



KAHALU'U NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 29

*(He'eia Kea, 'Āhuimanu, Kahalu'u, Waihe'e, Ka'alaea, Waiāhole, Waikāne, Hakipu'u, Kualoa)*

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*"LET US NOT EVER HAVE AN UNHAPPY MINORITY; RATHER, LET US BUILD A COMMUNITY CONSENSUS."*

**AMENDED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020**

**KUALOA HE'EIA ECUMENICAL YOUTH (KEY) PROJECT**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Amy Luersen called the Kahaluu Neighborhood Board No. 29 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Quorum was established with eight (8) members present.** Note – This 15-member Board requires eight (8) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Members Present: Daniel Bender, Kaanoi Walk, Ken LeVasseur (arrived 7:13 p.m.), Amy Luersen, Art Machado, Yvonne Nelson, Flora Obayashi, Rick Towill (arrived 7:05 p.m.), Richard Vermeesch and Kim Balauro.

Members Absent: Leialoha Kaluhiwa, Joseph Haili and John Reppun.

Guests: Clifford Loo (Kaneohe Bay Regional Council); Captain Clay Madrona (Honolulu Fire Department); Lori Kahikina (Department of Environmental Services); Jennifer Tobara-Honold (The Office of Representative Lisa Kitagawa); Aulii Dudoit (KEY Project); Marie Samudio, Katt Williams, Norm James, Sharon James, Aaron Collins, Jayce Napualani, Janelle Napualani, Kau Pratt-Aguiro and Thierry Gross (Residents); Casey Ishitani (Neighborhood Assistant).

**Obayashi Moved to have the Agenda item Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at this time. There was no Second.**

**Towill arrived at 7:05 p.m. There were 9 Board members present.**

ORGANIZATION OF THE KAHALUU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

Election of Officers: Chair Pro Temp Luersen inquired if the Board had nominees for Board Officers.

Chair: Bender nominated Chair Pro Temp Luersen. Obayashi nominated Walk.

**The vote was eight (8) for Luersen (Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Towill, Vermeesch and Balauro) and one (1) for Walk (Obayashi). Luersen was voted in as Chair.**

Vice Chair: Chair Luersen inquired if the Board would request a Second Vice Chair before nominating Board members.

**Vermeesch Moved and Towill Seconded to have a Second Vice Chair on the Kahaluu Neighborhood Board No. 29. The Motion was ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 9-0-0 (Aye: Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Towill, Vermeesch and Balauro; Nay: None; Abstain: None).**

First Vice Chair Nomination: Obayashi nominated Walk as Vice Chair. There were no other nominations.

**LeVasseur arrived at 7:13 p.m. There were 10 Board members present.**

**The vote was 10 for Walk (Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Towill, Vermeesch, LeVasseur and Balauro). Walk was voted in as First Vice Chair.**

Second Vice Chair Nomination: Walk nominated Towill as Second Vice Chair. There were no other nominations.

**The vote was 10 for Towill (Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Towill, Vermeesch, LeVasseur and Balauro). Towill was voted in as Second Vice Chair.**

Secretary: Nelson nominated Obayashi as Secretary. There were no other nominations.

**The vote was 8 for Obayashi (Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Towill, Vermeesch and Balauro; Obayashi and LeVasseur abstained). Obayashi was voted in as Secretary.**

Treasurer: Obayashi nominated Bender as Treasurer. There were no other nominations.

**The vote was 10 for Bender (Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Towill, Vermeesch, LeVasseur and Balauro). Bender was voted in as Treasurer.**

Regular Meeting Time, Date and Location: Chair Luersen inquired if the Board suggested to change the Regular Meeting time, date and location.

**Bender Moved and Nelson Seconded to maintain the established meeting, time and location but with flexibility due to the pandemic. The Motion was ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 10-0-0 (Aye: Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Towill, Vermeesch, LeVasseur and Balauro; Nay: None; Abstain: None).**

Recess Schedule: Chair Luersen inquired if the Board would suggest any scheduled recesses.

**Obayashi Moved to recess in November. There was no Second. Members noted that due to COVID, that board may need to recess so should retain flexibility.**

Olelo: Chair Luersen inquired if the Board would suggest any change in maintaining Olelo recording of meetings.

**Obayashi Moved and Vermeesch Seconded to maintain Olelo.**

Discussion: Resident Aaron Collins suggested that streaming of meetings might be an option. LeVasseur suggested that he help distribute streaming footage if the meeting is to be held completely online. Resident Lori Kahikina responded that changes in Sunshine Law are required to hold online meetings, citing other Neighborhood Boards' connectivity issues.

**The Motion PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE, 9-0-1 (Aye: Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Towill, Vermeesch and Balauro; Nay: None; Abstain: LeVasseur).**

Committees: Chair Luersen inquired if the Board would suggest any change in Committees. There were no Motions.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): HFD Captain Clay Madrona reported the following.

