

Enchanted Lake Residents Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 13 Aug 2024

PRESENT: Greg Colbert (remote), Mike Compton (remote), Linda Jenks, Connie Jewell, Todd Jewell, Margaret Novack, Alan Richardson, Fran Tannen, and Melody Spencer, Admin Assistant.

GUEST: Bob Bourke

ABSENT: Gus Gustavson and Cindy Turner

CALL TO ORDER – Margaret Novack: The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm. A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF THE JUL MINUTES – M. Novack had emailed draft minutes to the board prior to the meeting. L. Jenks moved to approve the July minutes and C. Jewell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Gus Gustavson had emailed the Monthly Financial Report for the month ending July 2024 to the Board along with the following summary prior to the meeting:

This is the first Monthly Financial Report for the FY2024-2025. There is not an approved budget yet for this FY so there is not an expense versus budget report.

A significant expense for July 2024 is the renewal of the boat insurance for the Eco-Harvester and the security boat. The total renewal premium was \$5380, of which \$3989 was for the Eco-Harvester and \$1391 for the security boat.

Additionally, the July report reflects a portion of the cost of the major cleanup in Kimo's Cove. Some additional labor costs for that cleanup will be in next month's report.

The American Savings Bank July end of month balance is \$2,252 in Savings and \$40,042 in checking.

At the end of July, there has been \$18,003 in assessment receipts for the FY 2024-2025. This is a little lower than last year, but it is mainly due to my travel and our bookkeeper's travel in July. Therefore, many of the assessment receipts began processing at the end of July and will be reflected in the August report.

We have a \$260,000 Treasury Note maturing in August. Based on the continuing discussions on location of the dredge material, the intention is to reinvest those funds in a one-year Treasury Note. Thanks again to Alan Richardson who has continued to identify the best investment vehicles for our cash.

Alan Richardson provided a preview of the draft FY2024-2025 Budget. The Budget will be voted on by the board in the Sep Meeting.

ADMINISTRATION:

Communications Log: provided by email.

Kailua Neighborhood Board Meeting Report

11 July Meeting summary was provided by email.

1 Aug Meeting summary will be provided in the future.

ELRA Website Working Group Update - M. Novack reported that the group met virtually and has agreed to reduce the Webmaster's workload by transferring four tasks to the Administrative Assistant. Training will be provided so that the ELRA Minutes can be uploaded onto the ELRA Website by the Admin Assistant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit Committee - Todd Jewell reported that additional members need to be appointed to the committee due to the departure from the board of two directors. It was agreed that after the November election of board officers, committee membership should be confirmed and that would be an ideal time to name the two new members for Audit.

Jewell also reported that he received no changes or updates to the Goals and Objectives. Perhaps we should consider storing this document in an accessible location, e.g., Dropbox, so committee chairs can update/modify goals at their convenience. The Goals and Objectives were intended to be a "living" document, and as such, can also assist with a possible framework for reporting progress to the Board and/or membership.

Community Relations Committee, Annual Meeting Planning Status – Connie Jewell reported that she is on-schedule with the various steps needed to produce the Annual Meeting.

Written Invitations to ELRA members and local government officials have been issued.

Jewell had emailed the board a proposed timeline (as of 9 Aug 24), in calendar form, showing the remaining steps needed for the Annual Meeting and the Annual Report. The board agreed that these were appropriate.

Some discussion was devoted to the Annual Report. It was agreed that the format used in the 2023 Report was ideal. Committee Chairs are responsible for the text and should recommend photos that illustrate their text. The focus should be on the "action" goals that enhance the environment, not on internal association goals. It was also agreed to print only enough reports to have them available for the luncheon and to be mailed to local officials who did not attend. A PDF of the report will be made available on the ELRA Website.

The power-point slides for the Luncheon presentation were also discussed. Ideally the slides will replicate the basics of the Annual Report. The timelines for their production are shown in the Jewell-Timeline.

L. Jenks reported that she had contacted the potential guest speaker, Herb Lee Jr., Pacific American Foundation, but he is not available. In discussion it was agreed that maybe one or more of the local officials might want to speak.

It was also agreed that special recognition for D. Young, outgoing President, was appropriate. Jewell had previously emailed a proposed item, and the board approved of the selection.

