



ĀINA HAINA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

September 2013



PRESIDENT: Wayson Chow • VICE PRESIDENT: Anson Rego • TREASURER: Art Mori • MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Jeanne Ohta • BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE: Devon James, Melia Lane-Kanahele, Gregg Kashiwa, Kathy Takemoto

Please Attend: The Āina Haina Community Association General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Āina Haina Elementary School Cafeteria

On the Agenda

- **Election of Officers and Directors**
Nominees: President-Jeanne Ohta; Vice President-Anson Rego; Membership Secretary-Kathy Takemoto; Treasurer-Art Mori; Directors-At-Large: Wayson Chow, Devon James, Melia Lane-Kanahele, Gregg Kashiwa
- **Proposed Bylaw changes**—See below
- **Update on Upper Hao Street Development**
- **Sale of Āina Haina Park “Remnant”**
- **Wailupe Valley Community Park is New Tsunami Refuge**
- **Update on Wailupe Stream Flood Mitigation Project**

Light Refreshments will be served

Proposed Bylaw Changes

There are three proposed changes to the Bylaws:

1. Eliminate the designations of “Recording” and “Membership” Secretaries and consolidating their duties as “Secretary.”
2. Increasing from two to four the number of Representative At Large Board Members. The Bylaws require that five board members constitute a quorum. There will be a total of eight board members, increasing the board by one member. This increase will make it more likely that a quorum will be present at monthly board meetings.
3. Decreasing the number of **required** general meetings each from four to two for each program year. Although the number of required meetings is reduced, meetings may be called as needed during the program year. For example, general meetings have been called for to inform residents about developments on Hao Street and Kiai Place and for the Wailupe Stream Flood Mitigation Project.

These are the proposed changes—language being deleting is bracketed []; proposed language is underlined:

Article V: Officers, Representatives at Large and Board of Directors

Section 1: The elective officers of the Association shall be President, Vice President, [Recording Secretary, Membership] Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition, there shall be [two] four Representative at Large nominated and elected in the same manner as the officers.

Article VI: Procedures for Elections

Section 3: When there is only one nominee for the office, a motion may be made instructing the [Recording] Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot.

Article VII: Duties of Officers

Section 3: The [Recording] Secretary shall record the minutes of all regular and special meetings including meetings of the Board of Directors and

[Section 4: The Membership Secretary] shall handle all matters pertaining to membership in the Association as directed by the President and the Board of Directors.

Article VIII: Meeting, Quorum, and Program Year

Section 1: There shall be at least [four] two general meetings each program year and such other meetings as may be called by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Why Preserving and Protecting Wailupe Valley is our Top Priority



Face Rock—do you see the face?

Earlier this year, in response to a gated-community being built at the end of Hao Street, ‘Āina Haina residents gathered 1,927 signatures on our petition to oppose the closing of public access to Wailupe Trail and to oppose building homes in a known slide area.

Construction was halted while the developer, Residences at ‘Āina Haina LLC conducted an Archeological Inventory Survey (AIS) required by the State. The petition with all of the signatures was included in the Wailupe Valley Ohana’s (WVO) rebuttal to the AIS submitted on behalf of the developer in June. AHCA and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) also submitted rebuttals.

It is AHCA’s position that the undeveloped portion of Wailupe Valley is a large Native Hawaiian cultural site, with numerous features. We also believe that this cultural site must include the beginning of the trail at the end of Hao Street, which was marked by a stone ahu. This entire site should be preserved, including this entrance.

There are heiau, dry stack stone walls, terraces, floating rock structures, face rocks and la‘āu or plants related to spiritual and ceremonial practices. Longtime residents recall a kanaka maoli who acted as konohiki and whose kuleana was to mālama the Heiau in the valley.

Research by ‘Āina Haina resident Chris Cramer shows that a habitation period dating from 1484 A.D. has been recorded along Wailupe Stream. The stream sites include burials, a ti leaf grove surrounding a stone ahu, and koa forest remnants.

Another resident of the valley is the endangered

Oahu Elepaio. Wailupe Valley is one of only two known habitats for the bird. The bird is on the Federal Endangered Species List.

On July 24, 2013, the Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) asked the developer to submit a revised AIS. The letter requested that comments from AHCA, WOC, and OHA be “examined and addressed.” The letter also detailed other information that should be included as the current report “provides only minimal cultural and historical background, lacking a synthesis of traditional methodology, legends, mo‘olelo, important historical people associated with Wailupe Ahupua‘a, as well as traditional interconnections of Wailupe with adjacent ahupua‘a (HAR §13-276-5(b)(1)). Also absent is a map showing the locations of previous archeological investigations within Wailupe Ahupua‘a.”

