



## WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### **DRAFT REGULAR INITIAL CONVENING MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013 WAIKIKI COMMUNITY CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Pro Tem Robert Finley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **with a quorum of 14 members present.** Note: This 17-member Board requires nine (9) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

**Board Members Present:** Jo-Ann Adams, Jeff Apaka, Helen Carroll, Johand Cruise, John Dew, Louis Erteschik, Robert Finley, Walt Flood, William Lofquist, Jeffrey Merz, John Michael Nigro, Jim Poole, Mary Simpson, and Mark Smith.

**Board Members Absent:** Liz Larson, Michael Peters and Roy Wyttenbach II.

**Vacancies:** There are no vacancies.

**Guests:** Ronald P. Borromeo (Board of Water Supply), Director Toni Robinson (Mayor's Representative/ Department of Parks and Recreation), Lieutenant Dien Shearer (Honolulu Police Department), Helen Sweatt, Bruce Lenkeit, Corey Dillman, Kehaulani Lum, Bruce Keaulani (LLSF), Micah Munekata (Councilmember Stanley Chang's Office staff), Mark Wallen, Jan Bappe, C. Francis Chun (Royal Order), Representative Tom Brower, Denita Waltz, Dennis Lynch, and Aisha Wang (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**Swearing In of Board Members:** A short recess was taken to allow Neighborhood Assistant Wang to administer the Oath of Office to members who were not sworn in.

#### **BOARD ORGANIZATION FOR 2013-2014:**

**Election of Chair:** Board member Flood nominated Robert Finley to fill the position of Chair. There being no other nominations, the nomination was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 14-0-0, (Aye:** Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).

**Election of Vice Chair:** Board member Merz nominated Louis Erteschik to fill the position of Vice-Chair. There being no other nominations the nomination was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 14-0-0, (Aye:** Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).

**Election of Secretary:** Board member Erteschik nominated Michael Peters to fill the position of Secretary. There being no other nominations the nomination was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 14-0-0, (Aye:** Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).

**Election of Treasurer:** Board member Erteschik nominated Jo Ann Adams to fill the position of Treasurer. There being no other nominations the nomination was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 14-0-0, (Aye:** Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).

#### **Sub District Vice Chairs:**

**Sub District 1:** Board member Erteschik nominated Jeff Merz to fill the position of Vice-Chair of sub district 1. There being no other nominations the nomination was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 14-0-0, (Aye:** Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).

**Sub District 2:** Board member Erteschik nominated Walt Flood to fill the position of Vice-Chair of sub district 2. There being no other nominations the nomination was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 14-0-0, (Aye:** Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).

**Sub District 3:** Board member Erteschik nominated Liz Larsen to fill the position of Vice-Chair of sub district 3. There being no other nominations the nomination was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 14-0-0, (Aye:** Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).

**Time and Place of Regular Meetings:** As noted by Chair Finley, it is nearly impossible to move the meeting time or place due to conflicts with other neighborhood boards and events. **It was UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED to remain at**



**the same venue, the Waikiki Health Center on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. 14-0-0, (Aye: Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).**

**Video Production of Meetings: The Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9 elected UNANIMOUSLY to have their meetings videotaped. 14-0-0, (Aye: Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).**

**CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:**

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Representative not present; no report available.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Lieutenant Dien Shearer reported the June 2013 Statistics: Included 13 sex offenses, 9 robberies, 34 burglaries, 245 thefts, 33 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV), 9 motor vehicle theft, 39 assaults, 22 harassment, 40 property damage, 20 drugs/narcotics, 6 family offenses, 34 driving under the influence (DUI), 46 liquor law, 117 misc. public cases, 157 vehicle tows, 150 motor vehicle accidents, 275 arguments family/non, 358 nuisance complaint, 236 parking violations, 179 suspicious person/vehicle, 461 miscellaneous service calls.

Questions, comments and concerns that followed:

1. Noise Citations: It was asked why there was no noise citations reported in the statistics. Depending on the availability of officers, noise is sometimes not reported. The suggestion was to have a noise citation watch monitored on Sundays.
2. Motor Vehicle Noise: It was noted that a resident from the Kalia observed loud motor rumbling at about 11:30 p.m. The HPD representative said that this was a busy time but would have someone monitor this disturbance.
3. Bill 7: It was asked if the citations given for the violation of Bill 7 could be included in the statistics. The HPD response was that violating Bill 7 is an ordinance from the Department of Facilities Maintenance and not HPD so they are not included in the statistics.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Ronald Borrromeo reported the following:

