

**ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU**  
**ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**  
**09 November 2021**  
**PRESIDING: PRESIDENT GWEN YAMAMOTO-LAU**

**President Gwen Yamamoto-Lau** called to order the Rotary Club of Honolulu meeting at 12:00 pm. **Brian Dunkel** served as the *Virtual Meeting Maestro*. **Robyn McCreary** was Zoom photographer.

**Inspiration given by Rick Tabor**

*That's Not My Job!*

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to do and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody would do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Apparently the job required all of us, Rotarians Serving to change lives with Aloha! And like every one of us, our Kuleana has always been helping others. When I arrived in Hawai'i, I learned the term Pono! The word Pono in Hawaiian, which defines how many Hawaiians look at life. Pono is commonly translated as 'righteousness'. In fact, it's right there in our state's motto, which reads **Ua Mau ke Ea o ka 'Āina i ka Pono**, and literally translates to '**The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness**'.

Which brings us to Aloha. Aloha is more than a greeting, it's a lifestyle. Live pono and aloha, live life, love & laughter... Anyone can do that but not Everyone does... & when the going gets tough. And the devil whispers in Somebody's ear, 'Nobody's strong enough to withstand the storm.' Everybody should smile & whispered back, 'I sure love your eggs.'

This has been an OI' Salty Field Medical Corpsman's Veterans Day thought for the week... Veterans Day is on Thursday 11.11. Remember to thank a Veteran for their service this week & Always! Aloha.

**Scotty Anderson** led us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*. **Lyla Berg** led us in *God Bless America*.

**Visitors:** Nicole Lim (Guest Speaker), Mr. Hideo Yamanaka (Kyoto), Geo Bustamante, Erik Anderson, Kevin Parle (UK)

**New Member Induction – Welcome back to Wayne Parsons!**

**Lyla** introduced **Wayne**.

He was once a member of our Club, took a leave of absence and has now returned! **Wayne** is an attorney and a businessman. Not only does **Wayne** participate in community services and projects FOR people, he works WITH people as well.

One of Wayne's past services included the Literacy program by reading to kids at *Lincoln Elementary*. **Wayne** works WITH people and loves to work on projects FOR

people! **Lyla** shared that it's her honor to sponsor this returning member who will be joining in on projects and believes we count on **Wayne** to join us with our projects, especially when there are people involved because that is what **Wayne** loves to do!

**President Gwen** inducted **Wayne Parsons** back into Rotary and our club. **Wayne** shared that he is "glad to be back involved with Rotary" and "enjoyed [his] membership back in the early 2000's." He "admires the work Rotary does" and stated "the people who belong to Rotary are a unique people who put the community first and want to help people." Wayne "anticipates being involved with ongoing projects in Rotary" and "wants to contribute to Rotary" including "getting back into the swing of things here." He again shared his gratitude to be a part of Rotary and our Club.

### **Announcements:**

- **PAUL HARRIS – ZOO:** **Peg Jackson** first thanked the *Honolulu Zoo Society* and its executive director, **Mary Benson (Honolulu Sunrise Club)**. **Mary** and the *Honolulu Zoo Society* compensated our Club for the entrance and private tour fees. This is another example of Rotarians supporting each other, so thank you to **Mary** and the *Honolulu Zoo Society*! This *Paul Harris Zoo* tour is now full.
- **PARK CARE & WEEDING:** **Peg Jackson** further thanked "all the wonderful folks" (including the Pearl Harbor Hickam Club, the Honolulu Sunset Club, and the Waikiki Rotary Club) who attended *Centennial Park* on Friday, Nov. 5 and announced that the next **Park Care Weeding & Maintenance** day will be on Saturday, Nov. 13, from 8:00 am-10:00 am. Contact **Peg** at [peg@pegjackson.com](mailto:peg@pegjackson.com)
- **LUNALILO HOME PROJECT:** **Ben Eger/Reese Liggett:** The RATPack needs your help with maintenance at **Lunalilo Home** in Hawaii Kai. Project includes outdoor handrail painting and other light painting. The *International Union of Painters* will be joining. Proof of Covid vaccination is required. This project is set for Saturday, Nov. 20, from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. Contact **Ben** at [info@beneger.com](mailto:info@beneger.com) or **Reese** [wliggett@twc.com](mailto:wliggett@twc.com).
- **NEW MEMBERS & BADGES** – **Gwen** reminds new members that participating in projects will help turn their yellow badge to a white one.
- **PAU HANA/SOCIAL EVENT:** **Bob Sumpf** announced that in addition to our regular Tuesday Club meeting on Dec. 7, there will also be a **Pau Hana/Social Event** from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm at the *Pacific Club*. Come and get to know new members and prospective members! Bring Guests! Let's give thanks as a collective for serving others! We will meet on the lawn under the tent. There is a Capacity Cap of 40 members, so sign up soon! There will be a link in the *Tradewind*. There will be no charge for guests, but a nominal fee for Rotarians. "Come have a good time and fellowship!"
- **INTERNATIONAL SERVICE REPORT:** **Ann Miller** (Director of International Service)  
**Ann** gave us information on the **Global Grant Funding** as reported by our sister club, the Rotary Club of Taipei. "PP Braces of that club has written a Global Grant to help support the Heng Chun Peninsula in Southern Taiwan. The title of that project

