following service changes that will be phased in over the next couple of months: (a) Customers will begin receiving their combined water and wastewater bill on a monthly basis; (b) Elimination of minimum payment; and (c) A new 10-digit account number will replace the previous 14-digit number. Customers who utilize online banking services will need to inform their bank of the new 10-digit account number. However, customers enrolled in Automatic billing Payment (ABP) with the BWS do not need to take further action. A bill insert and sample of the new bill will be mailed to all customers. The BWS appreciates your patience and cooperation as the BWS converts to this new system. Contact Information – Visit the website at www.boardofwatersupply.com or call the Communications Office at 748-5041.
- Water Conservation Contest and Calendar – The BWS, in partnership with Hawaii Energy and other sponsors has launched its 2013 Water Conservation Week Poster and Poetry contests, aimed at educating island keiki about the importance of water conservation and resource sustainability. This year's contest theme, "Save Water, Save Energy." The poster contest is open to students in Kindergarten through 6th grade and the poetry contest is open to students in grades 7-12. The deadline to enter these contests is Wednesday, March 6, 2013. Information about these contests can be found on www.boardofwatersupply.com or call the Communications Office at 748-5041.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

1. Hole in the Stairwell on the Ala Wai Canal near Niu Street – An audience member stated that this issue has been brought up for several months and wanted to the status of the matter. A single wood plank was place over the hole and vandalized within 24-hours. Redi-mix was suggested to fill the hole and the constituent offered to the work which would cost about \$500.00. There is a liability issue is someone falls and receives injuries.
2. Commemoration – A constituent announced the 120th Anniversary of the 1819 Treaty will be celebrated this Sunday. Visit www.voicesoftruth.com for details.

3. Planning and Permitting Applications Received – Board member Merz reported a zone variance application-Ohana Malia and a Special District Permit – 2121 Kuhio Avenue. Public input is welcome. The guide to land use will be reviewed. Chair Finley added that no Board vote is needed from the Board. Merz commended for sending a great letter to the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) endorsed by the Chair. Board member Apaka recommended that 2121 Kuhio return to the Board with any changes.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: Chair Finley announced that a Mayor's representative is yet to be assigned to the Board and read the memorandum responses:

1. 2442 Tusitala Street – It appears that Tusitala Street has concrete sidewalks. At 2242 Tusitala Street, it looked like somebody improperly patched the old broken down concrete sidewalk and driveways with air conditioning. This complaint should be referred to DPP for appropriate attention and action.
2. Illegal Parking – The officer assigned to Beat 659 will monitor the area for violations and take enforcement action when warranted.
3. Plan for Civil Defense Warning Siren at the Natatorium – In coordination with State Civil Defense, it has been verified that there are no plans to install a siren at the Natatorium. There is a project to install a warning siren on the Ewa side of the Waikiki Aquarium. This planning project is currently undergoing review and permit approvals.

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative: Lynn Fallin highlighted the following:

- Election Process (Ballots) Follow-up – Regarding this legitimate concern, Governor Abercrombie spoke with the Chief of Elections Officer. One-hundred percent electronic voting was proposed hopefully for the 2014 elections or mail in ballots.
- Sirens – The Hawaii State Civil Defense plans to install warning sirens at the Sheraton Hotel, the Queen Surf area and the Natatorium area. Due to the Kapiolani Park Trust prohibition, no warning will be posted at the park.
- Ala Wai Cana Hole in Stairs Follow-up – According to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) signage was put up along with a temporary fix. A long term solution is being sought and engineering needs for budgetary issues. Vandalism cannot be controlled.
- Ainahau Vista Sidewalk Issues – This item was forwarded to the City.

Questions, comments and concerns followed: 2012 Election – A Board member noted that there were setbacks regarding the ballots during the last election. It was stated that elections should be returned to the Lieutenant Governor's office as in previous years. Absentee voting may increase voter turn out.

