

‘Aiea Community Association

June 16, 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, Caleb Barney- Rep Shimizu’s Office, Raquel Cloma-Navy Region Hawai‘i, David Harris, Jordon Higa, Joanne Iritani, Ati Jeffers-Fabro, Chris Kinimaka, Kehaulani Lum, Bettina Mehnert, Kimberly Mills, Kim Moa, Jeff Ramsey, Cheryl and John Sakuma, Samantha Spain, Wayne Suzuki, Claire Tamamoto, Sally Tamai-DAGS/OCCC, Tina Tamaru, Michael Townsend

II. **Secretary Minutes:** April and May’s minutes are posted on our website. Any amendments, please send e-mail. For the May minutes under Misc. 5th bullet point that states *No right turn sign to be placed on Kamehameha Hwy by the Stadium*, a sign stating: No right turn onto Kamehameha Hwy from Aloha Stadium exit would be clearer.

III. **Treasurer’s Report:** Deposited \$145.00 from the sale of 4 books (\$100), \$25.00 donation, \$20 for membership fee. For the Friends of Aiea Library, we paid out \$230 for Director’s Insurance. Library currently having a Mele reading program from June 1 to July 31, kids can track their reading online.

Aaron Johansen has volunteered to replace Treasurer Reid Chung, who is moving to the continent. There were no objections to Aaron Johansen to be the Treasurer of the Aiea Community Association.

IV. **Neighborhood Watch:** Wayne Suzuki reported there continues to be networking and sharing of information with the neighbors. There will be a meeting on July 9 at 6:30pm at the Aiea Library. Community policing will be there. Looking for participants and coordinators. More crime appears to be happening in the day. It was shared someone tried to break into someone’s house in a white Mercedes, had mask and gloves, 2 guys and girl, car may be stolen. They disable cameras and get in thru a deadbolt. They are very bold. Neighbors need to look out for each other.

Three trees are proposed to be installed at Aiea Intermediate. There is a lot of dragon fruit and hau bushes to clear. Need heavy equipment to remove. Trees proposed to be installed in late August. Clean up this Saturday starting about 7am on June 21 at ‘Aiea Intermediate.

Ati shared that with the demolition of the Stadium, Monkey Pod trees will be given to Aiea Intermediate and Makalapa Park probably in about a year. ACA will request if trees can be relocated to the park across the library.

V. **Aloha ia Halewaliko:** Claire reported that Questor and his team were not available, Claire did receive an update via phone. As there was a complaint regarding signage lighting, the contractor opted to face the lighting down until the

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sign is placed and vegetative mitigation has grown. Applications still being taken, facility not at capacity yet. Applicants can let ACA know if they did not get a response so that EAH can be contacted. Still scheduled to finish in July for occupancy starting on August 1.

- VI. Aloha Stadium:** Samantha reported work to relocate the Swap Meet continues. August 1, the relocation should be completed to the Upper Halawa parking lot with parking at the lower Halawa lot. Underground utility work continues along with service repairs. The walls of legacy contest- a sculpture challenge to transform corrugated metal walls into artwork to be installed as a nostalgic landmark commemorating the former stadium, had three really good applicants. Looking to document the creation and at late fall, early winter place the artwork. The NASED newsletter coming out at the end of the month would like to highlight our 'Aiea book as part of the summer reading program. For more information regarding the Aloha Stadium see their website at alohastadium@hawaii.gov

Question regarding changes being made for Swap Meet. Entrances and exits will change. Customers may need to walk farther. Able to accommodate all vendors, hope to spread vendors over Saturday and Sunday.

- VII. NASED:** Chris shared environmental investigation and trenching of the site has been done under an archeological monitoring program. Due diligence continues on site by Aloha Halawa Partners. Wrapping up analysis and evaluations. Continue to work with stakeholders. The Stadium will probably have extra Monkey Pod trees, so feel free to put in your request. Discussion of final Legislative bills that may affect the Stadium.

Permits are moving sufficiently for the demolition of the Stadium.

