

National Commission for Culture and the Arts

Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting

November 6, 1997

Board Room, NCCA Building

633 Gral. Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila

Commissioners Present:

Hon. Jaime C. Laya, Chairman
Hon. Evelyn B. Pantig, Undersecretary of Tourism
Hon. Jose Carlos V. Lacson, Chairman, Committee on Culture and Education, House of Representatives, represented by Ms. Frances Arreola
Hon. Baltazar N. Endriga, President, Cultural Center of the Philippines
Hon. Samuel K. Tan, Chairman, National Historical Institute
Hon. Adoracion M. Bolos, Director, The National Library
Hon. Ponciano B.P. Pineda, Chairman, Commission on the Filipino Language, represented by Ms. Leonida B. Villanueva
Hon. Ricardo L. Manapat, Director, Records Management and Archives Office
Hon. Carmen D. Padilla, Executive Director
Hon. Felipe M. de Leon, Jr., Head, Subcommittee on Cultural Communities and Traditional Arts, represented by Dean Consuelo Paz
Hon. Eddie Romero, Head, Subcommittee on the Arts
Hon. Virgilio S. Almario, Head, Subcommittee on Cultural Dissemination, represented by Ms. Karina Bolasco

Special Representative of the President:

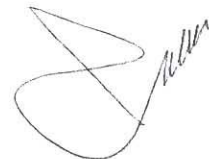
Hon. Jose Apolinario Lozada, Secretary, Office of the Appointments Secretary, represented by Dir. Patricia Paez

Members of the CCP Board of Trustees Present:

Mrs. Paz D. Lagdameo, Chairman
Fr. Bernardo Ma. Perez, Trustee
Mrs. Leni A. Cabili, Trustee
Mrs. Doreen G. Fernandez, Trustee
Mr. Nestor Jardin, Artistic Director
Mrs. Patricia C. Sison, Trustee

Others Present:

Architect Augusto Villalon, Vice-Head, Subcommittee on Cultural Heritage
Atty. Ressurecion M. Fernando, CCP Legal Counsel
Ms. Emilie V. Tiongco, Project Development Officer
Ms. Marlene S. Sanchez, Project Development Officer
Ms. Rosalinda Y. Basas, Administrative Officer
Mr. Romeo Alba, Finance Management Officer



Ms. Zeny A. Jimenez, Project Development Officer
 Ms. Adelina Suemith, Project Development Officer
 Mr. Romeo de la Cruz, Jr., Project Development Officer
 Ms. Mai-Lien R. Quiaoit, Board Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m., after the determination of a quorum.

2. The National Artists Award, 1997 (Joint Meeting with the Trustees of the Cultural Center of the Philippines)

The Chairman welcomed the Trustees of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, namely Mrs. Paz D. Lagdameo, Chairman, Mr. Baltazar N. Endriga (CCP President and NCCA Commissioner) and Trustees Fr. Bernardo Ma. Perez, Mrs. Leni A. Cabili, Mrs. Doreen G. Fernandez, Mrs. Patricia C. Sison, and Mr. Nestor Jardin, Artistic Director. It was agreed that Chairs Laya and Lagdameo would preside alternately in joint meetings and that Chair Laya would preside over the present meeting.

Background. The CCP had suggested that the NCCA and CCP Boards meet on the creation by the President of the Philippines of Historical Literature as a new category in the National Artists Awards and the President's issuance of a Proclamation naming Mr. Carlos Quirino as National Artist for Historical Literature.

Discussion. The following areas were covered:

- a. The Boards noted the letter of Chairs Laya and Lagdameo addressed to Undersecretary Jose Apolinario Lozada stating, among other things, that: (a) Mr. Quirino was a nominee but failed to make it to the short list of sixteen (16) finalists, (b) history is generally considered a social science rather than an art, (c) others may be better deserving of an Award, (d) a distinction should be made between the award to Mr. Quirino and the other eight (8) National Artist recommendees, and (e) there may be resistance from the culture and arts community to Mr. Quirino as a national artist. The Boards were informed that the letter was handed to the President by Sec. Lozada.
- b. Additional information was presented, as follows:
 - The original seven (7) arts were identified in classical times, but for present purposes, painting and sculpture were combined into a one visual arts category and a new category created for film.
 - The name of Mr. Quirino had been submitted to the De la Salle University faculty for a possible honorary degree in history but was turned down.
 - Hearings were held at the House of Representatives some years back, on a Bill conferring Filipino citizenship on Mr. Quirino. If Mr. Quirino is not a Filipino citizen, then it would be improper for him to receive a National Artist Award.
 - There may be legal basis for a position that National Artist Awards may be conferred on approval by the NCCA and CCP Boards and need not be elevated to the President for approval.

- c. The two Boards concluded that it is within the President's prerogative to create new categories as well as declare awardees even without benefit of passing through formal a selection process.
- d. It was decided to proceed with preparations for the National Artist Awards Conferment ceremony, including Mr. Quirino.

Citizenship of Mr. Carlos Quirino. To avoid possible embarrassment to the President and all others concerned, the two Boards decided to verify the citizenship of Mr. Quirino. The National Artist Secretariat was requested to take charge of the process. Comm. Bolos, who had been invited to testify at the Congressional hearing on the Bill, was requested share any information that her files might yield. The office of Congressman Lacson was requested to look for a copy of the Bill and to find out the status of the same. It was also suggested that pertinent information be sought at the Department of Justice, the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation. Chairs Laya and Lagdameo were authorized to convey any findings to the President and to Secretary J.A. Lozada at the earliest possible time, since the Awards are scheduled on December 8.

Update on National Artist Awards Preparations. It was reported that the Presidential Proclamations covering the Awards have already been signed and that preparations for the conferment ceremonies on all nine (9) awardees are underway. The two Boards requested the NCCA Secretariat to look into the possibility of increasing the cash award from P10,000 to P100,000, in a manner similar to the increase in the monthly stipend given to the awardees.

Benefits to Posthumous Awardees. The two Boards requested the National Artist Awards Secretariat to study and recommend on possible assistance that may be extended to the families of posthumous awardees.

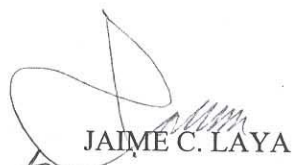
Artists Welfare Fund. Both Boards agreed to review the draft of the Artists' Welfare Fund, for discussion at a future meeting. Among others, it was suggested that the proposed Welfare Fund might be included as a program of the Social Security System and that there is a need to ensure that artists from the cultural communities be part of any such welfare program.


At this point, the Trustees of the Cultural Center of the Philippines left and the Commission proceeded to address the business of the day.

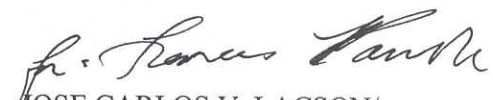
16. Adjournment

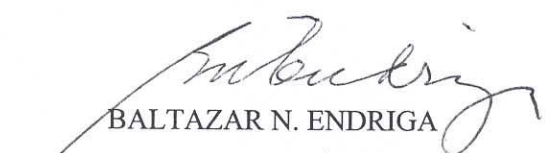
There being no other matters, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m


Approved (Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting Held on November 6, 1997):


JAIME C. LAYA

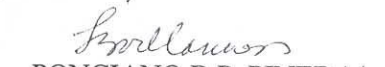

EVELYN B. PANTIG

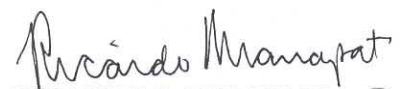

JOSE CARLOS V. LACSON/
FRANCES ARREOLA


BALTAZAR N. ENDRIGA

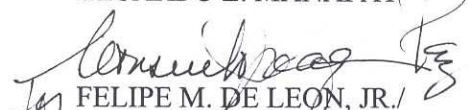

SAMUEL K. TAN


ADORACION M. BOLOS

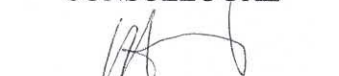

PONCIANO B.P. PINEDA/
LEONIDA B. VILLANUEVA


RICARDO L. MANAPAT

CARMEN D. PADILLA


FELIPE M. DE LEON, JR./
CONSUELO PAZ


EDDIE ROMERO


VIRGILIO S. ALMARIO/
KARINA BOLASCO


JOSE APOLINARIO LOZADA/
PATRICIA PAEZ


AUGUSTO VILLALON