Councilmember Stanley Chang: Councilmember Chang circulated his report and highlighted the following:

- Bill 72 – This bill would add several beaches in District 4 to the list of places within the City and County of Honolulu where the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu prohibit smoking (Duke Paoa Kahanamoku Beach Park, Kapiolani Beach Park, Kapiolani Park Beach Center, Kapiolani Park, Kuhio Beach Park, Sandy Beach Park, and Ala Moana Beach Park. This legislation introduced by the Councilmember aims to decrease cigarette butt litter and increase air quality at beaches.
- Waikiki Health Center – The Transition Center is "on hold."
- Maximum Fines for Property Blight – A new bill will be introduced on January 30, 2013 to increase maximum fines for property blight to \$5,000 per day from the current \$2,000 daily. This bill was crafted in consultation with the City's Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) will target the most egregious repeat violators of existing laws and will be a new tool to address the proliferation of derelict properties in neighborhoods throughout the district and the island.
- Bicyclists on Sidewalks – Councilmember Chang is working with HPD on public safety.
- Seaside Avenue: Commercial vehicles reported parking at red curbs on Seaside Avenue is being monitored by; and seven (7) bicycles illegally parked were removed.
- Ainahau Sidewalk – The issue is ongoing.
- 2121 Kuhio Project (Special District Permit Major) – A public hearing on the matter is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at the Mission Memorial Conference Room at 9:00 a.m. at Honolulu Hale.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Property Blight – (a) Regarding a suggested calculating the break even point regarding fines, the City does the clean-up, and then a lien is placed on the property, the provisions are already on the books, but DPP is reluctant to use the provisions, which would be a big step forward. (b) A comment was that the fines are leveled and it was asked what can be done to people who are not paying the fines. In answer, the issue is ongoing and hard to say which direction DPP would take.
2. Homeless – (a) An increase of homeless reported around the walking around Diamond Head or the Kapiolani Groin. Old truck and vans filled with junk with people living in them are parked along Kalakaua Avenue near the Waikiki Shell. A plan for the homeless was suggested noting this to be a challenging year for the homeless. (b) It was noted it is hopeful that the Waikiki Community Center get back to their plans. A homeless man sleeping at a bus stop daily was reported.
3. Written Report – Per page 2 of the written report, it was noted that all 10 tennis courts were fully reconstructed two (2) years ago.
4. Parking at the Kapiolani Park Concessions – Councilmember Chang's office will follow up regarding the change in parking times to no parking restrictions 24-hours.
5. Smoking Bill – Chair Finley mentioned that a notice regarding this bill was missed and suggested that interested persons attend the Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Councilmember Chang relayed that the Council agenda is closed out 10 days before the meeting and posted six (6) days before the meeting.
6. Teenage Problems in Waikiki – A Board member asked if Waikiki has a curfew because there are teenagers sitting on magazine racks outside of a new pizza place on Kuhio Avenue late at night. Councilmember Chang's office will follow up.
7. Restroom Repairs – Councilmember Chang's office will follow up if bidding took place for the repairs.

Senator Brickwood Galuteria: Lauren Easley distributed the written report and noted that the new committee for the Senator is Tourism and Hawaiian affairs; and was available for questions.

Representative Tom Brower: Representative Brower circulated his written report and highlighted the following:

- Campaign Signs – Rep. Brower will draft legislation regarding campaign signs.
- Electronic Voting – Electronic voting is under consideration.
- Supporting Waikiki's Public Schools – Representative Brower met with advocates to discuss the future of Jefferson Elementary School. To help it become more sustainable. The school may need to consider a public-private partnership. The teachers' union proposed the idea as a way to provide financial assistance to the school without tax increases. It would help the school build capacity from within without outsourcing to outsiders.
- Mopeds – Rep. Brower legislation will introduce to address resident concerns of moped safety and noise. More details will be provided once the bill is finalized.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Electronic Voting – Chair Finley mentioned that the Neighborhood Board 2009 Elections were by electronic vote or telephone, with the League of Women Voters as observers.
2. Jefferson Elementary School – (a) A Board member commented that Jefferson Elementary School sits on a large piece of property in Waikiki. It was asked if a public/private partnership is a better way to use the space. In answer, the teachers and union will look for better uses. (b) A Board member noted that it is better to use the land for the children.
3. Elections – Chair Finley mentioned that the Neighborhood Board 2009 Elections were by electronic vote or telephone, with the League of Women Voters as observers.
4. Moped Comments – A Board member relayed that mopeds should be required to have legal mufflers, licensed to operate a moped making it safety oriented. It was stated that children ages 16 and below have no business being on a moped.

Waikiki Improvement Association (WIA): Deferred until later in the meeting.

Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA): A representative was not present and report not available.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2012 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: **The November 8, 2012 regular meeting minutes were UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, 16-0-0 (Aye:** Adams, Among, Apaka, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Larson, Lofquist, Merz, Personius, Peters, Poole, Simmons, Simpson and Smith) with the following correction:

- Page 4, Mahalo should read, "...**Honolulu Magazine**..."

8:25 p.m. Board Recess called for a Board photo; 8:25 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Waikiki Improvement Association 20/20 Briefing: Rick Egged showed a power point presentation and highlighted the following:

- Mahalo – Board members were thanked for attending this conference.
- Briefing – Included Community planning process, hotel rooms (Waikiki), more visitor units and growth for lodging; transport; completion of sidewalks on Kalakaua Avenue; phase 2 contract was awarded for sidewalk design, restroom renovations at Kapiolani Park completed, 2020 surveys were publicized through the newspaper, Oahu festivals and events, history of the 1992 master plan, three(3) changes to the Special District law, modernize design guidelines-plans to update the guidelines with charrettes, etc.; beach restoration- 37 feet addition; conference recommendations for beach expansion; Royal Hawaiian Beach Walk emergency repair (Royal Hawaiian groin); wall temporarily fixed, need replacing; 2011 Oahu product distribution; timeshare increasing and spending; mixes use planned development resort (Ritz-Carlton residences Waikiki; Hilton Hawaiian time share towers); Waikiki Regional Circular Study; Latest trends defining benefit districts; parking district; sea water air conditioning; HPD as a "take" of crime and sidewalk activity in Waikiki; stored property ordinance enforcement; and China is growing market for Waikiki.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Simmons reported December 2012 expenditures were \$51.30 for printing and postage leaving a balance of \$845.96; the report was filed.

District 1 Report: Adams reported that she would be driving through and checking the streets in her area. She attended the inauguration of newly elected Mayor Kirk Caldwell. Research would be done on how to improve the permitting process.

Sub District 2 Report: Flood reported large neon signs on the second and third floors of a building along Beach Walk. A request was made for a presentation at a future Board meeting regarding the legality of neon signs. This matter was referred to Rick Egged of the Waikiki Improvement Association.

Sub District 3 Report: Dew reported receiving complaints about tourists blocking the narrow sidewalk located near the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel making it difficult for people with motorized chairs to get by. It was noted that trolley also park in the area. Magazine and bike racks take up part of the sidewalk area (hotel personnel were contacted). Another complaint relates to trolleys charging \$2.00 fares. It was pointed out that this should not be a free market, and not allow interlopers to under cut the price because they can. The impact could affect federal funding to the City's bus system. It was stated that the bus system should be promoted.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Trolley Issue – Peters agreed about the trolley issue, but noted that Dew does not speak for all regarding solutions.
2. Complaints – Will be emailed to Chair Finley.

Chair Report: Chair Finley reported the following:

- Neighborhood Board Elections – The period to apply to run for the 2013-2015 term of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board is ongoing until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 15, 2013:

- ◇ The public may register online or by submitting a form to the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO).
 - ◇ Residents who vote in other states know that they can register to vote in this election at the Neighborhood Commission Office.
 - ◇ Phone number for this service is 768-3710. Primary on line is <http://www1.honolulu.gov/nco>.
 - ◇ The online (your computer or library or City Hall) or telephone (768-3710) election will be conducted from April 26 until 4:40 p.m. on Friday, May 17, 2013.
 - ◇ Election results should be published on June 3, 2013.
 - ◇ The mass swearing-in ceremony will be scheduled at a City location early in June and the Board term starts on July 1, 2013.
- The permit for the International Market Place Renovation has been approved.
 - Received a notice that the project for 2121 Kuhio is out for comments.
 - Few minor projects in Waikiki that should not have much impact on the Board.
 - Tonight may be the last night for the Neighborhood Assistant Nola Frank supporting us. The new Administration is doing mass changes to the appointed personnel supporting City Hall and is waiting to see if Neighborhood Assistant Nola Frank will be reappointed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2013, Waikiki Community Center at 7:00 p.m.
- Broadcast: View this meeting on OIelo Channel 49 at 9:00 p.m. the 4th Tuesday of each month; and on Channel 54 at 6:00 a.m. the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. View on line at: http://olelo.grancius.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Submitted by: Nola J. Frank, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Russell K. Ho Neighborhood Commission Office staff; and Robert Finley, Chair