

Charter Commission

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Honolulu Hale • 530 South King Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



JULY 1, 2016 WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE HALE KUHINA, ROOM 115

MINUTES

Charter Commission Members Present:

Donna Ikeda, Acting Chair
Kevin Mulligan, Vice Chair
Judge Michael F. Broderick (Ret.)
Paul T. Oshiro

Cheryl D. Soon
Edlyn S. Taniguchi
John D. Waihee III, Governor
Pamela Witty-Oakland

Charter Commission Members Excused/Absent:

David W. Rae, Chair
Reginald V. Castanares, Jr.
Guy K. Fujimura

Nathan T. Okubo
R. Brian Tsujimura

Others Present:

Ray Soon, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Mark Garrity, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation Services
Dana Viola, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Krishna Jayaram, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Linda Luli Nakasone Oamilda, Executive Administrator, Honolulu Charter Commission
Norma Reyes, Secretary, Honolulu Charter Commission

Testifiers:

Ken Conklin
Mahealani Cypher
Flora Obayashi

Leialoha Kaluhiwa
Mr. Hirata

I. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Edlyn Taniguchi, Kevin Mulligan, Donna Ikeda, Paul Oshiro, Cheryl Soon, Pamela Witty-Oakland, Michael Broderick.

With a quorum present, Acting Chair Ikeda called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Acting Chair Ikeda explained the purpose of the meeting, citing the Charter provision mandating a Charter review every 10 years to improve the structure of City government. She noted that the meeting was not for decision-making but strictly an opportunity for the Commission to hear from the public on proposals under consideration.

II. TESTIMONY

Ken Conklin, testified to express his disappointment that the Commission will not be giving further consideration to Proposal 15 regarding conflict and mandatory recusal, citing the City's participation in the purchase of Waimea Valley which ownership was turned over to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Mahealani Cypher, Ko'olaupoko Civic Club, testified on items not on the agenda regarding the Board of Water Supply (BWS). She reported that the Club voted to oppose any changes that affect the resources of the BWS, including City Council approval of BWS resource transactions and revenue bond sales, and budget and rate reviews.

Flora Obayashi testified on various proposals. Concern about Proposal C-5 has been expressed noting that anything can happen to City lands, including family lands that were entrusted to the City for care for future generations, and suggested that such powers should be limited to the rail corridor. They are especially concerned about the water production in the Ko'olau, and cited the illegal entry to the Kahaluu Tunnel. Proposal 40 regarding sunset of boards and commissions should not apply to neighborhood boards and she cited the historical value of the families and their culture who participate in the board. The last proposal on her list concerned term limits which they oppose.

Commissioner Soon clarified that the intent of Proposal C-5 is to take the expertise involved in land management and make sure that the City has all the proper skill sets in a single location rather than scattered in various departments and agencies. She noted that the proposal will be reworded to clarify its intent and invited Mrs. Obayashi's participation.

Commissioner Oshiro noted that Proposal 44 was amended yesterday to delete term limits for the neighborhood boards.

Leialoha “Rocky” Kaluhiwa testified in support of the two-year term for neighborhood boards and pointed out that not everyone uses email or wears dresses every day. She also testified in opposition to the sale of City lands

Another woman testified in opposition to sunsetting the neighborhood board because the neighborhood boards are local, a part of Hawaii and are needed for the new and long-time residents to be able to express their concerns locally.

Mahealani Cypher, lifelong resident of Kaneohe, testified again on her own behalf on various proposals. She supports Proposal numbers 2, 39, 48 (sustainability language), 54, 73, and 153. She opposes Proposal number 40. She supports Proposal number 44 and suggests staggered terms for the neighborhood boards. She suggests that Proposal numbers 116 and C-5 be combined.

Mr. Edward Hirata, Kaneohe resident since 1962, testified that Office of Climate Change and Resiliency in Proposal 73 should be a statewide office rather than a county one, because it is a statewide concern.

Ken Conklin testified a second time on an item relating to federal recognition of a Hawaiian entity that was not on the agenda suggesting that it be added to the ballot.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acting Chair Ikeda announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 6th, 6:00 p.m., UH-West Oahu, Kapolei.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Acting Chair Ikeda adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.