



KALIHI-PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020 KALIHI UNION CHURCH

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Farm called the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board No. 15 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Quorum was established with nine (9) members present.** Note: This 13-member Board requires seven (7) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action. The Board introduced themselves to the community following the call to order.

Board Members Present – Jacob Aki, Evelyn Cullen, Ken Farm, Donald Guerrero, Rudolfo “Rudy” Ibay, Eric Irwin, Joe Dumayag, Wayne Kaiwi, and Amanda Ybanez.

Board Members Absent – Donovan Albano, Jonan Sagadraca, Firmo Dayao, and Edgardo Templo.

Guests – Firefighter Thurston (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Brian Taniguchi (Honolulu Police Department District 1); Lieutenant Chang and Sergeant Lopes (Honolulu Police Department District 5); Oryn Nakamura (Board of Water Supply); Pat Lee and Shawn Hamamoto (Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit); Robert Miyasaki (State Department of Transportation); Carter Lai (Kalaimoku Group); Choon James (Candidate); Sherilyn Kajiwarra (Mayor Kirk Caldwell’s Representative); Anela Kekoolani and Radiant Cordero (Councilmember Joey Manahan’s Office); Amanda Pease (Environmental Protection Agency); Governor David Ige’s Representative; Senator Donna Mercado Kim; Glen Young (Senator Karl Rhoads’ Office); Representative Daniel Holt; Representative Romy M. Cachola and Steven Pak (Representative Romy M. Cachola’s Office); Doctor Pokii Blaza (Alzheimer’s Association of Hawaii); Damien Kim and Leyton (IBEW 1186); Senator Glenn Wakai; Ryan Mandado, Thomas Beck, Kelly Meguro, Ronald Higa, Clark Dominique, Rayee Max, Shirley, Diossa Mae Gaga, and Shannon Garan (Guests and Residents); Dayton (Videographer); Jackson Coley (Neighborhood Commission Office). **Note: name was not included if not legible on the guest attendance sheet.**

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Firefighter Thurston reported the following:

- January 2020 Statistics – There was 1 wildland/brush fire, 13 nuisance fires, 5 activated alarms (no fire), 123 medical emergencies, 1 motor vehicle collision with a pedestrian, 5 motor vehicle crashes/collisions, and 1 ocean rescue.
- Safety Tip: Candle Safety – Candles are open flames which can lead to home fires and deaths. Follow these tips to use candles responsibly:
 - Extinguish candles before leaving the room or going to sleep. Avoid using candles in bedrooms and other sleeping spaces.
 - Keep candles at least 12 inches away from flammable objects. Use candle holders for stability.
 - Do not let candles burn all the way down, extinguish them before they reach the candle holder.
 - Never use candles if oxygen tanks are used in the home.
 - Do not use candles during power outages, use flashlights or battery-powered lanterns.
 - Consider using flameless candles.
 - Never leave children alone with candles. Keep lighters and matches out of children’s reach.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 1 – Lieutenant Brian Taniguchi of HPD District 1 reported the following:

- District 1 January 2020 Statistics – There were 3 motor vehicle thefts, 3 burglaries, 7 thefts, 12 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV), 3 assaults, 3 drug incidents, and a total of 388 calls for service.
- Safety Tip: Robbery Prevention – A list of robbery prevention tips was provided.
- Meet the Major – Meet the Major is scheduled for Friday, March 13, 2020 at Koolani starting at 6:00 p.m.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 5 – Lieutenant Chang of HPD District 5 reported the following:

- District 5 January 2020 Statistics – There were 21 burglaries, 17 motor vehicle thefts, 66 thefts, 26 UEMV, and a total of 3,524 calls for service.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Skateboarders – Guerrero voiced concerns regarding skateboarders

taking-up the slow-lane on the roadway between Kokea Street and Palama Street. Guerrero stated they are present every weekday around 3:00 p.m.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Oryn Nakamura, BWS, circulated handouts and reported the following:

- Main Break Report – There were no main breaks during the month of January 2020.
- Detect-A-Leak-Week – The BWS Detect-a-Leak-Week runs from Monday, March 16, 2020 to Sunday, March 22, 2020. The BWS encourages residents to preemptively check for leaks on their property and to repair them promptly. Repairing leaks can help save water, lower bills, and prevent home damage. During the week, free toilet leak detection dye tablets will be available to the public at the BWS Public Service Building at 630 South Beretania Street, at all Satellite City Halls, and at Hardware Hawaii locations. For more information visit www.boardofwatersupply.com.
- Water Conservation Week Poster and Poetry Contest – The BWS 42nd annual Water Conservation Week and Poster Contest and 12th annual Poetry Contest theme is “Creating a Sustainable Water Future.” The poster contest is open to Oahu students’ grades kindergarten through 6th. The poetry contest is open to Oahu students’ grades 7th through 12th. Winners will be announced in May 2020.

