



**WRITTEN SUMMARY FOR VIDEO RECORD
THURSDAY 6 JULY 2023**

**PRINCESS RUTH KE'ELIKŌLANI MIDDLE SCHOOL & WebEx
6:00 PM**

The corresponding video record of this meeting may be found on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-U-6yOdcxkc>.

Reports and other meeting materials may be found in the [month-specific](#) folder of the [NB 13 public-facing Google Drive](#) on <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1F4Ddl9R8Er12TNf6Bl-yb4p4EW0-68vu>.

I. CALL TO ORDER [0:00:01]: 6:01 pm

Chair Ernest Carvalho called the Downtown–Chinatown Neighborhood Board № 13 meeting to order at 6:01 pm. **Quorum was established with eight members present**; this nine-member Board requires five members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Members Present: Robert Armstrong, Ernest Carvalho, Sean Fitzsimmons, Ross Isokane, Kevin Lye, Lori McCarney, Kevin McDonald (6:14 pm), Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock, and Travis Thompson.

Members Absent: None.

Guests: Firefighter Jonathan Waltz (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Arnold Sagucio (Honolulu Police Department); Manager and Chief Engineer Ernie Lau, Public Information Officer Kathleen Elliot-Pahinui, Iris Oda (Honolulu Board of Water Supply); Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam; Kai Hamamoto (Senator Karl Rhoads); Greg Payton (Safe Haven); Lee Stack (Chinatown Improvement District); Patrick Watson (Honua Consulting Company); Ann Hansen, Ronald Higa, Daryl Smith, Jason Golden, Willis Moore, Laura Sturges, Jack James, Charles Jonsson (Residents); Executive Secretary Lloyd Yonenaka, Dylan Buck (Neighborhood Commission Office). **Names were not included if not recognized or not legible on the sign-in sheet; there were as many as 42 unique attendees.**

II. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS [0:00:48]

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) [0:00:50]: Firefighter Waltz spoke to a [report](#) and shared the following information:

- June 2023 statistics: 1 structure fire, 1 wildland/brush fire, 3 nuisance fires, 2 cooking fires, 11 activated alarms (no fire), 105 medical emergencies, 4 motor vehicle crashes/collisions, 1 hazardous materials incident.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) [0:03:16]: Lieutenant Sagucio reported the following:

- June 2023 statistics: 3 motor vehicle thefts, 5 burglaries, 35 thefts, 14 unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (UEMV), 16 assaults, 4 drug offenses, 2 robberies, and 2,031 total calls for service.

Questions, comments and concerns followed [0:06:33], addressing follow-up on [River Street fire-hydrant blockades](#), revelations of homeless individuals climbing on the rooftops of properties adjacent to River Street, potential seasonality of crime rates, requests for more foot patrols, and blatant open-air illicit drug use in close proximity to public schools.

McDonald joined the meeting at 6:14 pm; nine members present.

III. INITIAL CONVENING PROCEDURES [0:13:01]

Elections of Officers – Chair [0:13:15]: [0:13:23] – **McCarney nominated Carvalho for Chair.** Hearing no other

nominations, the board conducted a roll call vote. **Carvalho was elected Chair 7–0–2** (Carvalho: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, McCarney, Lye, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; **Nay:** None; **Abstain:** Armstrong, McDonald) [0:13:42].

Elections of Officers – Vice Chair [0:14:23]: [0:14:32] – **Shubert-Kwock nominated Fitzsimmons for Vice Chair.** Hearing no other nominations, the board conducted a roll call vote. **Fitzsimmons was elected Vice Chair 7–1–1** (Fitzsimmons: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, McCarney, Lye, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; **Nay:** Armstrong; **Abstain:** McDonald) [0:14:50].

