

‘Aiea Community Association

May 17, 2025

www.aieacommunity.org

This meeting was also virtually conducted via Go To Meetings at the ‘Aiea Library, ‘Ewa, O‘ahu 7:00 pm

- I. **In Attendance:** Piia Aarma, Carole for Rep Shimizu, Sherry Cassetta, Laurie/Loren Chang, Ken Chong, Raquel Cloma-Navy Region Hawai‘i, T. Fernandez-DCR, Ron Fitch, Chris Gaydosh-AHL/OCCC, David Harris, Jordon Higa, Karen Higa, Joanne Iritani, Ati Jeffers-Fabro, Aaron Johanson, Andy Kaufman, Chris Kinimaka, Alvin Lacar, Kehaulani Lum, Melanie Martin-DCR, Kimberly Mills, Susan Morishige, Mavis Niino, Jeff Ramsey, Mark Serrao, Samantha Spain, Claire Tamamoto, Sally Tamai-DAGS/OCCC, Tina Tamaru
- II. **Secretary Minutes:** Are posted on our website. Any amendments, send us a text or e-mail.
- III. **Treasurer’s Report:** We sold 4 books for \$100; Received a donation from Katherine Pang for \$210.00. Librarian Tina Takamoto reimbursed \$398.76 for a summer reading program. We are looking for a Treasurer as Reid is moving to the mainland.
- IV. **Neighborhood Watch:** Wayne Suzuki not present, no report given.
- V. **Aloha ia Halewaliko:** Claire reported that she had spoken to Questor via phone as there was a complaint regarding signage lighting. Photos were taken from ground level and the road above the site. Glare from streetlights and motion detection lighting on the street were noted. Two flood lights that light up the sign need to be adjusted as it appears to beam into a residence.

The application deadline has passed and there were 260 applicants via the lottery system that was completed on May 9th. Applications being reviewed and applicants are currently being aided to complete qualifications. Still proposed to open on August 1. Interior work continues. There are 139 units available for occupancy. Interviews were held at Aiea Hongwanji to help individuals to complete applications.

- V. **Aloha Stadium:** Chris reported work to relocate the Swap Meet continues on the Upper Halawa lot. Underground utility work continues, along with seal coating and surface work for new stalls and pedestrian areas. New Swap Meet tab on alohastadium@hawaii.gov added.
New contest seeking local artist for the “walls of legacy,” a sculpture challenge to transform corrugated metal walls into artwork to be installed as a nostalgic landmark commemorating the former stadium. Visit the website for more information and to register. Applications will be accepted for Phase 1 until June 6; and under Phase 2, an individual or group will receive the salvaged metal and a stipend to create an art piece this Fall.

'Aiea Community Association

May 17, 2025

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- VII NASED:** Chris shared the Legislative Session has been completed. 3 bills await the Governor's signature: HB 300 State Budget Bill- Stadium Authority increase in ceiling and appropriations; HB 1007 HI Community Development Authority- infrastructure funding and funding mechanism; SB583 Naming Rights Lease. The Stadium Authority can receive donations. Regarding the Tourism and Gaming Working Group, a community representative could be chosen via a co-chair via SCR121. Claire encourages everyone to discuss matters with her regarding Stadium matters.
- Due diligence continues on site by Aloha Halawa Partners. Looking forward to signing the contract by June 30, 2025.
- Football season 2028 is just around the corner. Hurry up. Will UH's membership with sports affiliation be affected? It does not appear the status will be affected at this time.
- Regarding the gaming working group, a community member was hurt that the community wasn't notified about the gaming proposal. Testimony submitted supporting a community member on the working group. Asked that Aiea be included, but we were not. The community was never mentioned; however, the original bill did include the community.
- DAGS was just as surprised with the bill also. Spoke with Legislative reps that the community voice needs to be heard. Will continue to encourage community participation. Language taken out as there would be a challenge as to what community would participate. Further Chris noted none of the Stadium modeling proposals included gaming.
- Funds that were not released is affecting the scheduling for the Stadium as funds was to be use for demolition, infrastructure and to enter into contract. Need more funds upfront and the funds are just sitting there. The Senate was willing to release funds, but the House was not as the House needed to see more progress. A Special Session may change the language. With the change in the House finance committee, this may change.
- 'Aiea Intermediate School will be recipients of Monkey Pod trees from the Stadium. AIS would like to know of the plans to receive the trees. Removal of the trees are not slated until August as part of the demolition work. Will get back to Sherry. There are 400 trees to share from the Stadium.
- VIII. OCCC:** Chris Gaydosh of AHL gave us a legislative update on the bills pertaining to OCCC. HB 132 Drug possession expungement; HB 1002 Oversight Commission; SB104 Restrictive housing; HB677 Inmate identification assistance; SB694 Detention of minors separate from adults; and 2 resolutions regarding reducing out of State incarceration and visitations.
- New FAQ section and timeline on the website. See Newoahujail@hawaii.gov. Newsletter and concept drawings also on site. Fill out information to get the newsletter sent to you via email.
- IX 'Aiea Intermediate SPROUTS Project:** Sherry shared that they are looking forward to the trees from the Stadium proposed to be planted at AIS.

