

ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU
MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2023 MEETING
Hybrid Meeting at Outrigger Canoe Club

President Lyla Berg called the January 24, 2023, meeting of the Rotary Club of Honolulu to order at twelve noon. **Al Linton** led the singing of “American the Beautiful”, and **Danielle Haviland** led the Pledge of Allegiance. She also gave an Inspiration highlighting her 7-year-old daughter’s good experience at a public elementary school. Kudos to Jefferson Elementary. **President Lyla** welcomed the visitors.

Don Anderson gave a special PSA for the upcoming Philippines Project. Like a true Madison Ave. ad man, he cited the rewards of other Philippines Projects, replete with slides and promises of sleeping on cots, bathing in the ocean, swimming with whale sharks and other rewarding experiences. Over the years our club has sent 500 volunteers to projects in the Philippines. Nan Inc. is donating \$50,000 for this year’s project and has given over \$600,000 for similar projects over the years. The project is March 11-19 and will involve helping four schools. **Don** encourages you to sign up!!

After a time for Fellowship, **Samantha Haas** introduced Douglas Johnstone, President of the Hawaii region of Howard Hughes Corporation to speak. With the sensitivity of one born and raised in Honolulu, he began with history of the area Howard Hughes Corporation (HHC) has developed beginning with the Hawaiian history. For years the area was an oasis between the early development of downtown and Waikiki. After World War II, the Ward family estate was acquired by HHC, and a master plan developed. Mr. Johnstone led the discussion through the various buildings already completed and the plan for future buildings. He discussed the sustainability sensitivity of the corporation and described the park and green spaces of the project. Developing a sense of community for both those living in the buildings and those from outside the area with family events and First Saturdays was another important goal. He ended his presentation with the economic importance and impact of the development: job creation, property tax benefit to the city/county and state, support for the Department of Education and infrastructure improvements and fees. His talk was followed by a brief Q & A.

After thanking the speaker, President Lyla made the following announcements: The Beer Fest is THIS Saturday from 5-9 PM at Bishop Museum; the Kyoto Sister Club Luncheon is Sunday, February 19; a Rotary birthday party February 23 at Nico’s, a Pau Hana social event at Dave & Buster’s on March 2, and the search for a new Club Administrator. She closed with an exhortation to Rotarians to inspire others and with a Ralph Waldo Emerson quote: “Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.” The meeting was adjourned after the singing of “Hawaii Aloha”.

Nancy White, Scribe