- Water Main Breaks: There were no water main breaks in the area for the month of May and June 2013.
- Scheduled Water Rate Increase: As a reminder, effective July 1, 2013, water rates will increase by 9, 65 percent as a part of the BWS's revised water rate schedule. The increase is necessary to fund the operation, maintenance and replacement of Oahu's aging water infrastructure, and to provide the BWS with the means to continue to deliver a safe and dependable water supply to our customers. For more information visit the BWS website at [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com).
- 25th Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale: Bring the whole family to enjoy a fun-filled day at the Board of Water Supply's 25th Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale on Saturday, August 3, 2013 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. The event will feature a variety of unthirsty plants for sale by local growers, workshops by botanical experts' keiki activities, free mulch and more! Most importantly event-goers will gain valuable insights on how to conserve water through water-efficient landscaping, otherwise known as "xeriscaping" which can help them to lower their combined water and wastewater charges. Proceeds from the event will help support educational programs and classes at the BWS's Halawa Xeriscape Garden, Admission is free. For more information, visit [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com) or call 748-5041.

Questions, comments and concerns: What is the BWS doing to validate the rate increases? Borrromeo stated that because of BWS's aging infrastructures, it has become a major challenge in keeping up with fixing main breaks and upgrading our water system. The BWS is currently working on its 30-Year Master Plan which actually got underway earlier this year, which includes developing a plan to improve water systems.

**RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:**

1. Tour Bus Driver: Dennis Lynch, a tour bus driver wanted to thank whomever was responsible for getting the barn crossings (where all pedestrians cross at the same time while all directions of vehicles stop) it has relieved the congestion of the tour buses immensely and now, where only one bus went through, several dozen buses can now pass through a green light and the barn crossing has relieved the congestion.

2. Saint Francis Commonwealth: In celebration of the accomplishment, July 28, 2013 will be to commemorate the celebration for all Hawaiians.
3. Homeless Solutions: Bruce Keaulani of the Living Life Source (LLSF) addressed the Board and shared the organizations plans to fight homelessness with a focus on youth.
4. Noise issue at the Modern: Resident Bruce Lenkeit wanted to know why his request for the Board to support opposing the Liquor Commission hearing to award a license to the Modern was not heard by all board members. Lenkeit feels that the Board was not able to voice the opinions of the community because Chair Finley was told not to make any statement on this matter. Lenkeit asked that anyone interested should e-mail the liquor commission directly if they were concerned about the incidences of noise at the Modern. Lenkeit would like to have the Board discuss the issue because he was told by someone at the Neighborhood Commission Office that the purpose of the Board is advisory and should support or oppose the liquor license.

**The gavel was passed to Vice-Chair Erteschik to allow Chair Finley to speak privately to Lenkeit off camera while the meeting continued.**

5. Ritz Carlton high rise: Board member Flood noted that there was a request to build a high rise building that would block the view of other buildings.
6. Beach Bathrooms: Complaint about the restroom; requesting the board take a position and have City clean them and allow bathrooms to be open until at least two in the morning.
7. Kuhio Beach: With only three stalls and one not working leaving only two functioning stalls; bathrooms are also not being kept up; there have been requests to solder the shower heads to prevent them from being stolen or vandalized. None of the concerns raised have been taken care of.

**The gavel was returned to Chair Finley and the meeting continued.**

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHERS:

Mayor's Representative: Director Toni Robinson reported the following:

- Sidewalk Repairs: Paoakalani Avenue Sidewalk Issues: it was asked if improved district needs to be formed to have sidewalks put in and it was asked when this sidewalk would be put in for Capitol Improvement Projects funding. The response was yes new sidewalk for existing roadways requires the creation of an Improvement District project.
- Storage: Lots being used for storage located on Liliuokalani Avenue between Tusitala and Cleghorn Streets, Citations were issued, however, storage continues. Was a permit issued? The response was 2468 Cleghorn Street TMK: 2-624:034 Investigation revealed Notice of Violation No. A2013.Nov-03-129 has not been corrected. Notice of Violation has been referred to Code Compliance Branch for imposition of civil fines.
- Barns crossing: Lewers Street/Kalakaua Avenue & Royal Hawaiian/Kalakaua Avenue cars heading to Waikiki from Ala Moana Boulevard onto Kalakaua Avenue are backed up at this intersection and waiting 2-3 light cycles before getting through this intersection. With the modernization of this intersection the synchronization of traffic lights was removed. Please have the synchronization re-installed. The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) has been monitoring the intersections and did observe traffic backing up along Kalakaua Avenue/Royal Hawaiian & Kalakaua Avenue/Lewers during the weekends DTS has adjusted the signal timing, and traffic is flowing smoother & should be noted, the back up from the right turning vehicles from Kalakaua into Royal Hawaiian and Lewers has been significantly reduced due to the modification to the Barn's crossing.
- Korean Festival: This weekend at the Kapiolani Park Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- 33rd Annual Tin Man Triathlon: From 5:00 a.m. to 11 a.m. so traffic will be congested around the Waikiki area during this time.