Honolulu Rail Transit Project (H RTP) – Pat Lee and Shawn Hamamoto, Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit (HART), distributed handouts and reported the following:

- Update – The full 20-mile, 21 station rail system is over 53% complete, with most of this done on the west side. HART and the City are preparing for an initial opening of passenger service prior to launching full service. HART is working with the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) and the State Department of Transportation (HDOT) on the safety certification and service reliability requirements in preparation for passenger service. HART staff is preparing for operational readiness in system integration testing, pre-revenue operations, management capacity and capability, and safety certification. The DTS will be in charge of operating and maintaining the rail system along with the bus and the handivan once complete. Interim Service #1, from East Kapolei to Aloha Stadium, is planned for the end of 2020. HART’s Operational Readiness Status is targeted for October 2020. Interim Service #2, from East Kapolei to Middle Street Transit Center, is planned for the end of 2023. Full Passenger Service of the system is planned from East Kapolei to Ala Moana Center by 2025. The Holo card smart-card system will be used to ride the train. No cash ticketing will be available. Riders can get to the stations by bus or handivan, walking or biking, taxi or ride share, or using a park and ride lot planned along the route. There will be four (4) new bus transit centers at the Keone’ae station (UH West Oahu), the Ho’ae’ae station (West Loch), Waiawa station (Pearl Highlands), and Halawa station (Aloha Stadium).
- Public Meeting – HART will conduct a public meeting on Dillingham Boulevard construction work for the relocation of utilities for the Rail project through the Kalihi corridor. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 6:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Kalihi Kai Elementary School Cafeteria. This work would increase traffic and cause impacts to the residents and businesses in the area.
- Poster Contest – The annual HART Poster Contest is open to all Oahu high school students, 9th to 12th grade attending public, charter, private, or home school. Posters are due Friday, March 13, 2020. Entries may be mailed or dropped off at HART, 1099 Alakea Street 17th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. Entries may also be dropped off at any Hawaii Public Library on Oahu between Monday, February 24 and Friday March 13, 2020.
- More Information – For more information, please visit the HART website at www.honolulutransit.org, you can call the project hotline at 566-2299, or email a question to info@honolulutransit.org.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Permits – Chair Farm inquired about the news stating that HART did not obtain a street closure permit. Lee responded that DTS and HART work together on permits and the final permit should be done by the end of February 2020. Lee clarified that permit applications include testimony opportunities.
2. News – Guerrero noted that a newspaper recently had unfavorable comments regarding Rail and encouraged the assembly to read the article.

State Department of Transportation (HDOT) – Robert Miyasaki, HDOT, reported the following:

- Sign – Per requests, HDOT performed maintenance for a sign on Kalihi Street.
- Kalihi Street – Final inspection for utility work and sidewalk repairs on Kalihi Street was completed on Wednesday, February 5, 2020.
- Likelike Highway – Final inspection for work on Likelike Highway was completed on Tuesday, February 11, 2020.
- Sand Island – Abandoned boats near Sand Island were recently removed.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Gratitude – Kaiwi and Cullen expressed gratitude for HDOT's work.

RESIDENTS' AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Block Party – Carter Lai, Kalaimoku Group, circulated a handout and reported that a block party, the Kapalama Kai Street Festival, is scheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the intersection of Kohou Street and Kaumualii Street. For more information visit www.kapalamakai.com.

Candidate: Choon James – Choon James announced that she is running for Mayor in the 2020 Election. More information is available at www.votechoon.com. Chair Farm inquired if other candidates wanted to announce their running for Mayor and contact information, no other candidates stepped forward.

Kahauiki Village – Resident Ryan Mandado relayed two (2) concerns from Kahauiki Village. The first was with a floating homeless village near Kahauiki which has taken a long time to resolve due to jurisdictional issues. The second was regarding Kahauiki Village having to pay for trash pickup, Mandado inquired if there was a way to get free trash pickup. Childcare is also an issue as the number of children is expected to increase and Kahauiki Village only has one (1) preschool.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Employment – Cullen inquired if adults at Kahauiki Village have accepted employment opportunities that were offered in the area. Mandado responded he was unsure, however Kahauiki Village has a work-place readiness program through the State Institute for Human Services (IHS).

CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Kirk Caldwell Representative – Sherilyn Kajiwaru, Department of Customer Services (CSD) Director, reported the following:

- Bus Stop Lights – Responding to previous requests to install lights at all bus stops, the DTS stated they will consider the request subject to funding and an assessment of island-wide transit priorities.
- Off-Street Parking Regulations – After a year's worth of outreach and research, the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) has forwarded an amendment to the off-street parking and loading regulations to the City Council. The current regulations were largely adopted over 30 years ago, and since then the City's vision has changed substantially to reflect a better understanding of traffic generation, the environment, affordable housing, and the market for multi-modal development. The proposed amendments align with the vision contained in the Oahu General Plan and Oahu's Resilience Strategy. The Staff Report, Draft Bill, and Technical Memorandums can be found on the City's website. The Report briefly explains and analyzes the changes being proposed. The Draft Bill is the technical document that changes the language of the Land Use Ordinance. Additional background information, including summaries of the public outreach efforts, can be found in the Technical Memos, which were drafted with the help of Smart Growth America. A handout was provided.
- Dillingham Construction – Concerns have been voiced that Dillingham construction work will interfere with road tests at the Kapalama Satellite City Hall. Considerations are being made to relocate road tests elsewhere during Dillingham construction.
- Registration Kiosks – Residents are encouraged to use self-service vehicle registration kiosks at select Safeway's. The system is expanding and will soon be available at select Foodland's.
- Real ID – Residents will need a gold-star Real ID by Tuesday, October 1, 2020. Residents will be unable to access airports and Federal buildings without Real IDs. Residents are encouraged to go online to www.honolulu.gov/csd to setup appointments for new IDs or to reissue their ID with the star.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Road Test – Cullen suggested an alternative location for the road tests.
2. Blaisdell – Resident Thomas Beck inquired about the cancelled Blaisdell renovations and if the project was cancelled due to Rail costs increasing. Director Kajiwaru responded that the renovations were put on hold due to cost factors, however it was not specifically due to Rail.

Councilmember Joey Manahan – Anela Kekoolani, Councilmember Manahan's Office, circulated a handout and reported the following:

- Farrington High School – On Thursday, January 30, 2020 Councilmember Manahan honored students from Farrington High School's Engineering Academy for their Kalihi Quick Build project participants who planned and implemented a traffic safety project on Haka Drive, Mokauea Street, and Kaili Street.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Street Delineators – Aki voiced appreciation for the street artwork, however voiced concerns regarding vehicles colliding with delineators. Aki inquired about means to mitigate these collisions and Kekoolani agreed to check.

Chair Farm called a recess at 7:35 p.m.

Chair Farm called the meeting back to order at 7:37 p.m.

Hearing no objections, Chair Farm returned to Resident's and Community Concerns.

RESIDENTS' AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Factory Street – Amanda Pease, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), circulated handouts and reported the following:

- Excavation Work – Excavation work to remove the lead-contaminated soil on Factory Street was finished as of Wednesday, February 19, 2020. The project is now transitioning to repaving the roadway which will take a few weeks to finish. The entire project is expected to be finished by Friday, March 13, 2020.
- Traffic Impacts – Concrete will be installed in two (2) phase on Factory Street from King Street to Waterhouse Street during which time local access will be allowed. The Street will be closed for a few days during asphalt installation.
- Outreach – The EPA will continue to perform outreach for the project.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Rechecking Work – Cullen inquired if the EPA will recheck their work in a year. Pease responded that the EPA is based in California so the State Department of Health (DOH) will be inspecting work more frequently. Pease stated that issues can also be reported to her if they arise.

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor David Ige's Representative – Governor Ige's Representative circulated a handout and reported the following:

- Assisted Community Treatment (ACT) – DOH reported that the majority of petitions are filed for ACT when a patient is at the Hawaii State Hospital (HSH), prior to returning to the community. However, there were only four (4) petitions in 2017, three (3) in 2018, and no petitions filed during 2019 or 2020. They are working to increase community mental health center system capacity for so more petitions can be filed when warranted.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Novel Coronavirus – Ybanez voiced concerns regarding the coronavirus outbreak. Ybanez inquired if considerations have been made to block access to Hawaii to protect residents employed in the tourism industry. The representative stated that the State is working with Federal and County partners including the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Everyone is urged to review the site www.cdc.gov and www.hawaii.gov/doh for accurate information. Ybanez recommended consulting with the tourism industry as their employees are most at risk.

