



WAIKĪKĪ NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

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WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020 WAIKIKI COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Robert Finley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was established with nine (9) members present. Note: This 17-member Board requires nine (9) members to establish quorum and to take official board action.

Board Members Present: Jerome Bautista, Lisa Cabanero, Helen Carroll, Louis Erteschik (connected via WebEx at 7:00 p.m.), Robert Finley, Kathryn Henski, Jeffrey Merz, John Nigro, Mark Smith, Jacob Wiencek (connected via WebEx at 7:00 p.m.), Michael Brown and Melissa Filek (appointed at 6:30 p.m.).

Board Members Absent: Walt Flood, Robert Boyack, Mark Garrity and Kenneth Wilder.

Guests: Marc Alexander (Office of Housing); Senator Sharon Moriwaki; Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center Executive Director Heather Lusk; James Browne, Dave Moskowitz and Elizabeth Powers (Residents); Casey Ishitani (Neighborhood Assistant). Name was not included if not legible on the attendance sheet.

VACANCIES

One (1) Vacancy Sub District 2: Residents Rayin Rafid and Leeann Tokuhara volunteered. There were no other volunteers or appointees.

There were four (4) votes for Rafid (Carroll, Finley, Brown and Merz) and five (5) votes for Tokuhara (Bautista, Cabanero, Henski, Nigro and Smith).

As there was no quorum vote and hearing no objection, Chair Finley deferred the filling of vacancy to the November 2020 meeting.

One (1) Vacancy Sub District 3: Henski nominated resident Melissa Filek. There were no other nominees or volunteers.

Filek was Appointed to the Board by Unanimous Consent, 9-0-0 (Bautista, Cabanero, Carroll, Finley, Henski, Merz, Nigro, Smith and Brown). **There were 10 Board members present.**

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): HFD Captain Keola Young reported the following.

- **September 2020 Statistics:** There was one (1) wildland fire, two (2) nuisance fires, five (5) activated alarms, 91 medical emergencies, one (1) motor vehicle collision with a pedestrian, four (4) motor vehicle crashes and one (1) hazardous materials incident.
- **Fire Safety Tip:** Captain Young advised residents to use non-flammable materials with costumes and to prepare children with flashlights or glow sticks at night.

Questions, comments and concerns followed. **Elevators:** Smith requested HFD statistics on stalled elevators.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): The HPD representative reported the following.

- **September 2020 Statistics:** There were two (2) robberies, 12 burglaries, 98 thefts, 15 unauthorized entries of vehicles, 24 assaults, two (2) sex crimes, one (1) citation for bicycles on sidewalks, one (1) citation for skateboards on sidewalks, 30 speeding citations, 428 parking citations, 25 park closure warnings, 95 park closure citations and 5,201 total calls for service.

Questions, comments and concerns followed.

1. Biki Bike: Henski requested an update regarding Biki Bike statistics from HPD.
2. Homelessness: Merz raised distancing and health concerns regarding the proximity of homeless individuals to residents on sidewalks.
3. Quarantine: Bautista inquired regarding quarantine statistics for repeat violators. Smith inquired about the procedures regarding quarantine breaking and HPD representative responded that it would be warning, citation and then arrest.
4. Mufflers: Carroll raised concerns regarding loud muffler noises.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): BWS representatives were unavailable. No report was given.

RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Cartwright Street: Filek reported that a clean-up will begin on Cartwright Street. Food carts will be able to rent stalls to mitigate illegal parking.

Face coverings: A resident raised concerns regarding delivery drivers not wearing face coverings while working.

Bulky Item Pickup: Bautista reported bulky items on Hobron Lane near McDonald's.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Note: all events are submitted and awaiting City Approval/Denial. Due to the Covid19 virus most street events will not be held this year.

- Saturday, November 7, 2020, 2:00 p.m. to Midnight, Kalakaua Festival
- Saturday, November 14, 2020, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 42nd Annual Visitor Industry Charity Walk – Cancelled by applicant
- Saturday, November 21, 2020, 2:00 p.m. to Midnight, Waikiki Winter Festival
- Friday, November 27, 2020, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Waikiki Holiday Parade – Cancelled by applicant
- Saturday, November 28, 2020 Noon to 2:00 p.m., Hawaiian Independence March

APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENSES: Chair Finley reported the following liquor license application hearing.

- Thursday, December 3, 2020, Giovanni Pastrami 227 Lewers Street, Category 2

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHERS

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: A representative was not present. No report was given.

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

Councilmember Tommy Waters: A representative was not present at this time.

Senator Sharon Moriwaki: Senator Sharon Moriwaki reported the following.