Questions, comments and concerns: Surfboard Lockers: It was reported that the surfboard locker is a large part of the income that comes to Waikiki, however, the lockers remains unlocked and susceptible to homeless who defecate there and in the morning surfers find their boards have been sitting in the feces and urine. Resident suggests that they use the lock for the women's restroom and allow the homeless to use the restroom and lock the surfboard lockers like they should be locked.

Governor's Representative – Lynn Fallin reported the following:

- As our state economy continues to improve, many bills, recently enacted with the Governor's signature, represent long-term investments for the people of Hawaii. These include the following:
- Senate Bills 1092 and 1094: Direct a total of \$100 million in general funds for fiscal year 2013-2014 toward paying back borrowed money from the state's Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund and "Rainy Day Fund." (Each fund is appropriated \$50 million.)
- House Bill 546: (Relating to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund) creates a new statutory requirement to address long-term unfunded liabilities that have been deferred for decades
- Senate Bill 1093: Establishes a statewide school readiness program that will help pay for about 1,000 children to attend preschool in 2014. It's an important first step to transform early education and ensure that all island keiki have access to preschool.
- Senate Bill 1087: Establishes the Green Energy Market Securitization program (GEMS) which is an innovative financing model that will make clean energy improvements more affordable and accessible to underserved community members. It will allow payment for the devices to be made over time through one's electricity bill and with the energy savings.
- More Information: About recently signed bills is available on the Governor's website at:[governor.hawaii.gov](http://governor.hawaii.gov)

Questions, comments and concerns that followed:

1. Ala Wai Status Update: Department of Labor and Natural Resources (DLNR) has requested that a presentation by the Army Corps of Engineers to share with this Board of the Ala Wai clean up and there will be a timeline and accountability presented to this Board about the Army Corps of Engineers Study and plans to treat the canal.
2. Raising Tuition: The Governor encourages the Board to support the pay raises for the faculty because he was a recent member of the faculty.
3. Signage: There are no signs that warn people of the hazards of fishing in the canal. Yet many still fish and sport in the canal.
4. Rats: A study on rodents that are appearing around the canal was suggested. The Department of Health (DOH) can no longer have the capacity to handle rodent control that has occurred in the past. Fallin will check with the City to make sure that this aspect hasn't fallen through the cracks. .

Councilmember Stanley Chang: Micah Munekata reported the following:

- Missing of Transfers and Loss of City Revenue: This issue has been assigned to DTS to investigate.
- Corner of Ulaniu Street and Kuhio Avenue: The pedestrian crossing has been assigned to DTS for further investigation.
- Ainahau Gardens: The association came to ask for Councilmember Chang's help in restoring the sidewalks at 2442 Tusitala.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Paoakalani Sidewalks: As a major thoroughfare, Councilmember Chang finds it important to keep on this to assure follow through by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).
2. Parade/Race Routes: Recently, parade and foot races have been changing their routes to not follow the same trail and inconvenience the same people. It was noted that sometimes, events close the roads all weekend, and a resident would like more coordination.

Senator Brickwood Galuteria: Senator Galuteria was not present; no report available. :

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

- Bus Stop Benches: It is outrageous that homeless are taking over the benches which are there for bus users to sit and wait for buses. Brower has, himself, taken it upon himself to move the belongings of the homeless.
- Homelessness: It is admirable the City Officials have the energy to continuously remove items that appear abandoned; however, with Bills like Bill 7, which allows the City to remove items from the sidewalks to make the sidewalk space clear for use, there are still more abandoned homeless items all over the City.

Questions, comments, and concerns:

1. Airspace: It was noted that in some places, residents are required to buy the airspace leading to the view in order for control to be made in tall high rises encroaching on other buildings and their views.
2. Bill 7: This Bill was written to address the abandonment of items blocking thoroughfares known as sidewalks which are supposed to be where people can traverse but are being overtaken by homeless.
3. Watermark: This building is one of the infamous high rises that are cutting view from buildings behind and it did not require a building variance before being built.

Waikiki Improvement Association: Rick Egged was not present; no report available.

Hawaii Tourism Authority: No representative present, no report available at this time.