is *A Three-Year Development and Vocational Training Program for the Indigenous People of Mountain Tribes of the Heng Chun Peninsula*. The youth in this area are lacking in motivation to study and demonstrate low academic achievement. Without such a program as this, the youth become addicted to gambling, drugs, smoking, and alcohol. Teenage pregnancy, domestic violence, and abandoned families are not uncommon to this particular society. So the Board of Directors gave \$1,500.00 to this Global Grant and the District matched that.

The second Global Grant was submitted by the *Sunset Club of Honolulu* in our own district. The Board believed it was important to support a grant in our district. The grant is titled *Providing Safe Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Facilities in Nine Schools of Jwalamukhi, Nepal*. This project aims to provide safe and clean drinking water, safe and hygienic sanitation, handwashing, menstrual hygiene, and wash behavior change services to around 2,000 students, teachers, and staff of *Niang government Community Schools and the Jwalamukhi Municipality of Taiching District Nepal*. Many of these schools already have toilets, but there is no water. Some schools bring in water (carried on their back) for the day, but it's only for teachers and staff. Many of the students leave school because they are thirsty and dehydrated. So the Board moved to give \$2,430.00 to this particular Global Grant and the District matched that as well. We are pleased with these Global Grants and glad we can help."

**Bali Update:** The Bali trip that **Dave Shanahan** has put so much time and energy into, will NOT take place in March 2022. Currently, anyone visiting Bali must quarantine for 8-days and the vaccination rate is extremely low. **Dave** recommended that the funds allotted for this project be sent to Bali so the work can be completed even though our Rotarians won't be able to participate. **Martha** has kindly taken care of that for us.

- **PAUL HARRIS WEEK:** **Gwen** reminded everyone that if you haven't yet signed up for one of the events, to please do so! One event per person, please.
- **RYLA:** **Brian & Rick** gave us a reminder that the next RYLA club meeting will be directly after today's regular club meeting. Anyone interested was encouraged to come and learn more!

**Breakout Rooms Topic:** **Gwen** invited everyone to share what we are doing with our friends on a regular basis or to share the most memorable thing done with friends.

### **Guest Speaker Introduction by Dawn Marie**

Nicole Lim is the director of *Movers and Shakas*, a non-profit program that aims to bring together purpose-driven professionals, especially returning kama'āina, to actively contribute to Hawai'i. Nicole has over 15 years of experience in global e-commerce and strategic business development consulting and has traveled all over the world as a digital and analog nomad. She was born and raised in Hawai'i, went to *'Iolani School*, and holds degrees from *Yale University* and the *Wharton School of*

*Business (UPenn)*. She is a seasoned remote worker and digital analog nomad, skilled in executive life coaching, leadership, community building, diversity, and inclusion, with a passion for catalyzing growth in individuals and businesses. I discovered *Movers and Shakas* in their early conception in 2020 I learned it was the brainchild of Island CEOs seeking a resilient model for our economy with the added twist of volunteerism. I was an immediate fan and fascinated to learn it attracted almost 90,000 applicants for its pilot cohort of 50 positions. Today *Movers and Shakas* is on its second cohort, completely funded by notable community organizations. What richer qualities to steward this unique program than those of Nicole.

In her leisure time, she is a teaching Yogi who also volunteers with *NOA* on a program to help identify monk seals. She is also a world traveling shark diver to places such as South Africa, the Maldives, and she is soon off to Mexico.

Nicole was warmly welcomed by our clapping in front of our own faces on Zoom! 😊

### **Guest Speaker – Nicole Lim – *Movers and Shakas***

Nicole spoke to us via Zoom and informed us she is now in Mexico! She hopes the bull sharks will be around (they are just starting to arrive) and pregnant females show up to pup there.

When Nicole discovered *Movers and Shakas* she said she “had a very anti-outsider visceral reaction” which made her “feel very uncomfortable, given that [she] was traveling as a nomad for about five years before the pandemic. In trying to process those feelings [she] wrote an article in the *StarAdvertiser* about how we need to acknowledge these very natural ‘us versus them tribal mentality feelings, and ask ourselves, how do we bring in newcomers, how do we acculturate, learn and grow from each other, and ultimately hold everyone accountable to the community.” Nicole gave Rotary kudos feeling we are good at bringing in newcomers and holding ourselves accountable to the community. She stated, “it is a privilege to be speaking here.”

The article Nicole wrote about her feelings was the catalyst for the Founding Committee to reach out and ask her if she would be interested and willing to step in and run the program. Nicole joined them in January of this year.

### **Background of *Movers & Shakas* (M&S):**

- As COVID-19 reduced tourism in 2020, volunteer CEOs came together to help the community.
- M&S started as a temporary resident program to attract purpose-driven remote workers, especially returning kama’aina, to actively contribute to Hawaii.
- As remote work evolves and tourism recovers, they are shifting to focus on brain gain; attracting, integrative and retaining key talent to grow our economy.

### **M&S Mission Statement**

“Attract, integrate and retain key talent, especially returning kama’aina, to create a more innovative, resilient and sustainable Hawaii.”

This means economy and community. This program is about people and personal relationships.

### M&S Advisory Board

Some of the “amazing business and community leaders” on the M&S board are: Jason Higa, CEO, Zippy’s Restaurants; Denise Yamaguchi, Executive Director, Hawaii Agricultural Foundation & CEO, Hawaii Food & Wine Festival; Rob Nobriga, President, Island Holdings; Ben Ancheta, President/Owner, Inkinen Executive Search; Lynelle Marble, Executive Director, Hawaii Executive Collaborative; Richard Matsui, CEO/Founder, kWh Analytics; Lori Teranishi, Principal, iQ 360; Kevin Yim, VP of Marketing, Zippy’s Restaurants; and Na’alehu Anthony, Director, Hawaii COVID Collaborative.

Nicole feels “very, very proud and lucky to have a very distinguished board who are very active.” Jason Higa was one of the “initial masterminds.”

### Key Takeaways Since M&S Launch

- Program is about people and relationships
- The Key to economic growth is talent
- Brain drain is real and culturally nuanced
- Remote work enables new ways to attract talent to address the brain drain
- M&S immersion programs promote brain gain and focus on talent here
- It takes a village to invigorate the economy along with the different groups M&S works with and partners with

What they learned after the first cohort is that the program is really about people and relationships. This created a Hawaii immersion program to LEARN, CONTRIBUTE, and CONNECT.

- Learn – Cultural Education: Create a diversity of authentic voices on Native Hawaii culture and history, as well as local culture with the way business communication works here and current events. Trying to create a foundation for people to create the foundational relationships to communicate.
- Contribute – Volunteering: Team-based pro bono consulting projects (~\$500K value / yr) and Mentoring. For Cohort 2, there will be 50 volunteers, broken down into 10 teams of 5. This cohort will have an extra focus to help non-profits and start-ups that support industries that Hawaii is uniquely positioned to lead: agriculture, ag-tech, renewable energy, clean-tech and housing. These areas are critical for sustainability. They sought out people with marketing, tech, and strategy skills.
- Connect – Community Building: The volunteers are required to be on island for 30 days to participate in community projects. Some of the past projects include work with Kako’o Oiwi, Hawaii Botanical Society to remove invasive species, and with 808CleanUp. The next cohort will include a networking pau hana, cohosted with United Airlines and Element Accelerate on sustainability.

Something Nicole noticed in her travels and the first cohort was “it is very unnatural for expats or visitors to interact in an authentic way with local residents . . . so in the next cohort we decided to build in this interaction, so local residents make up about 20% of the cohort with one local resident on each team of five.”

Nicole states her ultimate goal is to try and remove the perceived boundaries between what makes someone a local resident, a returning kama’aina, a born-and-raised local, or an out-of-state visitor, to try and bring people to connect on a one-on-one level as people and not labels.

Nicole:

In terms of understanding what does, if you never heard about it before we bring 50 cohort fellows, give them a free plane ticket to Hawaii, but what we learned in the first cohort was that rarely that was why people came. They really wanted to have this authentic experience, a chance to gift their professional skills to local non-profits here, and then really bond with other like-minded people.

*Movers and Shakas* hook up people, non-profits, and groups to work together, increasing knowledge, utilizing talents, and bringing everyone closer for the betterment of our community, economy, and overall interaction with cultural differences.

*Movers and Shakas* have many sponsors and volunteer partner organizations, working together to invigorate the economy.

Get involved with *Movers and Shakas*!

- Sign up for their newsletter at <https://moversandshakas.org/#email-capture>
- Share their mission with your network
- Apply for the next cohort (fall 2022)
- Enroll new hires into Talent Onboarding program
- Participate in M&S networking events
- Sponsor M&S, financial or in-kind

Want to learn more or have questions? Check out their website at [www.moversandshakas.org](http://www.moversandshakas.org) or contact Nicole at [Nicole@moversandshakas.org](mailto:Nicole@moversandshakas.org).

**Closing:** **Gwen** and the members thanked Nicole “for the program that was born out of the pandemic and is in alignment with our cultural values, while reinforcing the importance of giving back in *Service Above Self*.” **Gwen** invited Nicole to let us know if they would like to “partner up” with us on a future service project.

**Robyn** took group photos. **Brian** played our closing video *Hawaii Aloha*. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm. Nicole stayed after to answer questions.

Humbly submitted by Scribe, **Lee LaBrash**