



WAI'ALAE-KĀHALA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 3

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96819

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – INITIAL CONVENING THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2020 PAKI HALE

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Pro Tem Richard Turbin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. – **Quorum was established with five (5) members present.** Note – This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members to establish quorum and to take official board action.

Members Present – Aida Arik, Kenneth Chang (arrived at 7:15 p.m.), Peter Dudgeon (arrived at 7:13 p.m.), Gay Gale, Sylvia Himeda, Richard Turbin, and Brian Wong.

Members Absent – Arnold Brady.

Guests – Acting Captain R. Wengler, Firefighter Vasconcellos (Honolulu Fire Department); Sergeant Adam Lipka, Sergeant Herman Arriba, Lieutenant Taro Nakamura (Honolulu Police Department); Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (Governor David Ige's Representative); Michele Nekota (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative); Councilmember Tommy Waters; Representative Bertrand Kobayashi; Lynn Robinson-Onderko (Senator Stanley Chang's Office); Paulo Skellon, Chuck Kelley, Victoria Talbot, Eliza Talbot, Michelle Matson (Residents and Guests); Lindon Valenciano, Brandy Clark (Neighborhood Commission Office). **Note that illegible names were not included.**

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS – Those present introduced themselves.

Hearing no objections, Chair Pro Tem Turbin moved up agenda item CITY/STATE MONTHLY REPORTS.

CITY/STATE MONTHLY REPORTS

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Firefighter Vasconcellos reported the following:

- **Statistics for June 2020:** There was 1 rubbish fire, 1 cooking fire, and 3 activated alarms (no fires). There were 50 medical emergencies, 2 motor vehicle collision with pedestrians, 1 motor vehicle crash/collision, 1 mountain rescue, and 1 hazardous material incident (hazmat).
- **Safety Tip: Emergency Preparedness:** Emergency preparedness tips were provided.

Questions, comments, concerns:

1. **Pedestrian Accident:** Arik inquired and Firefighter Vasconcellos replied that one (1) of the motor vehicle collision with a pedestrian occurred on Wai'alae at 16th Avenue and the other occurred on another watch.
2. **Hazmat:** Wong inquired and Firefighter Vasconcellos responded that the hazmat incident was just a propane tank left on at a residence.
3. **Appreciation:** Resident Paulo Skellon expressed his appreciation for HFD and their response time.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) – Sergeant Adam Lipka reported the following:

- **Statistics for June 2020:** There were 5 motor vehicle thefts, 6 burglaries, 17 thefts and 12 UEMV (Unauthorized Entry to Motor Vehicle). There were 5,842 calls for service.
- **Safety Tip: Hurricane Preparedness:** Hurricane preparedness tips were also provided.

Questions, comments, concerns:

1. **Stabbing Incident:** Gale inquired and Sergeant Lipka replied that the recent stabbing is not on another report because it is a major incident. Lieutenant Nakamura added that the statistic report is decided in advance and he recommended using honolulu.hpd.org for better tracking, adding that the suspect was charged and arrested. Chair pro tem Turbin asked and Lieutenant Nakamura responded that the suspect was bailed out.

Dudgeon arrived to the meeting at 7:13 p.m.; six (6) Board members in attendance.

2. Beach Patrols: Chair pro tem Turbin inquired and Sergeant Lipka replied that they patrol the area but they are not patrolling the beach. He suggested that they work with Neighborhood Security Watches (NSW) and check CrimeStoppers. Resident Chuck Kelley asked about ATV patrols and Lieutenant Nakamura introduced Sergeant Herman Arriba of the Community Policing Team. Sergeant Arriba noted that projects are in the works to focus on complaint hot spots.

Chang arrived to the meeting at 7:15 p.m.; seven (7) Board members in attendance.