AHCA continues to believe that an AIS should have been conducted on the entire 9.75 acre property. Plans, maps, and documents show the property as an undivided parcel; sewer permits issued by the DPP are for eight new single family



Floating Rock

dwellings; and the soils engineering report notes “from the information provided, the project will consist of developing the site for eight single family homes, including a paved private roadway.” This is a 9.75 acre project, not one of merely .4 acres. SHPD required the developer to conduct the AIS for only .4

acres—the property under the two homes currently being built. OHA shares our view. “This type of methodology and project specific site identification was common in the early years of cultural resource management. The identification of isolated sites as discrete entities based on project specific boundaries and overlooking the cultural landscape as whole has proven to be detrimental to cultural and historic preservation efforts.”

The Historic Wailupe Valley Trail

There is abundant significant evidence of the existence of a historic Wailupe trail, “historic” meaning a trail that may or may not predate the Highways Act of 1892 but is nevertheless more than fifty years old. Legend claims that Kamehameha I and his warriors landed in Wailupe and made their way to the Wailupe uplands to rest between battles and before pushing on to Nuuanu (1795). Lineal descendants of families who held kuleana in Wailupe Valley claim the use of the Trail by their ancestors to access the upper valley for resources and cultural/religious expression. Documentary evidence exists that throughout the 1920’s hikers, picnickers, and day-trippers made themselves familiar with the Wailupe Valley Trail. There is further evidence that the Trail was used throughout the 1940’s, 1950’s, and 1960’s. Hikers were encouraged by property



‘Ulu Maika from Wailupe Stream found by AHCA Director Gregg Kashiwa

owner’s Hind-Clark Dairy to stop by for a drink of cold milk.

The developer’s AIS argues that the Trail is not “significant” historic property and “at least not in the immediate vicinity of the current project area, since it apparently was bulldozed at least 20 years ago because today it looks like an off road or a two track

dirt road.” AHCA asserts that the trail meets



Dry Stack Stone Wall

necessary criteria to qualify as a “significant historic property” and a “traditional cultural property.”

Easement 85

Thanks to extensive research by AHCA volunteers, we know much more about Easement 85 which coincides with the trail that is being used today. This easement commences from Hao Street into the upper part of the valley and is needed to provide access to the conservation properties owned by the City and State. Alarming, no public hearings are required for the developer to ask to cancel it. The developer has already expressed his intent to close access over his property. He will undoubtedly ask the City to cancel Easement 85, which merely requires the consent of the benefitted party, in this case, the City. The State is an indirect beneficiary of the Easement. Therefore, we must make it clear to the DPP and Mayor Caldwell that they should not sign-off on plans to cancel this easement. Cancelling Easement 85 would terminate access to the trail. While it is true that there is another chain of easements, 87 and 88, on the eastern side of the valley, they are not historic trails, nor are they well known. It would also be dangerous to cross the stream using this access, creating an unnecessary liability for the City.

Upper Wailupe Valley which consists of approximately 85 acres of City land, “‘Āina Haina Nature Preserve;” and 1,000 acres of State land, part of the “Honolulu Watershed and Forest Reserve” must be protected. Both recreational areas depend upon the trail and easement for access over properties lying between them and Hao Street. Easement 85 is critical to keeping public access to the trail over private property.

For more details about the issues concerning this development, please attend our meeting on September 25, 2013 and go to our website: www.ainahaina.org.



**`Āina Haina Community Association
c/o `Āina Haina Library
5246 Kalanianaʻole Highway
Honolulu, HI 96821**

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See you at our meeting on September 25, 2013

**`ĀINA HAINA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP DUES & ENROLLMENT FORM
(Dues are \$10 per adult—July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014*)**

TYPE OF ENROLLMENT

NEW RENEWAL

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

RESIDENT BUSINESS

Amount Paid:

\$ _____

Name of Business: _____

Name of Member(s): _____

Street Address: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email Address _____ Landline # _____ Cell # _____

ANY SUGGESTIONS? _____

Please send your application with your dues to:
AHCA Membership, c/o `Āina Haina Library, 5246 Kalanianaʻole Highway, Honolulu, HI 96821
OR

Bring your application to the meeting on September 25, 2013

***Due to a long-standing misinterpretation of our bylaws, we've been undercharging. \$10 per adult/year would help to improve communication, cover research expenses and a lot of valuable things. For the price of the membership, you get to vote. If you and your family cannot afford \$10 for each adult in your household, we appreciate any contribution you can make, but please understand that only the registered member will be eligible to vote at AHCA meetings. Mahalo for your understanding.**