Senator Donna Mercado Kim – Senator Kim circulated handouts and reported the following:

- Survey – A survey was provided to collect feedback and suggestions.
- Vote By Mail – Voting by mail will begin with the 2020 Election.
- Recess – The Legislature is currently in their one (1) week recess.
- Committees – Senator Kim will Chair the Higher Education Committee, Vice Chair the Education Committee, and join the Judiciary Committee as a member.
- Bills – Senator Kim highlighted the following Senate Bills (SB):
 - SB 2541, regarding income equity.
 - SB 3140, regarding affordable housing.
 - SB 2538, regarding banning flavored tobacco products.
 - SB 2048, regarding teacher's compensation, recently passed from committee.
 - SB 2065, regarding associates degrees for students.
 - SB 2059, regarding adult community schools.
 - SB 3013, regarding industry certificates for high school students.
 - SB 2053, regarding afterschool programs for middle school students.
- University of Hawaii (UH) – Funds have been budgeted for security officers and psychologists at UH.
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – Kalihi Waena Elementary School sidewalk installation has been prioritized in the CIP budget.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Special Education Services – Ybanez inquired about a passed bill which would increase special education services by August 2020 and how the transition is progressing. Senator Kim responded she was unsure as this is the Department of Education's (DOE) responsibility.

Senator Karl Rhoads – Glen Young reported the following:

- Vote by Mail – Vote by mail will begin in 2020. Registered voters will receive a mail ballot roughly 18 days prior to the election. Voter center services will be open 10 days prior to the election.
- 2020 Census – The 2020 Census commences in March 2020. The Census is mandated by the Constitution and provides critical information for various purposes including the distribution of Federal funding. Residents are highly encouraged to participate. For more information call (800) 923-8282 or visit the census website at www.2020census.gov.

Senator Glenn Wakai – No representative was present at this time.

Representative Daniel Holt – Representative Holt circulated a handout and reported the following:

- Finance Committee – Representative Holt is part of the House Finance Committee which has heard a multitude of Bills during the 2020 Legislative Session.
- Cost of Living – Bills have been introduced to address the cost of living as well as similar topics like affordable housing and minimum wage.
- Schools – A bill has been introduced to create a new agency focused exclusively on school maintenance.
- Early Learning – Work is underway to expand preschool and early learning opportunities.
- Kupuna Caucus Measures – Measures have been introduced to protect the elderly such as increasing the penalty on certain crimes against the elderly and continuing the Kupuna Caregivers program.
- Farrington High School – Two (2) million dollars was released by the Governor to begin constructing a new gym at Farrington High School. Work will begin with demolishing old facilities.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Affordable Housing – Ybanez inquired about constructing affordable housing near the rail line. Representative Holt responded that this is possible. Representative Holt noted a bill was discussed in committee regarding new developments giving preference to residents already within their zip code.

Representative Romy M. Cachola – Representative Cachola circulated a handout and reported the following:

- House Bill (HB) 1899 – HB 1899, regarding reimbursements for Medicare Part B, is progressing through Legislature.
- HB 1977 – HB 1977, regarding a loan forgiveness program to address the physician shortage, is progressing through Legislature.
- HB 2176 – HB 2176, addressing debris and other issues at Sand Island State Recreation Area, is progressing through Legislature.

Hearing no objections, Chair Farm moved the agenda to New Business.

Ibay departed at 8:04 p.m. Eight (8) members present.

NEW BUSINESS

Vaccination Resolution Supporting the Lieutenant Governor – A draft resolution was circulated. Chair Farm opened the floor to discussion and action.

Cullen moved and Ybanez seconded the Motion to adopt the resolution.

Ibay reentered the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Nine (9) members present.

The Motion WAS ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS VOTE; 9-0-0: (AYE: Aki, Cullen, Dumayag, Farm, Guerrero, Ibay, Irwin, Kaiwi, and Ybanez; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None).

PRESENTATIONS

Alzheimer's Association of Hawaii (AAH) – Doctor Pokii Blaza, AAH, reported the following:

- Alzheimer's and Dementia – Dementia is an umbrella term used to refer to similar but different conditions which negatively impact memory and daily living. Alzheimer's is one (1) specific subset of dementia. These conditions can impact individuals in different ways and progress at different rates.
- Prevention – Dementia is incurable and irreversible. However, it can be prevented and mitigated through

lifestyle factors, like diet and exercise. Different diets are available which may help. Keeping the brain active and socializing can help, as it is never a good idea to isolate patients with dementia.

- Caregivers – Oahu has 29,000 people with dementia and 65,000 caregivers. Many caregivers are in need of assistance and there are not enough care homes for all patients. Bills have been drafted to provide support for age-in-place services. Workforce services are needed as caregivers require a specific set of skills to properly care for patients with dementia.
- Programs – Various free programs are available to assist caregivers and people with dementia.
- Website – More information is available at <https://www.alz.org/hawaii>.

