

LEILANI ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH (NW)

Minutes of May 26, 2015 Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Greg Armstrong, NW Coordinator

Attending: Greg Armstrong, Richard Skidmore, Russ Shultz, Roberta Van Goethem, Jay & Gloria Turkovsky, Mike and Vaunda Stenzel, Stella Calio, Norma Jean Blair, Steve Snyder, Wymond Wilds, Richard & Ruth Weiner, Jane Whitefield, Susan Phillips, and Robert Lyle.

Greg reported that Community Policy Officer Davy Kamalii worked the past weekend so was not able to attend the meeting because he is off duty today. Officer Kamalii's crime statistics report will be posted on the LE/NW website.

Vaunda reported that one new driver has signed up for NW and there are now only five open spots on the daytime driver schedule.

Vaunda also noted that the Big Island Invasive Species Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, June 6th at the pavilion (same day as the Community Yard Sale). At 9:00 a.m. Big Island Invasive Species Committee will do an orientation on how to identify and treat Albizias; and at 10:00 a.m. they will take volunteers out in the field and do hands-on training.

Greg distributed a survey from Puna Watch requesting input from residents ranking the importance of various crime and safety concerns.

Greg reviewed the loose dogs report for May. There were three loose dogs reported, two of them photographed and first warnings delivered. The third dog was a blind husky in the road on Kupono Street and the owner became aggressive toward the NW volunteer after being verbally warned about the leash law.

Vaunda updated the group about the newly revised website. She has assumed responsibility for maintaining the www.leilaniestates.org website from the former webmaster, Tim Georges. Tim had been voluntarily working with the site even though he lives on Maui. It was noted that although the website contains information about Leilani Estates, it's not an official site of Leilani Community Association (LCA). The group applauded Vaunda for the new website.

Vaunda also discussed an effort that is underway to obtain 501(c)3 non-profit status for LE Neighborhood Watch. On 5/13/15 LE NW filed for non-profit articles of incorporation and on 5/19 received an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS. On 5/26 LE NW was registered with the Hawaii Attorney General's Office. It will take anywhere from three to nine months to receive the approved non-profit status. Meanwhile, there will be a lot of paperwork that will still need to be submitted. CERT will also be able to be added under the 501(c)3 umbrella once approved.

A question was asked about reimbursement for miles driven for tax purposes after the non-profit status is obtained. Wyman noted that drivers can already claim miles driven for tax purposes as "community service".

Greg reminded the group that the next Dinner and Bingo night is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2 and that NW had a \$308 profit from the previous dinner. The next Community Yard Sale will be Saturday, June 6. The recreation committee has scheduled two additional upcoming events – July 4th BBQ/potluck (hot dogs and hamburgers and drinks provided) and August 23rd Potluck and Cooking in the Imu. A DJ will provide music at the July 4th event (and at our Christmas potluck). The ukulele group Puka & the Leilani Hula group will entertain at the August 23rd event.

Susan and Robert, residents on Kupono Street, brought up their concerns about on-going disturbances at a property near the North (Kahukai) end of that street. An incident in April (discussed in the April 28 NW Minutes) was discussed. Greg informed the group that Leilani Community Association is working with attorneys in an attempt to address this on-going situation at that property (people living in tents). Greg also said that any disturbances (gunshots, yelling, screeching cars, etc.) should immediately be reported to the police.

There were no member comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.