MOTION: L. Jenks made a motion and F. Tannen seconded the suggestion that the Board approve the expenditure of about \$160.00 to purchase the gift. The Board unanimously approved the expenditure. As before, other departing board members would be recognized with a lei.

It was agreed to conduct the September Board Meeting in person to be certain that all aspects of the Meeting are ready.

Elections Committee – Margaret Novack reported that based on the board's recommendations, three individuals mentioned at the June meeting had been contacted by email to determine their interest in running. Only one has replied and he now hopes to join the board in the following year.

Therefore, there will be only three candidates standing for the election: Greg Colbert, Fran Tannen, and Cindy Turner. Novack requested she be emailed short biographies for everyone.

Dredging Committee – Greg Colbert reported that representatives of a private property owner are still considering our request to place dredge materials on their property.

Environmental Committee – Linda Jenks & Cindy Turner reported that after 12 days of moving sand around using three pieces of large machinery (July 18-30), City & County did a very good opening of the berm beginning on July 30rd, Because of the large quantity of sand removed from the stream between the Lanikai Bridge and the beach, the Kaelepulu Stream and Lake stayed open to tidal flow for 14 days – from July 30 to August 12. The lake level rose and fell with the tides from a low of 1.04 to a high of 2.42 feet. An excellent exchange has taken place, and salinity levels increased from 6ppt to 26ppt fronting Mike Compton's house. The canal closed on August 12 with a final lake height of 1.68 ft.

The DFM crews also removed the three huge ironwood trees that had become partially buried in the stream after a severe storm in January 2022. This goes a long way to improving public safety in the stream area opposite the canoe halau at the beach park.

The multiday tidal exchange recreated the historic conditions that are vital to the improved water quality and ecosystem health of this waterway that runs throughout the entire Kailua community. It has allowed the lake to be more like a true estuary during this exchange with saltwater. Shortly after the opening, Mike Compton reported a salinity reading of 11, two days later August 4, salinity was up to 17.5, August 6 it was 22 and on August 13 it was 26.5. The increase in salinity appears to have driven more catfish into the Kaelepulu wetland where salinity is less. Catfish do not tolerate higher salinity levels.

A thank you letter was sent to City & County DFM Director Gene Albano, with an interesting response, that I forwarded to everyone.

In Albano's response he suggested that ELRA take advantage of certain grants that might be available through the Hawaii Community Foundation "Fresh Water Initiative" to hire earthmover/bulldozer contractor to open the berm. The board unanimously agreed that it should not be ELRA's responsibility to open the berm. It was also agreed that a letter response - written in a

positive voice - should explain why this idea would be problematic considering conditions within the existing USACE permit required for this activity.

Oysters – Saturday August 3, two representatives from the UH Hilo Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center, collected 3 oysters from the lake for the breeding program in Hilo. They had hoped to find more, but three was all they found. They were flown to Hilo where they will breed. An oyster collected from the lake several years ago is still alive and producing spat in Hilo.

Operations Committee – Mike Compton reported that the boat is working well. He thanked M. Spencer for issuing the Boat Sticker Letter and stickers promptly. There have not been any reports of large barracuda being caught. As C. Turner had noted, the salinity in the lake has increased, but Compton had not observed any change in the fish in the pond.

B. Bourke stated that if there is interest in testing for accumulated toxins in apex predator fish, he had found that it can cost about \$1000. Testing fish is, however, not a guarantee that other fish caught are free of toxins.

G. Colbert confirmed that the request from a Wana’ao neighbor of 771 Wana’ao to remove the mangrove in front of 771 will now take place in Sep 2024. Colbert also reinforced that normally the responsibility to remove mangrove and debris from waterfronts falls on the individual home-owners. There are only a few circumstances where ELRA will take responsibility for such removal. The board intends to add the cost for removal of the mangrove to the property owner who is already in arrears for lake maintenance payments.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

AJOURNMENT: M. Novack adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY: Margaret Novack

NEXT MEETING:

- Board of Directors Meeting: 10 Sep 2024 at 7:00 pm – Emmanuel Episcopal Church
- Kailua Neighborhood Board Meeting: 5 Sep 2024 – Cindy Turner

Note: See the *Enchanted Lake Residents Association/Ka’elepulu Pond website’s home page for meeting schedule and link to the approved board meeting minutes (kaelepulupond.org)*