3. Diamond Head Beach: A resident asked and Sergeant Arriba responded that there is an uptick in drug dealers because Diamond Head attracts a certain demographic. Chair Pro Tem Turbin noted the community's concerns and Sergeant Arriba shared the schedule for a partnership with the State to clean the mauka area. Chair Pro Tem Turbin suggested and Sergeant Arriba replied that to deter activities such as illegal camping, residents need to utilize 911 to inform them and work with the community to address problematic areas for enforcement. Resident Michelle Matson reported that some criminals live in the encampments and houses are threatened because they are vulnerable to fires. Sergeant Arriba replied that they can only enforce as written, suggesting that the public be HPD's eyes and ears.
4. Appreciation: Resident Skellon noted that defunding HPD is the last thing needed and he noted his appreciation for HPD in the community.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY (BWS) – No representative was present; no report was given.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO SERVE FROM JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021

CHAIRPERSON: **Himeda nominated and Wong seconded the nomination to have Richard Turbin re-elected as Chair from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.** There were no other nominations. **Turbin was APPOINTED as Chair by ROLL CALL VOTE (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).**

VICE CHAIR: **Arik nominated and Chang seconded the nomination to have Gay Gale elected to serve as Vice Chair from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.** There were no other nominations. **Gale was APPOINTED as Vice Chair by ROLL CALL VOTE (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).**

SECRETARY: **Chang nominated and Himeda seconded the nomination to have Brian Wong re-elected as Secretary from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.** There were no other nominations. **Wong was APPOINTED as Secretary by ROLL CALL VOTE (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).**

TREASURER: **Gale nominated and Wong seconded the nomination to have Peter Dudgeon re-elected as Treasurer from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.** There were no other nominations. **Dudgeon was APPOINTED as Treasurer by ROLL CALL VOTE (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).**

FILLING OF VACANCIES – One (1) Vacancy in Sub District One (1) – Chair Turbin noted that there was one (1) vacancy for this Sub-district. Resident Eliza Talbot volunteered and she provided a brief background such as working as the Chief-of-Staff to a Councilmember. Neighborhood Assistant (NA) could not verify the residence. The vacancy was not filled.

MEETING DETERMINATION-DATE/TIME/LOCATION (AUGUST 2020 TO JUNE 2021) – **The proposal to keep the regular meeting schedule the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Paki Hale until further notice from August 2020 to June 2021 was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 7-0-0 (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).**

DETERMINATION OF BOARD RECESS SCHEDULE (AUGUST 2020 TO JUNE 2021) – **The proposal to recess in the month of December 2020 was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 7-0-0 (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).**

REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OLELO BROADCAST PROGRAM OR TO REQUEST FUNDS FOR AN ANNUAL NEWSLETTER – Board members noted that they are satisfied with not having Olelo at their meetings and will continue as they have been all along. **No action taken.**

ADOPTION OF ORAL TESTIMONY RULES – **The proposal to adopt rules of participation, as stated on the July 2, 2020, meeting agenda, from August 2020 to June 2021 was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 7-0-0 (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).**

REPORTS OF MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE AT OTHER MEETINGS – Chair Turbin noted that he attended the #5 Diamond Head's July 2020 Neighborhood Board meeting to discuss Diamond Head Park problem.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor David Ige's Representative – Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser reported: Coronavirus (COVID) Update: The pretesting travel program has been delayed until Tuesday, September 1, 2020 and it will be announced when finalized. Please visit www.hidot.hawaii.gov and safetravels.hawaii.gov for more information. Those seeking an exemption can email covidexemption@hawaii.gov. Shimabukuro-Geiser reminded everyone that we need to be vigilant with physical distancing, wearing masks, and hand washing.