Elections of Officers – Secretary [0:15:29]: [0:15:43] – **Shubert-Kwock nominated Isokane for Secretary; McCarney nominated Lye.** Hearing no other nominations, the board conducted a roll call vote. **Lye was elected Secretary 5–4** (Lye: Armstrong, Lye, McCarney, McDonald, Thompson; **Isokane:** Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, Shubert-Kwock) [0:16:15].

Elections of Officers – Treasurer [0:17:03]: [0:18:15] – Lye noted the need for improved time maintenance for meetings of NB 13, the lack of requisite treasurial duties, referenced Neighborhood Plan §2-14-120(a), and **MOVED to rename the position to Treasurer & Operations Officer** to identify an officership charged with ensuring adherence to adopted and permitted speaking times; the motion was not seconded. [0:19:56] – **Isokane nominated Shubert-Kwock for Treasurer,** Shubert-Kwock declined. [0:19:59] – **Shubert-Kwock nominated Isokane for Treasurer.** Hearing no other nominations, the board conducted a roll call vote. **Isokane was elected Treasurer 8–0–1** (Isokane: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, Lye, McCarney, McDonald, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; **Nay:** None; **Abstain:** Armstrong) [0:20:18].

IV. NEW BUSINESS / PRESENTATIONS [0:21:25]

Discussion on Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility [0:21:33]: Manager and Chief Engineer Ernie Lau (Honolulu Board of Water Supply) provided a brief history as well as updates of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility leaks into O’ahu’s aquifers, including a recap of activist’s efforts to shut down Red Hill since 2014, and presented an [aerial image](#) of the facility and BWS wells. Lau highlighted the collaborative efforts of the Neighborhood Boards for including these discussions in their monthly meetings as providing traction necessary to protect our water resources with one voice.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed [0:33:48].

V. PUBLIC CONCERNS [0:56:28]

Cathedral of Saint Andrews [0:56:46]: Hansen announced that the Cathedral of Saint Andrews (CSA) wishes to help the homeless in Downtown Honolulu to assure their human dignity, and are particularly concerned about access to bathrooms; CSA would like guidance and partners to assist with finding solutions.

Neighborhood Plan improvement and community meeting announcement – [0:59:17]: Armstrong announced that he is hosting a community meeting on Saturday 19 August 2023 at 1:00 pm at 1152 Smith Street to discuss concerns with the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO), the Neighborhood Commission, and the Neighborhood Plan.

Concerns about salary increases [1:00:46]: James announced that he is heading an organization, Honolulu 7 Recall, and will be working in the Downtown–Chinatown neighborhood to recall seven City Councilmembers for their support of the 64% salary increase.

Various Announcements [1:01:56]: Lye advised of a [resolution recently adopted by Pearl City Neighborhood Board № 21](#) regarding deep concerns about the Neighborhood Plan as well as operations of the Neighborhood Commission and NCO, disclosed per HRS §92-2.5I recent attendance of an informational meeting with multiple

board members on 1 July 2023, advised of items available for review within the NB 13 [public-facing Google Drive](#) for [July 2023](#), including the [Hawaii Triennial](#), and made note of the [\\$15,000,000 fee](#) to be paid to the developer of the Maunakea Tower housing project refurbishment discussed during the May 2023 meeting of NB 13.

Installation Ceremony [1:04:45]: Shubert-Kwock thanked the NCO for organizing the Installation Ceremony at the Filipino Community Center in Waipahu, and for relocating the ceremony to a new location to make it more accessible to the rest of the island's board members.

Additional items and testimony are presented as labeled V. within the NB 13 public-facing [July 2023](#) folder.