- State Capitol: The State Capitol is currently shutdown.
- Senate Covid Committee: The Senate Covid Committee and the Senate Ways and Means Committee will meet.
- Beach Usage: Senator Moriwaki reported conflicts on Waikiki beaches between fishermen and beachgoers. She proposed beach usage zones to mitigate gatherings.

Questions, comments and concerns followed.

1. Mortgage Assistance: Finley inquired if applicants for mortgage assistance during the pandemic will be reimbursed and Senator Moriwaki responded that the money for reimbursement has been allocated.
2. Centennial Park: Smith raised concerns regarding an unfinished fence at Centennial Park. Senator Moriwaki raised that more money will be needed to complete the fencing but that a temporary fence has been erected and locked.
3. Homelessness: Merz reiterated his concerns regarding homelessness and Senator Moriwaki responded that she agrees that homelessness is a public safety issue.
4. Tourism: Resident Tokuhara raised concerns for the health and safety of tourism industry staff upon the reopening of travel on Thursday, October 15, 2020. Henski raised concerns regarding tourists having

reduced activities in Waikiki due to closures and restrictions. Resident Rafid raised concerns regarding local businesses being given less emphasis than reopening the state to tourism.

5. School: Filek inquired regarding the State of Hawaii's plan to reopen schools and Senator Moriwaki responded that each school will need to factor in needs in order to reopen, especially in regards to special education programs.

Representative Tom Brower: There was no representative present. No report was given.

Federal Representative Ed Case: A representative was not present. No report was given.

At 7:00 p.m. WebEx connection was established. Erteschik and Wiencek were present. There were 12 Board members present.

A representative for Councilmember Tommy Waters was present at this time. Hearing no objection, Chair Finley had them give their report.

Councilmember Tommy Waters: Davin Aoyagi of Councilmember Waters' office reported the following.

- Bill 47: Relating to sidewalks, the purpose of this ordinance is to establish requirements concerning the City Administration's provision or offer to provide a presentation to the affected neighborhood board prior to the removal or relocation of an established, marked crosswalk. Councilmember Waters encouraged residents to write in testimony for the Bill.
- Centennial Park: City Council approved Resolution 19-69, accepting a gift of design and construction of a park, valued at 1,532,000 dollars, from the Rotary Club of Honolulu to the City to develop a park.
- Charter Amendments: Resolution 19-238 and Resolution 19-331 are Charter Amendments regarding the development of Youth Commission and self-directed Honolulu Ethics Commission budgetary process, respectively.

Questions, comments and concerns followed.

1. Complete Streets: Merz praised the Complete Streets improvements but raised that more State of Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu laws toward safety should be added.
2. 1615 Ala Wai Boulevard: Smith inquired about the status of the abandoned property at 1615 Ala Wai Boulevard and Ayagi responded that Councilmember Waters will be meeting with Land Management to discuss the upcoming procedures.
3. Homelessness: Merz and Bautista reiterated their concerns regarding homelessness.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, August 11, 2020: Chair Finley inquired if the Board had any amendments to the Regular Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

The Board ADOPTED the Minutes by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 12-0-0 (Aye: Bautista, Boyack, Cabanero, Carroll, Erteschik, Finley, Henski, Merz, Nigro, Smith, Wiencek, Brown and Filek; Nay: None; Abstain: None).

NEW BOARD BUSINESS

Temporary Quarantine and Isolation Facility in Waikiki: Representatives of the Behavioral Health and Homelessness Statewide Unified Response Group (BHHSURG). On Monday, August 10, 2020 BHHSURG increased units for isolation in the City and County of Honolulu. Between Saturday, August 15, 2020 and Tuesday, October 6, 2020 there was an increase from 80 total rooms to 404 total rooms. BHHSURG has a property in Waikiki that will house individuals who are unable to quarantine and isolate at home. Masks and social distancing will be prioritized.

Questions, comments and concerns followed.

1. Opposition: Henski raised concerns regarding the proximity of the facility to residential buildings and the risks of drug use. Merz reiterated concerns regarding health and safety.
2. Support: Erteschik raised support for the project due to the need for at-risk housing and isolation needed during the pandemic.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: The remaining budget for the Waikiki Neighborhood Board was \$368.44.

Sub District 1 Report: No report was given.

Sub District 2 Report: No report was given.

Sub District 3 Report: No report was given.

Chair Report: Chair Finley reported that due to miscommunications with the USACE a presentation had to be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Waikiki Neighborhood Board No. 9 meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. View this meeting on Olelo Channel 49 at 9:00 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday each month, and at 6:00 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. View online at: http://olelo.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=30

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m. due to facility closure.

Submitted by: Casey Ishitani, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Naomi Hanohano, Neighborhood Assistant
Final Review: Chair Robert Finley