‘Aiea Community Association

May 17, 2025

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She also shared students are going to Kapiolani Farmers Market to sell their murunga pasta and tea. Sold out completely. Looking forward to doing this next year and coming up with new products to sell. Looking forward to community building to expand the gardens and hydroponics. AIS will continue the agriculture technology program with Kennard and Alvin Lacar.

XI. Environmental Community Concerns:

- a. Loko Pa‘aiau: Kehau shared workdays continue Fridays. Visitors continue to come, University of Boston visited. Walk thru today with the contractors that will help to restore the fishpond. Kamehameha Schools will initiate a program for students to work closer with the aina. Pa‘aiau will serve as one of those sites on O‘ahu. Also hope to open up the shoreline and work with other nearby fishponds.
- b. Kehau’s daughter recently got her Master’s and would like to work on restoration of the ahupua‘a of ‘Aiea and Kalauao and uplift those remaining cultural spaces. Also working on the bio cultural space of ‘Aiea for lo‘i kalo, loko ‘ia and mala. Hope to acquire a space to do this.
- c. Malama Pa‘akea O Waimalu: Jordon is collecting stories or activities that happened in or around the fishponds of Pearl Harbor. Jordon is currently gathering documents and looking for individuals that may be willing to share oral history. Desk and computer space available at the ‘Aiea Hongwanji.
- d. Regarding Hale O Lipoa testimony, another community individual suggested that we attend the meeting of HHFDC for the funding of the proposal. Public testimony is welcome at these once-a-month meetings.
- e. Regarding the ‘Aiea stream area, where the homeless congregate, the sign to discourage trespassing is too small, recommending that dust screens not be put up as it helps to hide homeless. A much simpler larger sign stating “No Trespassing” should be put up. The Lions Club cleared the stream once along with the Church. The trees need to be trimmed back too. The Korean Church or Alexander and Baldwin may be responsible for the trees.

XII. Navy Matters: Raquel shared the weekly Mo‘olelo Newsletter that highlighted that the US Arizona preservation work continues, with two mooring platform to be removed in September. The crew from the visiting Chilean ship Esmeralda went out to the community and experience Hawai‘i. Kapolei High School recently completed a tour of the shipyard. Let Raquel know if any other school groups are interested in tours. Community White Boat tour, next one is July 25.

Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill recently had an Open House on May 21; next one is in August. Pipeline removal will be discussed.

XIV. Membership: Joanne encouraged people to send in your membership and dues. Dues are \$20/year or \$200 lifetime.

XV. Scholarship Committee: Regarding the ACA scholarship, we want to relate it to community service. We would like to get a small group together mid-June to

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May 17, 2025

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develop. An application was put together by Kelly, JoAnn and Kehau working on it.

XVI. Representative Reports: Carole shared that Rep Shimizu encourages everyone to keep in touch with him throughout the year with feedback and ideas for bills for next year. End of session mailers will highlight the results of a survey. His newsletter is on the ACA website.

XVII. MISC.:

- Building next to the 'Aiea Shopping Center: The sidewalk is still partially obstructed. There does not appear to be any building violation, however the report was done via the phone.
- HECO Waiau Power Plant, Over 60-year-old tanks being replaced 20-feet above ground. There is a community benefit with the proposal. Suggested that someone from 'Aiea should be included. If anyone is interested, we should make our voices heard.
- The reach of the sea tide is currently affecting residences and infrastructure along Pearl Harbor shores.
- No one attended the Mayor's Town Meeting. Noise from vehicles, e-bikes was the topic of concern per the news.
- No right turn sign to be placed on Kamehameha Hwy by the Stadium.
- Neighborhood Board election is closed. However there appeared to be an infraction as candidates were supposed to be listed in alphabetical order and formal names were not used. Elections went forward, complaints and grievances can be filed with the Neighborhood Board.
- June 1, the Library is kicking off their summer reading challenge.
- Applications being accepted for the affordable housing unit in Halawa. More info on our website. Neighborhood Board members will be touring it in July.

XVIII. Announcements: See agenda Neighborhood Board is on recess; next Neighborhood Board meeting is July 8.