VI. BOARD BUSINESS [1:06:05]

Meeting Date, Time, Location, and Format (Virtual Component) [1:06:10]: [1:16:40] – **Armstrong MOVED and Lye SECONDED to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Middle School Cafeteria and virtually via Webex**; discussion followed. **The motion was NOT ADOPTED 3–5–1 (Aye: Armstrong, Lye, McCarney; Nay: Carvalho, Isokane, McDonald, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Abstain: Fitzsimmons) [1:17:28]. [1:18:44] – Isokane MOVED and Shubert-Kwock SECONDED to retain the previous term's meeting date/time/location/format of the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Middle School Cafeteria and virtually via Webex**; discussion followed. **The motion WAS ADOPTED 7–1–1 (Aye: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, Lye, McCarney, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Nay: Armstrong; Abstain: McDonald) [1:19:28].**

Determination of Recess Schedule [1:20:03]: **Lye MOVED and Isokane SECONDED to postpone the scheduling of any recesses at this time**; discussion followed. **The motion WAS ADOPTED 9–0–0 (Aye: Armstrong, Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, Lye, McCarney, McDonald, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Nay: None; Abstain: None) [1:22:39].**

Adoption of Oral Testimony Rules [1:23:08]: [1:24:09] – **Lye MOVED to limit public testimony to two minutes per speaker, including phone-in testimony, and to maintain the board's current rules of speaking of two minutes per speaker per agenda item**; discussion followed. The motion was not seconded. [1:29:53] – **Isokane MOVED and Shubert-Kwock SECONDED to limit board members to one minute per speaker per agenda item, which will be administered by the Chair.** Discussion followed.

[1:32:20] – **McDonald MOVED and Carvalho SECONDED to amend the main motion to require each speaker (board member or public) to be verbally recognized by the Chair, and thank the Chair for being recognized, before proceeding with testimony**; discussion followed. Shubert-Kwock advocated punishment of a board member by the Chair when interrupting another duly recognized member. Lye asked if this amendment could become an omnibus and also incorporate a time-limit for non-board speakers. Hearing no further discussion, the board conducted a roll call vote. **The motion to amend WAS ADOPTED 9–0–0 (Aye: Armstrong, Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, Lye, McCarney, McDonald, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Nay: None; Abstain: None) [1:36:27].**

[1:37:30] – **Lye MOVED and McDonald SECONDED to amend the main motion to allow for two minutes per speaker per agenda item**; discussion followed; the chair attested to omniscience and deferred the need for assistance with time management. The board conducted a roll call vote; **the motion to amend was NOT ADOPTED 4–5–0 (Aye: Armstrong, Lye, McDonald, Thompson; Nay: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, McCarney, Shubert-Kwock; Abstain: None) [1:43:54].**

[1:45:05] – **The main motion to limit board members to one minute per speaker per agenda item WAS ADOPTED 7–2–0 (Aye: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, Lye, McCarney, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Nay: Armstrong, McDonald; Abstain: None).**

Designation of Board Committees and Committee Chairs [1:45:40]: [1:46:02] – **Lye MOVED and McDonald SECONDED to establish a Social Media Committee with the following membership: McCarney, Isokane,**

Armstrong, Carvalho (ex officio member); discussion followed. Lye referenced [guidance from the Neighborhood Commission Office](#) , last [updated 2 May 2023](#), recommending that Neighborhood Boards should “at a Regular meeting...pass a motion for the creation of a committee to develop and manage a Board social media page.” The board conducted a roll call vote; the **motion was NOT ADOPTED 1–7–1 (Aye: Lye; Nay: Armstrong, Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, McCarney, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Abstain: McDonald) [1:53:45]**.

Allocation of \$1000 for Downtown–Chinatown Community Outreach Services [1:54:21]: Several board members provided [testimony](#) and raised questions to Neighborhood Commission Office Executive Secretary Yonenaka. [2:05:27] – **Isokane MOVED and McCarney SECONDED to allocate the \$1,000 Community Outreach funding for the (1) We Pick it Up and (2) We Stand for Walking and Biking Safety** concepts; discussion followed.

[2:07:35] – **Fitzsimmons MOVED and Isokane SECONDED to amend the motion to allocate the \$1,000 Community Outreach funding for the [Shop Local Photo Contest](#) concept**; discussion followed.