IBEW 1186 Opportunities – Damien Kim, IBEW 1186, circulated handouts and reported the following:

- IBEW – IBEW is a union from the Kalihi area which includes civil service members, electricians, technicians, and more groups. IBEW has been around for 80 years and has roughly 3,500 members.
- Apprenticeships – IBEW offers multiple apprenticeships including electrician and telecommunication programs. These apprenticeships can provide residents with schooling and well-paying jobs without having to pursue a college degree. Prospective apprentices need to complete high school algebra 2.
- Benefits – Kim outlined the various benefits offered to electricians through IBEW.
- Website – More information is available at www.hetf1186.org.

City and County of Honolulu Office of Resilience – No representative was present; no report was given.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

No reports

APPROVAL OF THE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – **The Wednesday, January 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes were ADOPTED AS DRAFTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 9-0-0: (AYE: Aki, Cullen, Dumayag, Farm, Guerrero, Ibay, Irwin, Kaiwi, and Ybanez; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None).**

THREE ABSENCES

Wayne Kaiwi – Wayne Kaiwi accrued three (3) absences since July 2019, allowing his seat to be vacated by the Board pursuant to Neighborhood Plan §2-14-106. Kaiwi addressed the assembly to explain his absences and voiced his intent to remain on the Board. Chair Farm inquired if any Board members wanted to make a motion to vacate the seat, no motions were made.

Wayne Kaiwi WAS RETAINED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 9-0-0: (AYE: Aki, Cullen, Dumayag, Farm, Guerrero, Ibay, Irwin, Kaiwi, and Ybanez; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None).

OTHER REPORTS

Chair's Report and Correspondence – Chair Farm reported that Edgardo Templo resigned from the Board, the new vacancy will be addressed at the March 2020 meeting. Chair Farm reported that he is working to get more apprenticeships and unions to present to the Board, similar to IBEW 1186. Kaiwi noted that Senator Glenn Wakai arrived and requested that the Board return to his report.

Hearing no objections, Chair Farm returned to Elected Officials: Senator Glenn Wakai.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Senator Glenn Wakai – Senator Wakai circulated a handout and reported the following:

- Sand Island – Abandoned boats were recently removed from the Sand Island area. Senator Wakai is working with the Air Force to address the homeless flotilla in Ke'ehi Lagoon. A study is planned to determine how Sand Island can best be used as it currently has underutilized land. This will be a multi-year project with testimony and discussions with the community.
- Farrington High School – The State released two (2) million dollars for Farrington High School redevelopment. The current swimming pool and gym will be demolished and replaced with new facilities.
- Donating Books – Kalihi Kai Elementary donated books and other supplies for the Marshall Island Public School System.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Sand Island Jet-Skis – Kaiwi voiced concerns regarding locals being required to jet-ski 300 meters off-shore at Sand Island, while commercial jet-ski operations are allowed to use areas closer to shore. Kaiwi inquired if rules can be changed to allow residents to also use the closer areas for jet-skiing. Senator Wakai

voiced agreement.

2. Jurisdiction – Kaiwi recommended that the State and City partner together when addressing problems with jurisdictional issues.

Ybanez departed at 8:42 p.m. Eight (8) members present,

3. Sand Island Development – Cullen voiced opposition to new developments at Sand Island. Cullen noted that residents in the area have concerns with the current noise and traffic levels. Cullen stated that Sand Island appears to already be at maximum development capacity. Senator Wakai responded that testimony has been received both supporting and opposing development and that it will be up to the community to determine what happens.
4. Homeless Flotilla – Guerrero inquired and Senator Wakai clarified that there is a homeless flotilla within Ke'ehi Lagoon.
5. Methane Capture – Chair Farm advocated for the City to examine methane capture technology. Senator Wakai voiced agreement.

OTHER REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – No report was given.

Senior Awareness – Chair Farm urged senior citizens to be careful when walking at night and to always be aware of surroundings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Meeting – The next regular meeting of the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board No. 15 is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 7:00 p.m., at the Kalihi Union Church, 2214 North King Street.
- Olelo – The Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board No. 15 recordings can be seen on Olelo channel 49 or at www.olelo.org/live at the following times: 1st Monday of each month at 9:00 p.m., 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Submitted by: Jackson Coley, NCO Public Relations Assistant, and Jacob Aki, Board Secretary.

Reviewed by: Travis Saito, Neighborhood Assistant

Final Review by: