‘Aiea Community Association
October 19, 2026
www.aieacommunity.org

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

I. **Introductions/Attendance:** Sherry Cassetta, Loren/Laurie Chang, Raquel Cloma, Tessie Fernandez, Jordon Higa, Karen Higa, Peggy Hong, Joanne Iritani, Andy Kaufman, Stan Kimura, Chris Kinimaka, Kehaulani Lum, Melanie Martin, Kimberly Mills, Phil Mok [P3 Mgr. Crawford Arch.] Susan Morishige, Kaloa Robinson, Lynn Ruth, Brittany S., John and Sheryl Sakuma, Nancy Siu [crafter promoter], Samantha Spain, Wayne Suzuki, Claire Tamamoto, Eldon Wier, Jennifer Wier

II. **Secretary Minutes:** Minutes can be reviewed online. If there are any corrections, please let us know.

III. **Treasurer's Report:** No updates from the last report. A person that read about the recent tree plantings wants to make a donation.

IV. **Friends of Makalapa Park:** Ati Jeffers Fabro not in attendance. Last meeting got cancelled.

V. **‘Aiea Gateway Sign:** Wayne shared that the 20-year planning of the gateway sign hopefully will be concluded. The Kimura family has graciously consulted with ACA and has proposed a design for the ‘Īpuka Pā Gateway to ‘Aiea and has volunteered to create the gateway sign. Already got the DOT approval to do the work. Request to have the sunset in the background. Andy volunteered to help with plantings. Could fill in between pyramids to help control weeds. ACA is willing to contribute funds or labor to the project.

VI. **‘Aiea Intermediate School:** Sherry shared on October 10; there was a lot of people that showed up to plant trees in addition to two students. Uncle Forest has been working with students on campus and has been helping to water the trees. He lives at Halewiliko Senior Housing. Great turn out. After zesty conversations, the plan was decided where to plant trees. Another bunch of trees are proposed to be planted in November.

Students will be presenting on behalf of Makalapa Park, the Little Park that Could on October 22 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Kehau stated that the Park could be a model for others. Attendees will plant and take home saplings. Good opportunity for students to share the stage with teachers. 2nd year in a row ‘Aiea Intermediate School is recognized nationally as a K-12 tree campus by the Arbor Day Foundation. 10 teachers are going to Tennessee recognizing AIS as a School of Distinction.

Sherry also shared the unfortunate news that someone(s) broke into her agriculture class during Fall break. Power tools were taken along with other items.

Trees of Honolulu set up a GoFund Me Account. ACA could collect donations for the Intermediate agricultural class as projects continue such as an entry way to upper campus, Sherry is currently taking a wildfire class to bring wildfire education to the children, do raised bed gardening with Kupuna, and create agroforestry plots with additional students to clear land with Dr. Kaufman (Andy).

VII. Aloha lā Halewilikō: Peggy shared that there is a new Office Assistant Genoa, and Resident Coordinator Joslyn. More activities are going on; there are now events twice a week and improvement in engaging residents. Recently there was a memorial breakfast for residents that passed. Park looks great and glad that Forest can help. There are a few vacancies in the facility. The community garden space that was assigned by lottery, very little has been done.

More information/communication on what it going on would be appreciated so that the senior residents can be engaged and see the bigger picture. Conviviality.

VIII. Aloha Stadium: Sam shared what is coming up in October such as the second annual Skyline Halloween event. There will be 5 stations that you can travel to for Trick or Treating. There also will be a costume contest. Go to the City DTS site for info. At Halawa station, candy will be passed out, there is free admission this weekend to Swap Meet; squishes will be given out and there will be a Kendama prize package. There may or may not be a Halloween Holo card given out.

Mahalo to the community for coming out for community art day to make leis on the construction walls; over 200 people came out even tho it was a tropical storm day.

Coming up, there are 2 days in which 800-900 students signed up for career interest in the construction industry from middle school and high school.

NASED: Kaloa shared the demolition is almost done. There was a noise incident, regarding the elevator shaft in which they had to work through the night. A 3rd crane is on site, should complete demo by mid-November. Soil saturation held up some work during the rain. Design continues to be refined, hope to complete design mid next year.