[2:11:05] – **Fitzsimmons MOVED and Isokane SECONDED to amend the motion to allocate the \$1,000 Community Outreach funding for the following two concepts: (1) We Pick it Up; (2) Shop Local Photo Contest**; discussion followed. **Isokane withdrew his original motion and Fitzsimmons withdrew his original amendment.** The board conducted a roll call vote; the **motion to allocate the \$1,000 Community Outreach funding for the (1) We Pick it Up and (2) Shop Local Photo Contest concepts WAS ADOPTED 7–1–1 (Aye: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, McDonald, McCarney, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Nay: Armstrong; Abstain: Lye) [2:15:10]**.

Resolution 2023-005 – Regarding adoption of a social media presence for Downtown–Chinatown [2:16:47]: [2:27:26] – **Lye MOVED and McCarney SECONDED to adopt [Resolution 2023-005](#) as written**; discussion followed. The board conducted a roll call vote; the **resolution WAS ADOPTED 9–0–0 (Aye: Armstrong, Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Isokane, Lye, McCarney, McDonald, Shubert-Kwock, Thompson; Nay: None; Abstain: None) [2:27:42]**.

RESOLVED THAT NB 13 formally adopts a FB Group named in a manner that is available, permissible, and can be reasonably associated with NB 13 (e.g., *Downtown-Chinatown Neighborhood Board № 13*; henceforth, the *NB 13 FB Group*) as its social media presence; and be it further

RESOLVED THAT NB 13 encourages all board members of NB 13 who choose to be active in social media to commit to using the official NB 13 FB Group in a manner that, in the board member’s judgment, best serves the community under the objectives of the NP; and be it finally

RESOLVED THAT NB 13 will consider a resolution of additional tenets and recommendations for operational parameters of any public-facing social media pages presenting content by or about NB 13.

Resolution 2023-006 – Regarding preliminary social media tenets for the Downtown-Chinatown Neighborhood Board No.13 [2:28:16]: [2:28:56] – **McDonald MOVED and Armstrong SECONDED to postpone agenda items VI.G. through VI.I. to the end of this meeting or to the next meeting, and to progress to agenda item VII. at this time**; discussion followed. The board conducted a roll call vote; the **motion WAS ADOPTED 5–4–0 (Aye: Armstrong, Isokane, McCarney, McDonald, Thompson; Nay: Carvalho, Fitzsimmons, Lye, Shubert-Kwock; Abstain: None) [2:31:00]**.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – Thursday, 4 May 2023; Thursday 1 June 2023: **Postponed to the next meeting.**

Amendments to Adopted Regular Meeting Minutes – December 2021 through March 2023: **Postponed to the next meeting.**

VII. MONTHLY REPORTS [2:31:40]

Board of Water Supply (BWS) [2:31:44]: Oda provided spoke to a [report](#), highlighted that July 2023 is ‘Smart Irrigation Month,’ and noted that residents should conserve water when practicable. More information is available on <https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/>.

Safe Haven [2:33:19]: Payton spoke to a [report](#) and highlighted that Mental Health Kokua (MHK) is working closely with Director Krucky (Department of Community Services) to transition the Pauahi Hale low-income housing program for return to the City and County of Honolulu.

Chinatown Business Community Association (CBCA) [2:34:48]: Shubert-Kwock spoke to a [report](#) and highlighted efforts to reduce crime in the neighborhood, updates on security cameras, and homeless outreach programs.

Chinatown Improvement District (CID) [2:35:33]: Stack reported that [CID](#) had worked with one of its members and the City regarding the removal and destruction of the historic granite pavers outside their business, that preservation efforts are important within the district, invited NB 13 and the community to participate in the 2023 Autumn Moon and Lantern Festival on Friday 29 September 2023 at Smith–Beretania Mini Park, and indicated that empty storefronts and crime are widespread and not limited to Chinatown.