- April 2020 Statistics: There was one (1) wildland brush fire, three (3) nuisance fires, four (4) activated alarms, 38 medical emergencies and one (1) motor vehicle crash.
- May 2020 Statistics: There were 11 nuisance fires, three (3) activated alarms, 34 medical emergencies and one (1) motor vehicle crash. The unusual incident was a downed tree.
- June 2020 Statistics: There was one (1) wildland fire, three (3) nuisance fires, one (1) activated alarm, 32 medical emergencies, one (1) motor vehicle collision with a pedestrian and one (1) motor vehicle crash. The unusual incident was an animal rescue.
- Fire Safety Tip: Residents can find emergency preparedness information at the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Emergency Management's website at [www.honolulu.gov/dem](http://www.honolulu.gov/dem).
- COVID-19: HFD will not disclose any information regarding number of positive COVID-19 calls in the area. HFD will respond to calls with full PPE. Residents are urged to continue the use of face masks and practice social distancing.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): A representative was not present. No report was given.

#### FILLING OF VACANCIES ON THE BOARD

Sub-District Six (6): Heeia ahupuaa (Hui Iwa ili): There were no nominees or volunteers. This item was deferred to the August 2020 meeting. Chair Luersen noted that there will also be a vacancy in Subdistrict 2 due to the resignation of Lee Gomes. She will add that to the August 2020 meeting agenda.

### COMMUNITY PROJECTS PRESENTATIONS

Hawaii Bicycling League Honolulu Century Ride on Sunday, September 27, 2020: Chair Luersen noted that she received notice from the HBL that they have cancelled the September 27, 2020 Century ride as they address how to address social distancing. Therefore no representative was present tonight..

Department of Environmental Services (ENV) Bulky Item Pickup: ENV Lori Kahikina reported the following.

- Surveying: ENV crews must survey bulky items to determine if a collection is necessary. The older system of pickup encouraged illegal dumping.
- Appointments: Residents will need to make appointments to have items collected at opala.org.

Questions, comments and concerns followed.

1. Illegal Dumping: A resident inquired how the bulky item pickup program will deter illegal dumping and Kahikina responded that ENV currently places the onus on the property owner and that the new system will monitor illegal dumping more closely.
2. Transfer Station: Towill and LeVasseur requested a transfer station for the Kahaluu area.
3. Multiple Units: Vermeesch inquired how the bulky item pickup will benefit a multiple unit household.
4. Cardboard: A resident inquired if cardboard will be accepted and Kahikina responded that it will not be.
5. Burning: LeVasseur raised concerns regarding residents burning refuse.

Report from Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) on 2020 Candidates Forum: Member Obayashi stated that the PIG was unable to meet due to the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore, given the timing and requirements of PIG recommendations to the board, there will not be a Candidates forum by KNB #29 this year.

### SUB-DISTRICTS REPORTS

Sub-District 1: Balauro reported that there are concerns regarding an acquired property installing septic systems in an area possibly having pre-contact Hawaiian burials.

Sub-District 2: Towill reported that HPD has been stopping trespassers going mauka in Waihee Valley. Also the animal shelter will not be developed due to environmental concerns.

Sub-District 3: Machado raised concerns regarding overgrowth in the area that will need trimming. Obayashi raised concerns regarding dredged material from Kailua being dropped off in Heeia Kea valley in Sub-District 3. Chair Luersen responded that she and Member Kaluhiwa have been in touch with the city and have been assured that the dredged material will be removed, completing the Kailua repairs.

Sub-District 4: LeVasseur reported burning refuse near Ahuimanu Road as well as invasive plants in the area. Walk raised concerns regarding shooting heard in the back of the valley on Tuesday, July 7, 2020. He stated that this seems to be related to a property with legal medical marijuana.

Sub-District 5: Nelson raised concerns regarding bulky item collection as well as invasive plants in SD5. Bender raised that existing emergency shelters will not be sufficient during the COVID-19 pandemic due to requirements for social distancing. He urged the community to explore additional potential shelters..

Sub-District 6: Vermeesch reported that the changes to bulky items are the main concern. Vegetation along Kahekili Highway is hiding the view plane for drivers making turns.

Questions, comments and concerns followed. First Assembly of God: A resident inquired if the homeless shelters at the First Assembly of God property have been operational through the pandemic. Resident Marie Samudio raised that they must collaborate with the Red Cross.

### RESIDENTS/COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Development: Resident Samudio raised concerns regarding development along Kahaluu Stream near Ahaolelo Road. The concerns are regarding massive felling of trees and its affect on property values.

Suspicious Activity: A resident raised concerns regarding a property in Ahuimanu with individuals openly brandishing firearms and growing medical marijuana improperly. Chair Luersen responded that she will put this item on the August 2020 Agenda.