Question #2 is important on the ballot for RISE bonds. A blank vote is a no vote. For more information, please see https://hipa.org/hipa-infrastructure-series/ https://risetogetherhawaii.org/. Some concerns regarding potential risks with RISE bonds. More public education should have been conducted for the voters as outcome is dependent on the success of the project.
Could this work in Hawai‘i? Some doubts given the Stadium, we still had an outstanding balance, the RAIL demonstrates that we don’t stay in budget, so even though it is stated taxes will not be raised, who will pay for it in the end? The taxpayers.

What is the vision for the Stadium to use this mechanism? Use would be infrastructure for vertical development, housing, ground floor retail, office space, hotel.

Bond dependent on future revenues, in Hawai‘i, someone will have to take the risk to build the vertical development and the infrastructure, let cash flow materialize to level to exceed debt service by 50%; 1.5 debt service coverage ratio, hopefully lower; 50% revenue to cover debt service. We have no track record as Hawai‘i has never done this before.

If there is not adequate cash flow, the bond holders will just have to wait. There is no recourse, can’t foreclose, can’t take action against the City or State, taxpayers outside of the district do not contribute to the bonds. The risk to taxpayers is to remain at status quo, examples given is our electrical grid and our sewage system.

Regarding Constitutional amendment #2 what does “provided by law” mean and why are RISE bonds excluded from County debt limit? Re: provided by law, each municipality needs to pass enabling legislation; and excluded from the County debt limit, whole point of the constitutional amendment, revenue bond backed by “pledged” revenue not by general obligation bond.

IX. **OCCC:** Continuing with work. Tessie stated that the planning and designing efforts are still going on. OCCC has signed up for the Parade and Fun Fair. The color guard participated last year.

X. Friends of ‘Aiea Public Library – No updates at this time.

XI. **Ma’ona Project:** (biocultural space in ‘Aiea) – Trust for Public Lands has been rescheduled to November. TPL has met with the landowner, hope to hear back in January. Landowner appears to be willing to negotiate. TPL can only pay the appraised value. Potential to offer stewardship of the land.

Loko Pa‘aiau: Dredging at the 12th month. Another month or so for the fishpond to be dredged 4-5 feet deep. Fish have been coming around but avoiding work area. Next phase is to do a native wetland with natives and canoe crops. Design of wall coming up. Kehau is interested in doing a cost/benefit analysis of community work. It is believed that community effort is about $500,000/year.
Many volunteers are still requesting to visit the pond. Access for malama ‘aina, usually on Fridays and other days. Email: ealapaaiau@gmail.com; for more info on the fishpond: paaiau.org. Be amazed at what we can all do together!

XII. **Navy Matters/Concerns:** Raquel shared the community White Boat Tour after hours is on October 30. Let Claire know if interested, meet at 3:30pm, and get back by 5:30pm. Private tours are every other month. Navy weekly moolelo is out along with the Red Hill highlights, both are on the website. The Navy Ball

celebrating 250 years was this past weekend. 20 volunteers helped clean the PHHT. The Red Hill Closure Task Force site is navyclosuretaskforce.navy.mil.

XIII. Christmas Parade: ‘Aiea’s 20th Christmas Parade is set for December 12 at 9am to 10:45am. Santa is coming, Marine Corp is coming, can email Karen at aieaparade@yahoo.com. Still must work on the logistics of ending the parade as there are parked cars, and the area is crowded. Will be sending out flyers for sponsorship.

XIV. Fun Fair: There will be two meetings in November. There may be 4 food trucks, 25 crafters and informational tents. Logistics for space and signs still need to be worked out. Spigots have been marked on the ground, please be aware and avoid them. Parking hopefully will be available at ‘Aiea Intermediate and the Church. Football practice has not taken place since the plantings on the field. Loading and unloading for the Fun Fair still needs to be worked out. Royal Hawaiian Band needs to be near the site due to handicap members, need to ask if can park at Library. Crafters need to unload too and need to have access to the restroom. Could ask to reserve Program Room at Library.

XV. Representative Report: Brittany from Representative Shimizu’s Office reported that there were complaint on speeding on Moanalua Road by Alvah Scott, improvements have been delayed; there is overgrown vegetation in the drainage area near Peal Kai [PHHT near ‘Aiea Kai subdivision], the City has an easement to maintain the area; and overgrown vegetation within the highways right of way. People can call DOT at (808) 831-6700, EXT 113, for overgrown vegetation.
Don’t forget to vote!

XVI. Announcements: See agenda