

'Aiea Community Association

May 20, 2024

[www.aieacommunity.org](http://www.aieacommunity.org)

1. This meeting was virtually conducted via Go To Meeting 7 pm, 'Aiea, O'ahu

I. In Attendance: Rep. Micah Aiu, Sherry Cassetta, Charessa, Loren & Laurie Chang, Ati Fabro, Ronald Fitch, Chris Gaydosh, Kellee H, Jordon Higa, Karen Higa, Joanne Iritani, Andy Kaufman, Questor Lau, Reesha Layaoen, Liz Lee, Dean Matsumura, Bettina Mehnert, Kimberly Mills, Kim Moa, Susan Morishige, Jeff Ramsey, Lydia Robertson, Dinna (CM Cordero), Tina Somaru, Cathi Schar, Katie Stephens., Samantha Spain, Meredith Speicher (NPS), Jane Sugimura, Wayne Suzuki, Claire Tamamoto, Wayne Takara, Kris Tanahara, Breanne Turping, Caroline Whitesel, Desiree Woodman, DAGS and OCCC Project members.

II. Secretary Minutes/ Treasurer's Report: No reports.

III. Neighborhood Watch: Wayne Suzuki reported, there is a neighborhood watch meeting tomorrow at Alvah Scott Elementary at 6:30pm. HIEMA, Pearl City Police, government representatives will be in attendance.

V. Halewiliko Senior Housing: Questor Lau reported that the building will be spray painted. Feral chickens should not be fed. People in the neighborhood are driving up and feeding the chickens. Go to [EAHHousing.org/aiea-for-interest-list-sign-up](http://EAHHousing.org/aiea-for-interest-list-sign-up). The list does not establish priority. Leasing will be done later; there is potential there may be a lottery process. Landscaping plan presented. More landscaping was requested along the property line. Areca palm and red ginger added along with additional trees: Pac Lan, dwarf hau and shell ginger added. WKM is the landscape architecture. Root barrier may not be good for trees. Palms may not be allowed in landscaping in the future due to the Rhino beetle. Monkey pod trees removed. Plumeria, puakenikeneni proposed. Good job in attempting to address community requests.

There has been impacts to the neighbors regarding noise, dirt and dust is there anyway that it could be mitigated like having someone clean windows or offering support for those impacted? Unfortunately, there is no mitigation funds. The community can contact the contractor on site to take immediate action. The contractor has been very responsive. Funding is limited and uses low-income housing tax credits.

VI. Aloha Stadium: Samantha reported that the Mahjah Rajah events on May 10/11 went well, no incidents. The 50<sup>th</sup> State Fair is running from May 24-July 7 with the Fair opening at 6pm on Fridays, 4pm on Saturdays and 12pm on Sundays. 50thStatefair.com has more information or go to alohastadium.com. Upcoming concerts include KCCN Birthday Bash on July 12 and T-Pain on July 13, tickets on sale now. Monitor of the sound volume does take place during concerts. The Mega-Bon is on September 7 from 4pm-9pm. Additional vendors and reorganization of the event along with RAIL coordination will be done.

NASED: Jeff shared that on May 6, a community engagement conference at the Stadium to hear the needs and wants of the community took place. Karen, Kim Moa, and Aaron Johanson represented the community. Noted as a productive and positive experience. Here's the link to the NASED Community Engagement Conference <https://nased.hawaii.gov/meetings-events/>. Will do this again.

The procurement process is on track for completion by Fall 2028. July 31, proposals due, preferred offer by September, then due diligence phase with community engagement with contract by June 30, 2025, with work to begin soon after.

Legislation 2024 Session was 'neutral' for the project. Check out the newsletter for the latest info, next one is May 27 and may be found on the website at [nased.hawaii.gov](http://nased.hawaii.gov).

VII. OCCC/UH Design Center: Bettina introduced John Schell, the OCCC Warden who has 21 years in corrections. He would like to go from a punitive system to a

corrective system. Powerpoint "Future of the Oahu Community Correctional Center Status Update, May 2024 presented. Accomplishments/ Phase 1-Planning (2016-2020) \$5.3

million, site chosen, environmental studies done, Master planning initiated; Phase 2- Planning (2020-present) \$4.5 million, land entitlements, site engineering; Phase 3-Design (ongoing), still in the process of assembling the team. During Phase 3, the project proponents will continue community outreach and getting feedback. Timeline shared; construction completion expected in 2031. John Schell introduced Cathi Schar from the UH Design Center that is gathering data to understand the needs of corrections and communities. Powerpoint of the UH Design Center's May Update presented. Also known as "Cathi's Report."

Prevention: Proactive methods and strategies to reduce crime such as Family and Youth Services, Community Health Care, Youth Mental Health, Navigation Services, Long Term Housing Solutions, and Mental Health Stabilization Center.