Questions, comments, concerns:

1. Pretesting: A resident inquired and Shimabukuro-Geiser replied that those waiting on test results after the required 72 hours would still be subject to quarantine. She provided the testing process and added that it will be a huge transition. Chair Turbin noted that there are some problems with the pretesting program.
2. Helicopter Tours: Resident Matson inquired what the Governor's and Department of Health (DOH) director's plans are since helicopter tours are beginning to operate again, especially with the pre-testing program in place soon because there will not be any social distancing inside the aircraft, adding that it could potentially spread COVID unknowingly.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative – Michele Nekota reported:

- Malia Street Speed Table: A Department of Transportation Services (DTS) representative was not able to attend to answer questions about the speed table.
- Marathon Suggestions: DTS does not recommend making roadway changes for isolated instances as that may negatively impact traffic for the majority of the day. Please understand that traffic patterns during the peak hours last for a short period of time and are not typical. However, changes during special events are possible. Comments and suggestions for roadway changes during the Honolulu Marathon may be referred to the Honolulu Marathon Association at 808-734-7200.
- Animal Violations: The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) staff continually informs and educates park users of park rules. Please contact the Honolulu Police Department anytime you witness any illegal activities occurring in a park as HPD enforces our Park Rules.

Questions, comments, concerns:

1. Shelters: Resident Eliza Talbot inquired and Nekota provided shelter insight, noting that parks are usually used as shelters, however they are working with Department of Education (DOE) to use their hurricane proof locations.
2. Beach Right of Way: Nekota reported that they have had concerns about the beach access at Kahala Avenue and Hunakai Street. DPR safety inspectors assessed the area and they are looking to close the beach right of way. Gale inquired if it can be mitigated because it is the second (2nd) most used beach access and would cause an uproar. Nekota inquired and Gale replied that the beach access does not feel safe because of sand erosion. Resident Skellon added that doing so would add pressure other entries from increased traffic. Dudgeon noted and Nekota replied that it can be reassessed from tonight's feedback. Resident Matson inquired and Chair Turbin replied that the new lots are not an issue because they are not near the beach access.
3. Roundabout: Chang inquired about DTS attending their meetings regarding the roundabout for a definitive answer and actions that the City is taking. Gale added that they want them to share the results of the consultant report so that the community becomes educated and aware of the issue.

Chair Turbin noted that Councilmember Waters is instrumental with the Diamond Head Beach problem and suggested that he integrate agenda item Homelessness and Illegal Camping Problems.

Councilmember Tommy Waters - Councilmember Waters distributed his newsletter and reported:

- Mail-in Voting: Everyone is encouraged to vote since it is all mail-in voting. Update your signatures because your vote will not count if does not match. Voting should be done early because it gives you time to correct it if it get rejected. You can check on the ballot status with the City Clerk's office.
- Charter Amendment: A charter amendment update was provided such as creating a youth commission due to the youth turnout during the plastic ban.
- Beach Access: Councilmember Waters suggested that they build stairs at the beach access and stressed the importance of restoring the area and preserving the beach.
- Homeless: Councilmember Waters proposed alternatives to deter homeless at Diamond Head Beach such as closing the beach well before 10:00 p.m. and having HPD or a guard posted at the beach entry because Council appropriated funds for HPD manpower. Chair Turbin noted security for parks and suggested one here. Councilmember Waters also suggested turning the area into a bird sanctuary, adding that the City is trying and have allocated funds for housing.

Questions, comments, concerns:

1. Waialae Beach Park: Gale inquired about the Mayor's Waialae Beach Park visit, where someone was doing drugs in the restroom.
2. Shelter: Himeda inquired and Councilmember Waters replied that shelters does not deter homeless because they end up congregating around the area.
3. Diamond Head Beach: Resident Kelley commended the creativity, however HPD clarified that camping is illegal, so there is a need for enforcement. Councilmember Waters agreed and suggested earlier park closures so that enforcement can occur earlier when it is safe. Chair Turbin noted that it may be too much to ask of the community and suggested a park ranger program. Resident Skellon noted and Chair Turbin replied that guards can be posted at other entries. Chair Turbin asked and Councilmember Waters responded that Council cannot direct HPD duties because Council makes laws which HPD then enforces. Resident Talbot reported that parks closes at 10:00 pm and HPD cannot kick out people if they do not have anywhere to go. Arik suggested and Chair Turbin replied that requesting a specialist deviates from their specific problematic area and it could get lost in the broad homeless problem. Councilmember Waters noted that they need a place to go or they will just return, noting the high costs of the sweeps. Dudgeon noted that some refuse services and that there is a need for vagrancy laws. Resident Matson inquired if the City and State are liable for any property damage as a result of not taking care of the problem. Councilmember Waters reiterated his suggestion of limited park hours and Chair Turbin suggested that it be on the agenda if a resolution is needed. Wong noted and Himeda agreed that enforcement is the key, not limiting park hours. Chair Turbin clarified the sentiment of the idea.