- VIII. OCCC:** Bettina reported that financial scenarios continue to be prepared. A refined site layout is being worked on. On June 4, a small demonstration took place to stop funding the new prison and to focus on other alternatives such as mental health and substance abuse programs. Governor's response was supportive of the new prison: "That's what I'm all about, which is rehabilitating people who are living on the streets, making sure our homeless population that are wrestling with addiction don't get arrested and incarcerated," Green said. He added that a new jail ensures the safety of inmates, guards, and the public. "When somebody commits a terrible act of violence, I'm going to make sure that we honor what the judges decide and juries decide and incarcerate those people because we see people get harmed. There are some people that have to be incarcerated. And there are a lot of people that have to be helped and heal. It's my job to strike that balance and so I will not buckle to pressure when you know when other people's safety is on the line," Green said.

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What percentage of people couldn't make bail? Need to get back to us. What aversion programs are available to decrease the jail population? Unsure as DCR gets involved after someone has been caught. Need some kind of baseline study for prevention. Will try and get DCR to discuss at a future meeting. Website is Newoahujail@hawaii.gov.

- IX. ‘Aiea Intermediate SPROUTS Project:** Sherry not here and Wayne and Ati brought us up to date regarding the Stadium trees for ‘Aiea Intermediate.
- X. Friends of Makalapa Park:** Ati shared the proposal was finalized to the City's Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for \$200,000 allotment to Makalapa Park. Will request Councilperson Cordero to present with the Friends to present it to DPR. Hope to initiate the path to a more pedestrian oriented community and to malama the Park. We welcome anyone to join us, could be a nice space but it needs work. For more info contact Ati. Mahalo nui to Ati for all his hard work.
- XI. Environmental Community Concerns:**
- a. Loko Pa‘aiau: Kehau shared workdays continue on Fridays until no longer able to due to construction. Usually stay until sunset. Visitors continue to come, NOAA would like to start a program, Stanford University to come this summer. Found Jason that is willing to help us restore ‘Aiea's biocultural community space.
- Mahalo to our Stadium friends for monitoring work to protect iwi kupuna, we need to maintain the name of "Aloha Stadium," as the name is priceless. We need to keep our eye on the membership for a gaming /gambling board.
- Thank you all for the testimony on Bill 24 to support how we want our town to grow and for our ‘Aiea biocultural space, lo‘i kalo maona. Hope to bring it before the O‘ahu Historic Preservation Commission for their support. The Commission meets on the last Tuesday of the month, and we hope to get on the agenda.
- In oli and mo‘olelo, ‘Aiea is where you go to eat. Lo‘i lands were from the present Moanalua Road to the shoreline.
- b. Malama Pa‘akea O Waimalu: Jordon is collecting stories or activities that happened in or around the fishponds of Pearl Harbor.
- XII. Navy Matters:** Raquel shared the weekly Mo‘olelo Newsletter. There is a new Commanding Officer at PMRF, Captain Robert Prince. PMRF celebrated world's ocean day. Native plants were given away. Navy can provide volunteers, feel free to contact for volunteers. Recently helped to build a playground.
- Navy Closure Task Force-11th edition of Highlights discussed. A Design Closure Plan was submitted to the EPA and DoH as decommissioning continues. The Navy continues to expand the groundwater monitoring well network. 4th of July fireworks at Hickam. Good view from the NEX parking lot.

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

XV. Scholarship Committee: Have not met yet.

XVI. Representative Reports: Caleb shared that Rep Shimizu is getting back out to the community doing outreach to address community concerns. Roundtable held with the military regarding Tripler traffic, tower placement, and vegetation encroachments. Speed bump placements proposed for areas to mitigate speeding. Recently did an inspection of Red Hill. Rep. Shimizu continues to come in the office daily during the interim and encourages everyone to keep in touch with him throughout the year.

XVII. MISC.:

- Building next to the 'Aiea Shopping Center: The sidewalk is still partially obstructed. Don't see any room for green space on the lot. Suppose to be no taller than 3 stories, maybe a sound recording studio.
- 'Aiea Shopping Center renovations looking good. Installed an elevator.
- We need to move the books, by end of June as Jane is moving.

XVIII. Announcements: See agenda