Traffic: Towill raised concerns regarding traffic noise, with vehicles screeching tires at night.

### CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: A representative was not present. Report was given.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): A representative was not present. BWS updates and notifications can be found at <https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/>.

Councilmember Heidi Tsuneyoshi: Councilmember Tsuneyoshi reported the following.

- Hakipuu: Councilmember Tsuneyoshi will provide updates regarding the cesspool spill at Hakipuu during construction by Kualoa Ranch.
- Bulky Item Pickup: Illegal dumping hot spots will be investigated and considered for signage and notification to mitigate such activity.
- Suspicious Activity: Councilmember Tsuneyoshi reported that she will investigate the property in Ahuimanu with suspicious activity.
- Kahaluu Regional Park: The parking lot at Kahaluu Beach Park will be rehabilitated.
- Budget: There will be a Resolution proposing the purchase of Kalohaku Bridge, repairs to Waihee Bridge and improvements to Kamehameha Highway by the City and County of Honolulu. Councilmember Tsuneyoshi will provide updates as they become available.

Questions, comments and concerns followed.

1. Bulky Items: Residents reiterated concerns regarding illegal dumping hot spots.
2. Haiku Road: Machado raised concerns regarding traffic on Haiku Road.
3. Four Way Stop: Chair Luersen raised that there is a letter from the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) notifying residents that a four way stop will be moving forward at Meheula Road and Ahuimanu Road.

### STATE AND FEDERAL REPORTS

Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH): A representative was not present. No report was given.

Governor David Ige's Representative: A representative was not present. No report was given.

Senator Gil Riviere: A representative was not present. No report was given.

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole: A representative was not present. No report was given.

Representative Lisa Kitagawa: Jennifer Tobar-Honold reported the following.

- Contact: If residents have inquiries they can contact Representative Kitagawa at [repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov).
- Kahekili Highway: Regarding vegetation overgrowth on Kahekili Highway, Representative Kitagawa will provide updates from the State of Hawaii.
- Legislation Session: The current Legislation session will adjourn on Friday, July 10, 2020.
- Food Bank: There will be a food bank at Windward Community College on Saturday, July 11, 2020.
- Voter Registration: The last day to register to vote is Thursday, July 9, 2020.

Questions, comments and concerns followed.

1. Farm to Car: Chair Luersen thanked Representative Kitagawa for farm to car initiatives to assist Windward farmers and getting local produce to families on the windward side.
2. House Bill (HB) 2572: Obayashi thanked Representative Kitagawa for supporting HB2572 which would have prohibited the sale of contact tracing information without consent.

Representative Sean Quinlan: A representative was not present. No report was given.

Kaneohe Bay Regional Council: Resident Clifford Loo reported that Heeia Kea Small Boat Harbor has a new Harbor Agent, Tanya Borabora.

Department of Transportation: A representative was not present. No report was given.

## BOARD BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report: The remaining balance for the last Fiscal Year was \$109.70. The new Board budget was \$494.74.

Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, March 11, 2020: Chair Luersen inquired if the Board had amendments to the Minutes.

- Page 1: Obayashi raised that Ujayan Siddharth did not present for the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (CCSR) but that Haley Cook did. Obayashi requested that all mentions of Siddharth be replaced with Cook. In the Filling of Vacancies Agenda Item, SD6 should be SD1.
- Page 2: Obayashi claimed that the Financial Statement Board budget should be \$524.00. Neighborhood Assistant responded that that amount is the total for the fiscal year and that the amount in the Financial Statement was correct for Wednesday, March 11, 2020.
- Page 3: Obayashi raised that heat mapping was not mentioned in the CCSR presentation. Chair Luersen raised that in the CCSR Questions, Comments and Concerns, "have participated actions" should be spelled out in full.
- Page 4: Obayashi raised a misplaced Agenda Item "Representative Lisa Kitagawa", which should follow Senator Gil Riviere's presentation. All mentions of Representative Kitagawa's presentation time other than after Senator Riviere's should be stricken.

**Towill Moved and Machado Seconded to Adopt the Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, March 11, 2020 as Amended. The Motion was ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 10-0-0 (Aye: Bender, Walk, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Towill, Vermeesch, LeVasseur and Balauro; Nay: None; Abstain: None).**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Resilience: No report was given.

Culture: No report was given.

Emergency Preparedness: Resident Samudio reported that the committee is still requesting donations of food for distribution. The Committee will also need CERT training.

Infrastructure: No report was given.

Land and Water: No report was given.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Kahaluu Neighborhood Board No. 29 is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at the Key Project, 47-200 Waihee Road at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Casey Ishitani, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Jackson Coley, Public Relations

Final approval by: Chair Amy Luersen