



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Highlights of the Minutes of the Special Commission (Election) Meeting

12 May 2011 (Thursday) / 11:00 PM to 2:30 PM
7th Floor, Silid Hudhud [Board Room], NCCA Building
633 General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila

Commissioners Present:

Hon. Alice A. Pañares, [Out-going] OIC-Chairman, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, and Head, SubCommission on Cultural Dissemination
Hon. Felipe M. De Leon, Jr., Head, SubCommission on the Arts and [In-coming] Chairman
Hon. [Senator] Edgardo J. Angara, Chairman, Committee on Education, Arts, and Culture, Senate of the Philippines
Hon. [Atty.] Alberto T. Muyot, Undersecretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs, Department of Education
Hon. Daniel G. Corpuz, Undersecretary for Tourism Planning and Promotions, Department of Tourism
Hon. Maria Serena I. Diokno, Ph.D., Chair, National Historical Commission of the Philippines
Hon. Raul M. Sunico, Ph.D., President, Cultural Center of the Philippines
Hon. Victorino M. Manalo, Executive Director, National Archives of the Philippines
Hon. Jeremy Robert M. Barns, Director, National Museum of the Philippines
Hon. [Atty.] Antonio M. Santos, Acting Director, The National Library of the Philippines
Hon. Jose Laderas Santos, Chairman, Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino
Hon. Joycie Y. Dorado-Alegre, Head, SubCommission on Cultural Communities and Traditional Arts
Hon. Regalado T. Jose, Head, SubCommission on Cultural Heritage
Hon. Malou Jacob, Executive Director, NCCA

Commissioners Represented:

Hon. [Congressman] Salvador “Sonny” Escudero III, Chairman, Committee on Basic Education and Culture, House of Representatives, represented by Ms. Josefina “Jiji” Roque-Ricafort, Secretary, Committee on Basic Education and Culture, House of Representatives

Staff Members Present:

Ms. Marlene Ruth S. Sanchez, MNSA, Deputy Executive Director
Ms. Adelina M. Suemith, Head, Program Monitoring and Evaluation Division (PMED) and OIC-Administrative and Finance Division
Ms. Marichu G. Tellano, Head, Plan/Policy Formulation, and Programming Division (PPFPD)
Mr. Herencio M. Llapitan, OIC, NEFCA Finance Division
Mr. Bernan Joseph R. Corpuz, Head, Planning and Policy Unit - PPFPD and [OIC] Board Secretary
Ms. Christielene M. Magas, Administrative Services Officer II, Office of the Chairman (OC)

Others Present:

Atty. Rose Beatrix Cruz–Angles, NCCA Legal Resource Person
Mr. Jose A. Capistrano, Administrator, Intramuros Administration, DOT
Ms. Bai Salina Khara R. Pendatun and Ms. Francine Anne P. Sayoc, Office Staff, Office of Sen. Angara,
Senate of the Philippines

1. Call to Order

The OIC-Chairman, Alice A. Pañares called the Meeting to order at 12:05 PM after determination of a quorum.

The OIC-Chairman requested Comm. Joycie Dorado-Alegre, Head, SubCommission on Cultural Communities and Traditional Arts to lead the prayer before they proceed with the meeting.

2. Adoption of the Proposed Agenda

The OIC-Chairman invited the members of the Board to review the proposed agenda, to make the necessary corrections, and to include other matters for discussions.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, the governing board members approved the *proposed agenda* for the *Election of the NCCA Chairman for the term 2011-2013* to be followed by a Commission Meeting, as presented.

The body took note of the various reference materials for the elections and the materials for the Commission Meeting.

3. ELECTION OF THE NCCA CHAIRMAN FOR THE TERM 2011-2013

[12:05 to 1:40 PM]

• NCCA Briefer

The OIC-Chairman requested Ms. Marichu G. Tellano, Head, Plan/Policy Formulation, and Programming Division (PPFPD) to give a brief background / presentation of the NCCA, Duties, and Responsibilities of the Chairman, Election Mechanics and Procedure and other Administrative Matters as regards the Office of the Chairman and the conduct of the elections. OIC-Chairman Pañares invited as well Ms. Jacob, the Executive Director to talk about the NCCA and the Secretariat.

Prior to the powerpoint presentation of the secretariat, Ms. Tellano acknowledged the presence of Comm. Edgardo J. Angara. She thanked him, who together with Senators Heherson Alvarez and Leticia Ramos-Shahani, as well as Congressman Carlos Padilla for the enactment of the NCCA law in April of 1992 [*referring to Republic Act No. 7356, “An act creating the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, establishing a National Endowment fund for culture and the arts, and for other purposes”*].

- *Procedure of the Election*

Ms. Tellano then continued explaining the election mechanics and procedure and the other administrative matters as regards the conduct of the election of the NCCA Chairman. She added that the secretariat would be serving as the Election Committee (ELECOM) for the election, namely, Ms. Marlene Ruth S. Sanchez, Ms. Adelina M. Suemith, Mr. Bernan Joseph R. Corpuz, herself, and together with Atty. Rose Beatrix Cruz-Angeles.

Ms. Tellano then clarified that only those present during the scheduled election date can nominate and be nominated to be the NCCA Chairman. Since one (1) out of fifteen (15) board members is absent, only those 14 members of the board, who are present, can nominate and be nominated to be the NCCA Chairman for the term 2011-2013. [As earlier noted, Cong. Escudero would not be able to join the said meeting because of an earlier commitment in his district but would be represented by Ms. Ricafort as an observer].

After mentioning the procedure to be undertaken, Comm. [Senator] Angara suggested to the Body for the approval of the “nomination process” and recommended adopting an *open nomination* instead of *secret ballot*. The matter specifically refers to procedure no. 3, which states that, “*The process for nomination may be done through secret ballot or by open nomination as may be agreed in the assembly. Nomination ballot shall be distributed by the Secretariat. Note: In today’s election, we will do the nomination through secret ballot. Furthermore, the members may nominate a name or abstain from submitting any nominee.*”

Comm. Antonio M. Santos, Acting Director, The National Library of the Philippines concurred with the suggestion of Comm. Angara to approve first the process of nomination to be followed. Comm. Santos then put into motion the suggestion of “open nomination” as the process; and, upon motion approved and seconded by Comm. Regalado T. Jose, the body agreed to adopt an “open nomination process”.

Comm. [Sen.] Angara then suggested that in case of a tie, it may normally be broken through “*tossing of coin or pyong-pyang*” to make it less complicated and to simplify the process.

Comm. Alegre expressed her reservations about the “*toss coin*” option as suggested by the Senator. She pointed out that the election of the NCCA Chair would require a sensible and intelligent process and must not be left to chance.

Comm. Sunico, President. Cultural Center of the Philippines suggested doing a re-balloting in case of a tie.

The OIC-Chairman, suggested going back to the motion of the Senator to look for different methodologies in case of a tie.

Comm. Santos then put forward a motion that in case of tie, the tie will be broken through tossing of coin.

Reacting to the motion of Comm. Santos, Comm. Alegre manifested that she has earlier objected to that option.

Comm. Jeremy Barns, Director, National Museum of the Philippines then motioned to have a second round of balloting in an event of a tie. The body approved the motion. Comm. Barns then inquired and clarified with the Secretariat if the term of the Chairman would be co-terminus with his / her term as *ex-officio* member of this Commission.

Ms. Tellano then made clear that the elected Chairman would remain as Chairman of this Commission provided that he/she would still a member of the board by the virtue of being an *ex-officio* member. Likewise, it does not follow that whoever replaces the outgoing *ex-officio* member would automatically assume the Chairmanship of the NCCA. Ms. Tellano added that should this happen; there would instead be a special election to elect a new Chairman for the remaining term if ever the Chairman, who is an *ex-officio* member, ends his/her term of office.

• *Election Proper*

After all the queries and clarifications were made, the OIC-Chairman then directed the Elecom to start the election of the Chairman for the term May 12, 2011 to December 31, 2013, and, open the floor for nominations.

Comm. Raul M. Sunico, President, Cultural Center of the Philippines nominated **Comm. Maria Serena I. Diokno**, Chair, National Historical Commission of the Philippines for the position as NCCA Chairman.

The ED then nominated the father of the School of Living Traditions, the father of the Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan and the father of the NCCA Intangible Cultural Heritage, **Comm. Felipe M. De Leon, Jr.**, Head, SubCommission on the Arts.

Comm. Antonio Santos then motioned to close the nomination.

Ms. Tellano announced that Comm. Maria Serena I. Diokno and Comm. Felipe M. De Leon, Jr. were nominated for the position as NCCA Chairman for the term 2011-2013.

Per the approved procedure, Atty. Rose Beatrix Cruz–Angles, NCCA Legal Resource Person inquired from the nominees their “acceptance of the nomination”.

Comm. Diokno expressed her thanks and gratitude for the nomination of Comm. Raul M. Sunico; however, she said that she is “declining” the nomination.

Comm. Felipe M. De Leon, Jr. when similarly asked by Atty. Angeles with regard to his acceptance of the nomination, Comm. De Leon responded in the “affirmative”.

At this point, Comm. Victorino M. Manalo, Executive Director, National Archives of the Philippines motioned to declare Comm. Felipe M. De Leon, Jr. as Chairman of the NCCA for the term 2011-2013. Comm. Barns seconded the motion.

There being no objection, Atty. Rose Beatrix Cruz-Angeles officially declared Comm. Felipe M. de Leon, Jr. as the duly elected Chairman of the NCCA for the term May 12, 2011 to December 31, 2013.

- Special Resolution

[U]pon motion made and duly seconded, the Commission approved and confirmed this *Special Resolution* on the election of the new Chairman of the NCCA held during the Special Commission Meeting of the NCCA Board of Commissioners on 12 May 2011:

Resolution No. 2011–362
Approval of the Election of
Commissioner *FELIPE MENDOZA DE LEON, JR.*,
Head, Subcommittee on the Arts and
Head, NCCA National Committee on Music
as CHAIRMAN of the
National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)
for the term *May 12, 2011 to December 31, 2013*

RESOLVED, as it is hereby Resolved, To Approve and Confirm the Election of **Comm. Felipe M. de Leon, Jr.**, Head, Subcommittee on the Arts and Head, NCCA National Committee on Music, as **Chairman of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts**, covering a term of office from **May 12, 2011 to December 31, 2013**, in line with the provisions of the *NCCA Implementing Rules and Regulations*, vice NCCA OIC-Chairman Alice A. Pañares. The election was held during the Special Commission Meeting of the NCCA Board of Commissioners on May 12, 2011 at the NCCA Office in Intramuros, Manila.

- *Message of the new Chair*

OIC-Chairman Pañares then requested the *newly elected Chairman* to give his message and vision for the NCCA and the culture and arts community.

[Incoming] Chairman de Leon thanked the body and solicited their support and cooperation for the successful term of this Commission in the coming years. He briefly discussed his vision for the NCCA and the sector, and, all these were expounded in the paper he distributed entitled, *A Way Forward*.

- *Commission Meeting [1:40 to 2:30 PM]*

At this juncture, the OIC-Chairman, Ms. Alice A. Pañares formally turned-over the Chairmanship to the newly elected Chairman, Prof. Felipe M. De Leon.

1. **Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the *March 30, 2011 Regular Commission Meeting* and the *April 27, 2011 Special Commission Meeting***

The Chairman requested the Board members to review the minutes of the meetings of *March 30, 2011 Regular Commission Meeting* and *April 27, 2011 Special Commission Meeting* for corrections.

Comm. Antonio M. Santos then motioned for the Board Members to review and approve the said Minutes at the next Regular Commission Meeting in June.

2. Launching of the Sentro Rizal in Madrid, Spain

Senator Edgardo J. Angara presented to the Body the recommendation to have the first Sentro Rizal center in Madrid. He explained that the Knights of Rizal in Spain are ready to sponsor the launching of the very first Sentro Rizal. The Philippine Embassy in Spain invited the good Senator to attend the joint launching of the Independence Day and the Phil-Spanish Friendship Day Celebration on 14 June 2011.

With regard to the implementation of the Heritage Law, Sen. Angara suggested to the Body that the NCCA should submit a budget financial plan for the funding requirement of the law. The NCCA should set some standard and criteria in setting up in an orderly and physically responsible manner of Sentro Rizal.

- *Special Resolution*

[U]pon motion made and duly seconded, the Commission approved and confirmed this *Special Resolution* held during the Special Commission Meeting of the NCCA Board of Commissioners on 12 May 2011:

Resolution No. 2011–363
Approval and confirmation on the Representation of
NCCA Commissioner [Senator] EDGARDO J. ANGARA
as the Official Representative of the
National Commission for Culture and the Arts
and the Philippine Government
for the Launching of the
SENTRO RIZAL
in Madrid, Spain on June 10 to 15, 2011

RESOLVED, as it is hereby Resolved, To Approve and Confirm the representation of **Comm. [Senator] Edgardo J. Angara**, Chairman, Committee on Education, Arts, and Culture, Senate of the Philippines as the Official Representative of the NCCA for the launching of the Sentro Rizal, in line with the provisions of *Republic Act No. 10066 or the Cultural Heritage Law of 2009* to be held in Madrid, Spain from June 10 to 15, 2011. The main purpose of the Sentro Rizal is the *promotion of Philippine arts, culture, and language throughout the world.*

The Honorable Senator was invited by the Philippine Embassy in Madrid to join the Philippine Independence Day Celebration on June 12, which is coinciding with the Philippine-Spanish Friendship Day on June 14. And, indeed, it is also a fitting occasion that Sen. Angara shall be initially launching the *Sentro Rizal* in Madrid, together with the Knights of Rizal in Spain, in commemoration of the 150th Birth Year of our National Hero, Dr. Jose Rizal on June 19. These significant activities in June, which will be held in Madrid, would further strengthen the bilateral relations and cultural ties between Spain and the Philippines.

3. Designation of the old town of Dapitan as Heritage Zone

Atty. Angeles informed the Body that the old town of Dapitan in Zamboanga Del Norte was recommended and qualified as a Heritage Zone under Section 14 of R.A. 10060, or the Cultural Heritage Law of 2009. She mentioned that the recommendation was made during the initial meeting with the representatives from the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) and the National Museum of the Philippines (NM) as well as in coordination with the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Zamboanga Del Norte. She then requested for a board resolution that will declare the City of Dapitan as a Heritage Zone.

In the absence / pending Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the Heritage Law, Comm. Diokno explained to the Body that the approval in declaring the old town of Dapitan as a Heritage Zone should be made by the NHCP and the NM.

Comm. Angara then suggested that the NCCA furnished all the necessary documents and papers including the LGU resolutions to the NHCP for their appropriate action and consideration, in order that they may immediately take this up at their coming Board Meeting this May. Noting the urgency, Comm. Angara proposed that should everything be in order including the final deliberation and requisite approval by the NHCP, then the said resolution / declaration might be routed to all the Commission Members via Referendum. Atty. Angeles explained that the said declaration is hoped to be given to the local government of Dapitan during the closing ceremonies of the *Heritage Month* come end of May in Zamboanga del Norte.

On a related matter, Comm. Angara reiterated for the urgency to finalize and make operational the IRR of the Heritage Law. Therefore, Atty. Angeles was requested to finalize the draft [including the necessary additional resolutions and clarifying the coordination work within and among the partner cultural agencies as mentioned in the law], and submit this to the Board for consideration and approval at its next Commission Meeting in June.

4. Schedule of next Commission Meetings

The Chairman then reminded the Body that the next Board Meeting is scheduled on 9 June 2011, Thursday, 10:00 AM to be held at the NCCA Office. The Board Secretary shall be issuing the official notice of meeting.

5. Adjournment

Again, the Chairman thanked the Commissioners and declared an adjournment at 2:30 in the afternoon.

**APPROVED at the
Regular Commission Meeting on 23 June 2011
(Minutes of the Special Commission Meeting held on 12 May 2011,
NCCA, Intramuros, Manila:**

FELIPE M. DE LEON, JR.
Chairman

EDGARDO J. ANGARA
Senate of the Philippines

**SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III /
JOSEFINA ROQUE-RICAFORT**
House of Representatives

DANIEL G. CORPUZ
Department of Tourism

ALBERTO T. MUYOT
Department of Education

JEREMY ROBERT M. BARNES
National Museum of the Philippines

RAUL M. SUNICO
Cultural Center of the Philippines

MARIA SERENA I. DIOKNO
National Historical Commission of the Philippines

VICTORINO M. MANALO
National Archives of the Philippines

ANTONIO M. SANTOS
The National Library of the Philippines

JOSE LADERAS SANTOS
Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino

ALICE A. PAÑARES
NCCA-Subcommission on Cultural
Dissemination

JOYCIE DORADO-ALEGRE
NCCA-Subcommission on Cultural
Communities and Traditional Arts

REGALADO T. JOSE
NCCA-Subcommission on Cultural Heritage

MALOU JACOB
NCCA