APPROVAL OF MAY 14, 2013 MEETING MINUTES: **Flood moved and Adams seconded to approve the May 14, 2013 regular meeting minutes. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, 14-0-0 (Aye: Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Peters, Poole, and Smith).**

#### BOARD BUSINESS:

Special Legislature Session to Consider Same Sex Marriage: Board member Adams spoke to the Board about supporting the special session to consider same sex marriage. With every civil union their rights aren't going to be seen the same way between State and Federal government. The special session will be to focus on the issue of considering same sex marriage without dragging it out in the regular session. **Board member Adams motioned and was seconded by Flood to have the Board support the passing of the Senate Bill 1369 and House Bill 1109 that allows for the discussion of consideration of same sex marriage in a special session. Discussion followed. Hearing no objections, Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 09 UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED the motion, 14-0-0, (Aye: Adams, Apaka, Carroll, Cruise, Dew, Erteschik, Finley, Flood, Lofquist, Merz, Nigro, Poole, Simpson, and Smith).**

#### REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Adams read the July 2013 financial statement highlighting that the Board was given an initial amount of \$3152.00 and after expenditures of money mainly for the videotaping contract at \$2,280.00 and some smaller expenditures leaving a balance that will not be transferred from 2012 to 2013. So she will have a more detailed report in the next month. The report was filed.

Sub District 1 Report: It has been an on-going for tour buses to illegally pass through Waikiki in the Hobron Street area. Merz will bring this issue up at another meeting.

Sub District 2 Report: Board member Flood reported the following:

- Number of businesses along Kalakaua Avenue and Kuhio Avenue have a variety of blinking large and small neon signs; suggest Waikiki Neighborhood Board have someone from the City speak before the Board on the requirements of neon lights.
- The Post Office seems like it is open 24/7 because the lights and air conditioning is on all the time. Is there a way that the Board can suggest that they purchase solar panels or more energy efficient solutions.

Sub District 3 Report: Representative not present; no report available.

Chair's Report: Welcome returning Board members and new members to the 2013-2015 term of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board.

For the new members, you have been provided with the current Neighborhood Plan and it is our basic rule book for the duties, responsibilities and limits of Neighborhood Boards. If you did not attend the session at the University of Hawaii it will be necessary for you to go on-line and take the computer generated "Sunshine Law" Training and fill out the provided certification of training. Please bring a copy of that document to the next meeting so our Neighborhood Assistant can put it in the record. We also comply with all State Laws, City Ordinances and procedures of Roberts Rules of Order.

One of our key issues is we are advisory and do not make laws or enforce existing laws. Our agenda includes presentations from our City Agencies, Elected Officials and some civic groups. Please feel free to ask relevant questions when HPD or others are finished with their formal presentations.

I encourage all new members to review the past few years' agendas and minutes (on-line) so that you can see what positions have been voted on and remain in force. For example we voted in favor of the Hilton Master Plan but did not vote on the 2121 Kuhio Project. If asked, WNB would have to testify at City Council in favor of those projects supported and opposed to those votes against where we have no vote, any Board member can testify his/her position at any meeting.

One major sunshine issue is we may not attend events if there are enough members there to constitute a quorum. In other words, if nine members show up at an event one must leave. Can anyone enforce this? Probably not but it is up to your personal integrity to follow the law.

Meetings: Each Board is required to meet a minimum of 9 times a year. While we are funded to meet 12 times a year this Board normally plans a recess in December (we will vote on that later) and we normally recess if our meeting conflicts with a State Holiday. A member who misses 3 meetings in a board year (July-June) will be notified by the Neighborhood Commission Office that he/she has missed 3 meetings and the full board will be asked to consider retention or release of the member. If you cannot attend a meeting due to an illness, off the island travel, family issues or any reason please contact the Chair or our Neighborhood Assistant. While we have no authority to excuse the Chair will announce your absence at the beginning of the meeting. If you have a contagious illness, please STAYHOME.

Minutes: Draft minutes come with your monthly agenda. If you see errors please notify the Neighborhood Assistant at our meeting. Our minutes are summaries of what happened and not court reporter verbatim records. Only attendance, motions and votes on motions are mandatory entries on our minutes.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next Board Meeting: The next regular Board meeting is on **Tuesday, September 10, 2013** at 7:00 p.m. Meetings may be viewed on Olelo Channel 49 at 9:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month; and on Olelo Channel 54 at 6:00 a.m. the first and third Sunday of the month.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Submitted By: Aisha A.C. Wang, Neighborhood Assistant  
Reviewed by Nola J. Frank, Neighborhood Commission Office staff  
Reviewed and Finalized By: Robert Finley, Chairperson