Diversion: Steering individuals away from the criminal justice system by offering various programs and support services aimed at addressing underlying causes of criminal behavior, as an alternative to imprisonment. Usually, court ordered and an alternative to the justice system. Participants are usually nonviolent teens, women, veterans, and substance abuse individuals. Programs would include Addiction Treatment Centers, Diversion Center, Short-term Crisis Services, Specialty Courts, Crisis Intervention Training and Programs.

Jail: Or corrections refer to the supervision and rehabilitation of individuals who have been arrested, convicted, or sentenced for criminal offenses.

Reentry: The process of individuals returning to the community from prison or jail such as furlough programs and transitional housing. Vocational, culture and 'aina-based programs and a restorative care village are other supports for re-entry.

These options are being examined along with "a pathway toward a community-based continuum of care." Jails vs. Prison was discussed. Jails have not had the same programming as prisons leading to re-offenses.

A zoom meeting at [breakingcycllessymposium.com](http://breakingcycllessymposium.com) is a roundtable discussion to replace OCCC while looking at other states for options such as a secured behavioral care center where mental health needs could be met or a reentry facility where privileges may be earned.

Comments in chat: Research shows that diversion programs and reentry services are more successful than incarceration.

<https://www.htinstitute.org/blog/horticultural-therapy-as-rehabilitative-reform-in-the-american-prison-system/>

With more programs available, it is more likely that individuals will not reoffend.

Horticulture or landscaping program potential in the prison to provide skills was suggested.

Call Warden at (808) 832-1472. 'Aina based programs in design of the facility suggested due to high number of native Hawaiians. Requested place to plant Makahiki plants. Would like to rejuvenate Makahiki services in prisons. Suggest leadership training/support for the work force for implementation. Have to believe CAN make a change. Will OCCC last until 2031?

Warden would like to do work crews.

VIII. Loko I'a Pa'aiau: Kim reported that Kehau is in Alaska to engage with Alaskan tribes. Travel to Maui next month for the Fishpond Hui meeting. College students from the continent visiting. Mitigation with the Navy will begin for

dredging of the pond, restoration of the fishpond wall, cleaning of the debris field at Kalauao stream mouth, the creation of educational materials and interpretive signs and the building of a wetland. Next workday on July 6. Waiver is on the website: [paaiau.org](http://paaiau.org)

Mahalo to all that have supported the restoration of Pa'aiau!

IX. Makalapa Park Project: Ati Jeffers-Fabro reported there has been two meetings, looking for volunteers. PACT volunteers have been helping with coordination and volunteers. Ka Hui o ka Paka Makalapa or Friends of Makalapa Park is the name of the volunteer group.

Volunteers watering the trees, three times a week: 1 Monkey pod and 4 Milo trees.

2024 Cool Down Fest at Makalapa Neighborhood Park on June 28, 2024, 10-1pm.

X. Navy Matters: Lydia Robertson reported that the Navy and Hawaiian Telcom have partnered with new fiber optic connection. Hiring fair for Navy region coming up. Working with the State on invasive species at Pearl Harbor.

RIMPAC at end of June, beginning of July, may be looking for volunteer events. Open House for the Oahu Veteran's Center occurred. The NCTF reported 32 drums of AFFF chemicals removed. Weekly highlights from across Navy region Hawaii can be found at:

<https://cnrh.cnmc.navy.mil/News/The-Weekly-Moolelo-News-from-around-the-Region>

XI. 2024 Christmas Parade: Karen Higa shared forms for the parade should be ready by next month. Would like to do the Fun Fair. Suggestions, ideas, volunteers can be emailed to Karen at [aieaparade@yahoo.com](mailto:aieaparade@yahoo.com). Blood drive will be done again.

XII. 'Aiea Library Book Sale: Probably in August. Comic Con in July, need volunteer cashier. Fools have been chipping away at our World War II rock fronting the Library. Senator Elefante looking into this.

XIII. By-law Amendments: Need to insert a sentence in the by-laws regarding lifetime membership. Meeting on Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom. Acknowledging

that lifetime membership is an option. Posted on the website. Dues are posted on the website. Proviso that those that paid for lifetime membership don't have to pay again.

XIV. Representative Reports: Councilperson Cordero's newsletter sent for this month. Community concerns request for traffic calming and speeding complaints. DTS investigated areas and requested the HPD monitor for speeding and check for the need to replace signs.

Radiant has been active in the community with painting out, tree planting, clean ups and reminds all to get REAL IDs for travel and to enter federal facilities. \$200,000 proposed for improvements to Makalapa Park.

Rep Aiu reported that his newsletter is online. Tax cuts and the doubling of standard deductions reported. \$2.2 million for a new office and health room for Alvah Scott Elementary. \$500,000 for outside gathering area for 'Aiea

Intermediate School.

XV. Misc: Loud graduation party took place at the Library, police called noting really done lasted 11am-930pm. Would like more info on the State project in the City Blaisdell Park for homeless, the Honu Center stays in the community for 90-120 days.

XVI. Announcements: 'Aiea High School graduation on May 30 at 6 pm at the Hawai'i Convention Center; 'Aiea Neighborhood Board meeting on recess next