Downtown–Chinatown Neighborhood Citizen Patrol [2:38:18]: Kevin Lye presented [images and reported observations by the patrol from May and June 2023](#), including multiple observations of illicit drug users covering their heads with shawls, towels, blankets, or umbrellas when using while on sidewalks, in parks, or when trespassing on private property; multiple jaywalkers blatantly jeopardizing their own safety and that of nearby drivers; denizens obstructing sidewalks and emptying trash receptacles; bicycles and mopeds ridden and driven on sidewalks; disturbing and vulgar graffiti as well as other vandalism by PHYTO and CME; multiple failures to make forward progress through marked pedestrian crosswalks; multiple illegal feedings of feral birds, and continued presence of birds in condiment dispensary equipment at local eateries, with another call to action to contact the state Department of Health Vector Control Branch on gracelda.cimmon@doh.hawaii.gov or (808) 586-4590 to request action. Lye invited the public to continue to walk with the patrol on the second Tuesday of every month, departing at 7:00 pm from outside the Diamond Head Tower lobby of Kukui Plaza [GPS: 1261 Fort Street]. Please bring a friend and a camera, join the patrol, and help identify areas of concern within the community.

Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) [2:43:42]: Watson (Honua Consulting), on behalf of Frank V. Coluccio Consulting Company (FVCCC), noted the [HART weekly eBlast](#) and provided construction and traffic updates, available on <https://honolulustransit.org/hart-traffic/>. If the content of this sentence is visible within a file on the NCO website, it has been improperly published by NCO and does not reflect information adopted by this neighborhood board. The next monthly CCUR Phase III Business and Community Meeting is on Wednesday 12 July 2023 at 6:00 pm via Zoom; register at <https://bit.ly/HARTPhase3>, sign up for the CCUR III eBlast on <http://eepurl.com/h1g2W5>, and email ccur3@honuaconsulting.com for more information.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed [2:45:38].

VIII. ELECTED OFFICIALS [2:50:11]

Governor Josh Green’s Representative [2:50:14]: No [representative](#) present; a [report](#) was submitted. Carvalho reported follow-up responses to questions raised at the previous meeting. To sign up to receive Governor Green’s newsletters, contact (808) 586-0034 or gov.communications@hawaii.gov.

Mayor Rick Blangiardi’s Representative [2:52:29]: No [representative](#) present; a [report](#) was submitted. Follow-up [responses to questions raised at the previous meeting](#) were presented by Carvalho.

Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam (District 6) [2:52:48]: Councilmember [Dos Santos-Tam](#) made note of a [report](#) and was available for questions.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed [2:53:10].

Senator Karl Rhoads (District 13): **Postponed to the next meeting.** A [report](#) was submitted.

Representative Scott Saiki (District 26): **Postponed to the next meeting.** No [representative](#) present, no report submitted.

Representative Daniel Holt (District 28): **Postponed to the next meeting.** No [representative](#) present, no report submitted.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS [2:59:10]

Next Regular Meeting [2:59:12]: The next meeting of the Downtown–Chinatown Neighborhood Board № 13 is scheduled for Thursday 3 August 2023 at 6:00 pm at the [Princess Ruth Ke‘elikōlani Middle School](#) Cafeteria and by Webex.

Rebroadcast [2:59:21]: Rebroadcasts of Downtown–Chinatown Neighborhood Board № 13 meetings are scheduled on ‘Ōlelo channel 49 every third Thursday at 9:00 pm, as well as 9:00 am on the third Saturday of each month. An archive of past meetings may be found on <https://olelo.org/olelonet/> by searching on <Downtown Board>.

Archive [2:59:42]: Find an archive of handouts and referenced materials appurtenant to Downtown–Chinatown Neighborhood Board № 13 on <https://tinyurl.com/ycksd4e7>.

X. ADJOURNMENT [2:59:50]: The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Submitted by Dylan Buck, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by Naomi Hanohano, Community Relations Specialist

Finalized by Kevin Lye, Secretary, Downtown–Chinatown Neighborhood Board № 13