

**ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU**  
**ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL MONARCH ROOM**  
**DATE: JANUARY 7, 2020**  
**PRESIDING: PRESIDENT PAUL SAITO**

The January 7, 2020, meeting of the Rotary Club of Honolulu was called to order at noon by **President Paul Saito**. He welcomed members and visitors and listed the meeting participants. **Bob Borek** gave a lengthy, sometimes tongue-in-cheek inspiration about college application essays and quoted from an example of same. **Glenda Anderson** led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Kent Reinker** the singing of "America the Beautiful". **Carol Sakata** accompanied on the piano. **Dawn Marie** introduced guests, which included visitors from Japan, California and Oahu. **President Paul** named the birthdays of the week (new member **Katie Kashmiry**, January 8 and **Linda Coble** (old member) January 10. He also named the club anniversaries which included **John Henry Felix** (30 years), **Gaylien Rafferty** (19 years), and **Steve Nikkola** (8 years).

Special announcements followed with **Ann Miller** encouraging members to help with the January 12th environmental project at Hamakua Marsh, from 2-5 p.m. A get-together at Maui Brewing Company to follow. **Rob Hale** gave the monthly progress report about Centennial Park. His announcement of receiving the first major building permit was greeted with applause. He briefly described what this permit involved and what two additionally needed (lesser) permits would allow. He believes there will be an April completion of the project. **Tom Coyne** announced because the February 8 Brew Festival conflicts with the Punahou Carnival, he needs more volunteers. The event is from 4-9 p.m. and located at the Hawaii Convention Center. **President Paul** asked **Bob Sigall** to describe the two club members he honored in his end-of-the-year *Star Advertiser* column. Bob acknowledged **Jessica Lani Rich** for all the work she does with VASH and **General Frances Mossman**, the first woman general in any branch of the U.S. service.

After eight minutes of fellowship, **Carolann Biederman** introduced the two speakers to talk about the Our Care, Our Choice Act and Compassionate Choices. Kim Callinan is the national representative and Samantha Trad, the local leader of Compassion & Choices. Ms. Callinan began with survey results about how we want to die. The majority of people want to 1) die at home, 2) be free of pain, 3) have some autonomy at the time of death, and 4) to have their spiritual values honored. The organization's goal is to help people prepare for the end. They are hoping for the turn-around success that the childbirth movement experienced, going from restrained mothers and banned fathers at births to the now many options and freedoms imminent mothers and fathers have. She indicated when people have plans for their end, they find life far more enjoyable and they can lead a more meaningful life. Medical aid in dying has been approved in ten jurisdictions, with six approved in the last five years. Hawaii is one of these. The medical aid in dying eligibility criteria for Hawaii is:

- 1) being an adult
- 2) being terminally ill
- 3) have a prognosis of 6 months or less

- 4) mentally capable of making informed medical decisions
- 5) resident of Hawaii

Samantha Trad gave more detail about the Hawaii requirements. One needs to make an oral request to two different physicians 20 days apart, must be terminally ill, must be able to do one's own meds, and pass a psychological evaluation. Then one may receive the prescription. She said wills and insurance are not affected by this means of dying. It is not considered suicide and the death certificates will read the cause of death as the disease. The state health department just released figures for Hawaii's first year after the act was passed. Twelve physicians prescribed the medicine, 27 applicants made it through the process, 14 of them took the medicine and 19 others passed away from the disease. Ms. Trad told several personal stories of those dying. Compassion & Choices is working to have the 6 months requirement changed and to allow Hawaii physician assistant nurses to be authorized in addition to doctors. She described some of the services her organization provides and directed listeners to the website.

**President Paul** thanked the speakers and mentioned the book *What Does Peace Feel Like* for them to sign before it is given to Palolo Elementary School. He concluded the meeting with announcements about next week's meeting after the singing of "Hawaii Oe".

**Nancy White**, Scribe