

Minutes of the Rotary Club of Honolulu Meeting

September 6, 2022

Hybrid Meeting, Outrigger Canoe Club, Honolulu Hawaii

12:00 p.m. Meeting Called to Order. President Lyla Berg welcomed Club members and visitors.

12:05 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance and Inspiration by Past President Bub Wo. **Song Hawaii Pono'i:** led by Nicole Lemas Rodrigues. Lee LaBrash –IT Support.

Announcements:

- Jim Harrow announced the trip to Bali has place for another couple.
- Ben Eger shared information and table flyer on RAT Pack project at Palama Settlement on Sat., Oct. 1; he encouraged members to sign up for one of the shifts (8 am – 12 pm and 1 pm – 4 pm)
- President Lyla reminded members about the “Out of Darkness” Suicide Awareness Walk and refreshment tent volunteer opportunity on Sat., Sept. 9 from 8 – 11 am

12:12 p.m. Fellowship.

12:25 p.m. Guest Speaker. Maja Grajski introduced the speaker for this week, Mahina Paishon-Duarte, who is the founder of Waiwai Collective. Mahina mentioned that she serves on several boards and commissions throughout the state and is active in social entrepreneurship. She talked about her leadership experiences including working as the head of a school, serving on the Hawaii Tourism Authority and the Trust for Public Land.

Mahina introduced “Aina Aloha Economic Futures,” an initiative she started during the Covid pandemic with a group of 14 local leaders. The purpose of this initiative is to show businesses how for-profit entities can thrive by incorporating Hawaiian community driven values into their broader mission.

In response to a question, Mahina spoke passionately about the importance of supporting local fish ponds and the relationship between indigenous centered leadership and positive environmental outcomes.

Mahina’s concluding message that “the solution is within ‘us,’ the people of Hawaii” reinforced the overarching concept of “huliau” --the stewarding of sacred spaces. She closed by stating that we need to recommit to doing things the way they have been traditionally done in Hawaii as this will lead to stronger economic communities throughout the state and internal transparency.

12:55 p.m. Announcements. President Lyla announced the next meeting will be on Zoom. She introduced two guests from the Rotary Club of Dubbo, Australia and exchanged flags with them.

12:59–Closing song: “Hawaii Aloha” was led by Lyla, Bub, and Mahina with the members forming a circle and joining in

1:00 p.m. President Lyla announced that the meeting was adjourned.

By: **Saima Makhdoom** -- Scribe, 9/6/2022