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi – Representative Kobayashi distributed his handout and reported:

- Diamond Head: The mauka side of Diamond Head is State jurisdiction, however the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is haphazardly enforcing homeless because of a personnel shortage, adding that homeless are moved rather than arrested.
- Session Update: Session adjourned on Friday, July 10, 2020. It was the longest in consecutive days because there were many changes and uncertainty of allocating federal funds.

Questions, comments, concerns: Shelters: Himeda inquired and Representative Kobayashi replied that he does not know specifically what schools that have been designated shelters this year.

Representative Mark Hashem – No representative was present. No report was given.

Senator Stanley Chang – Lynn Robinson-Onderko distributed Senator Chang's newsletter and reported:

- Coordinated Sweep: Robinson-Onderko noted a past presentation with Housing (HOU) Director Marc Alexander regarding joint large scale sweeps with a promise of follow-up patrols.
- Remote Work: State employees are working from home, however you can still contact their office for any concerns.

- Appropriation: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds was appropriated to programs such as rental assistance and personal protective equipment (PPE).

RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Gardening Equipment: Resident Skellon sought support for Councilmember Waters' bill prohibiting gas-powered gardening equipment because residents have the right to live peacefully. Chair Turbin asked and Councilmember Waters replied that he has drafted a bill. Councilmember Waters asked and replied that electric-powered alternatives are used on the mainland and they work just as well without the noise. A resident noted that it is complaint driven and it can be enforced if called in. Councilmember Waters noted that it is the same issue with moped noise. Chair Turbin inquired about the Board's position on the issue and suggested that it be discussed when the bill is ready. A resident inquired and Chair Turbin replied that gas-powered equipment be eliminated in general.

BOARD BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS/OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

BOARD BUSINESS:

Approval of the Thursday, February 20, 2020 Regular meeting minutes – Gale moved and Wong seconded the motion to approve the Thursday, June 20, 2019 regular meeting minutes as amended. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT; 7-0-0 (Aye: Arik, Chang, Dudgeon, Gale, Himeda, Turbin, and Wong; Nay: none; Abstain: none).

Amendments as follows:

1. Throughout the whole document, strike out all instances of "Aina Koa" and replace with "Ainakoa".
2. Page 3 Pickle Ball – Strike out "Piece" and replace with "Pierce".

OLD BUSINESS:

Homelessness and Illegal Camping Problems (Diamond Head and Elsewhere) – This item was covered during Councilmember Waters report.

4585 Kahala Avenue Development "Monster Home" – No new information. Item was deferred.

Traffic Calming Measures on Malia Street and Kulamanu Street – No new information. Item was deferred.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – The remaining balance was \$309.36. Dudgeon suggested coordinating with Gale to start a Board newsletter to help inform the public and keep them aware of issues.

Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate (KSBE) Report: Gale requested for reports from KSBE and Chair Turbin agreed, however they are working on the issue and will need a new liaison. Chang noted that the report is after the fact and noted that community input is needed before the project is completed. Gale noted that she wants information regarding the changes made.

Kahala Theatre Update: Gale noted that the Theatre is closed due to renovation and will be completed 2021, adding that two (2) Consolidated Theatres in Honolulu are opening this month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Meeting – The next regular meeting of the Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3 is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at Paki Hale.

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

Submitted by: Lindon Valenciano, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Brandy Clark, Neighborhood Assistant
Final Review by: