

Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

APR 24 2015

The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D Speaker I Mina'trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan 155 Hesler Place Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Rory J. Respicio

Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) – "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226"

Committee votes are as follows:

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Sincerely,

Senator Tina Mima Barnes



Office of The Legislative Secretary
Tina Rose Muña Barnes

COMMITTEE REPORT ON

Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) "Relative to identifying a suitable lot
to effectuate an exchange of
government-owned property
reserved for the Department of
Public Health and Social Services for
government-owned property owned
by the Chamorro Land Trust
Commission pursuant to Public Law
No. 32-226"



Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

April 22, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To:

All Members

Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Hagatña

Restoration and Redevelopment Authority

From:

Senator Tina Muña Barnes

Committee Chairperson

Subject:

Committee Report on Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) – "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226"

This report includes the following:

- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest
- Copy of Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Testimony & Supporting Documents
- Copy of COR Referral of Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Related News Reports

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!



Office of The Legislative Secretary

Tina Rose Muña Barnes

COMMITTEE VOTING SHEET

Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) - "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226"

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Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) was introduced on February 23, 2015 by Senator Tina Muña Barnes, and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation on February 25, 2015.

The Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation convened a public hearing on Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 9:30 AM in I Liheslatura's Public Hearing Room.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via e-mail to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 (5-Day Notice), and again on Friday, April 10, 2015 (48-Hour Notice).

Senators Present Senator Tina Muña Barnes, Chairperson Senator V. Anthony Ada Senator Tom Ada

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 9:03 A.M.

Chairperson - Good morning everyone and thank you all for being here. Next on the agenda is Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-owned property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law 32-226" – sponsor: Tina Rose Muña Barnes. I do know that there's a number of people here to testify and I would like to state for the record that this is a continuation from the 32nd Guam Legislature law to identify additional lot for the foster care home. I would like to call up Mr. Borja, Sister Brigid, Christine San Nicolas, Shirley Perez Mr. Casil and Mr. Mike Duenas. If the gentlemen don't mind, I'd like to have Sister Brigid go first.



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Sister Brigid Perez, RSM - Good morning my dear Senators here and all of you present here, Hafa Adai! Sister Brigid reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>.

Chairperson – Go ahead Mr. Borja.

Mr. Michael J.B. Borja – Good morning madam Chair and honorable Senators, I am Mike Borja, the Director of Department of Land Management and the Administrative Director of the Chamorro Land Trust. Mr. Borja reads his written testimony, which is attached.

Chairperson – Go ahead Mr. Mike Duenas, please.

Mr. Michael J. Duenas – Hafa adai Madam Chair. My name is Michael Duenas and I am the Executive Director of the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority. I am here in support of Resolution No. 21-33 (COR). Mr. Duenas reads his written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>.

Chairperson – Mr. Leo Casil.

Mr. Leo G. Casil – Thank you Madam Chair and hafa adai Senators Tony Ada and Tom Ada. My name is Leo Casil and I am the Deputy Director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services. I have been asked to submit the following testimony on behalf of Mr. James Gillan, Director of Department of Public Health and Social Services. Mr. Casil reads written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>. I'd like to add on here, it's not written here on the testimony, but last fiscal year, the ethnicity of the total 236 foster kids, 76% of them are Chamorros.

Chairperson – Si Yu'os Ma'ase Mr. Casil. At this time I would like to have all the agencies speak first, so I will have Mr. Adonis Mendiola speak first. Thank you!

Mr. Adonis Mendiola – Hafa adai, buenas dias Chairperson and Senators Tony Ada and Tom Ada. My name is Adonis Mendiola and I am the Director of Department of Youth Affairs. Mr. Mendiola reads his written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>.



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Chairperson – Thank you Adonis, I'd like to ask that you submit your testimony to the committee please. Thank you! I'd like to ask the directors and deputies to please go back to your seats but stay around for the question and answer portion. I really appreciate it. I will continue with Ms. Christine San Nicolas first.

Christine San Nicolas – Good morning Madam Chair and respectful Senators. Ms. San Nicolas reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>.

Chairperson – Thank you Mrs. San Nicolas. Ms. Shirley Perez, please proceed.

Ms. Shirley Perez – Good morning Secretary and Senators. I am a foster parent and there is a need for a good foster home. Especially like my sister said, these siblings need to be together so that they don't have to worry about where is my brother or my sister at. It's a need for them to be under one roof so that they know that they're still a family. Family here on Guam is very important. Please pass this resolution so that we could build a foster home for these kids. Thank you!

Chairperson – Thank you Ms. Perez. I would like to apologize for not acknowledging our Mayors that are present here today, Mayor June Blas from the beautiful village of Barrigada and Mayor Joan Blas from the beautiful village of Asan-Maina. Please proceed Mayor June Blas.

Mayor June Blas – Si Yu'os Ma'ase Chairwoman Tina Rose Muña Barnes, Senator Tony Ada and Senator Tom Ada. For the record, my name is June Blas and I am the Mayor of Barrigada. Mayor Blas reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>. The Vice Mayor and I are not opposed to this Resolution, however the outer areas that is cited in this resolution is zoned for agricultural and we just want to ask that you all take into consideration the infrastructure for these families before resolution is adopted. Thank you

Chairperson – Si Yu'os Ma'ase Mayor Blas, Mayor Blas please proceed.

Mayor Joan Blas – For the record my name is Joana Margaret Blas and I am the Mayor of Asan-Maina. Mayor Blas reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>. I am in support this Rigalu house. I also have a testimony for the First Lady if I may, please? Mayor Blas reads First Lady Christine Calvo's written testimony which is <u>attached</u>.



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Chairperson – Buen Prubechu Mayor Blas for reading the written testimony from First Lady Calvo. So now, I'd like to call up Ms. Evelina McDonald, Ms. Lydia Tenorio, Arlene Gadia, Julia Quinene and Cindy Chugrad please come up. We'll start with Mrs. Evelina McDonald.

Ms. Evelina McDonald – Madam Chairperson Tina Muña Barnes, Senators Tony Ada and Tom Ada, Buenas! Thank you! Ms. McDonald reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>. Madam Chairperson, I have a testimony from two (2) of my friends, Evelyna T. Akimoto and Evelyn A. Blas-Castaneda and they had to go somewhere so that asked that I read it for them please.

Chairperson - Yes, please. Consige pot fabot.

Ms. Evelina McDonald – Si You's Ma'ase. Ms. McDonald reads written testimony from Evelyna T. Akimoto and Evelyn A. Blas-Castaneda, which is attached. Si Yu'os Ma'ase hamyu todus.

Chairperson - Buen Prubechu Ms. McDonald. Ms. Lydia Tenorio.

Ms. Lydia D. Tenorio – Hi good morning Madam Chairperson Tina Muña Barnes, Senator Tony Ada, Senator Tom Ada. I see a lot of familiar faces and a lot of new faces in here and I want to thank you all for doing what you do. Ms. Tenorio reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>.

Chairperson - Thank you Ms. Tenorio.

Ms. Linda Rodriguez – Good morning Senator Muña Barnes. Ms. Rodriguez reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>. Thank you for supporting our foster children.

Chairperson - You're welcome!

Ms. Arlene Gadia – Good morning Chairperson Tina Muña Barnes, Senator Tony Ada and Senator Tom Ada. This is my first time testifying so excuse me. I'm gonna try and stick to my written testimony and excuse me if I start to get emotional. Ms. Gadia reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>. Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter.



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Chairperson – You're very welcome! Ladies and gentlemen, we are just going to take a one minute break. Please bear me with me, one minute recess. Thank you!

Elizabeth Joseph – Christopher and I are licensed foster parents here on Guam for two (2) years now and we actually were placed with our adopted daughter who are still with us and a year ago we got placed with a 17 year old and he's about to graduate this year. Our experience with fostering has been very positive and the social workers are wonderful. The kids that are being placed in foster care and huge families. The Rigalu house would extremely be very helpful in this manner. So, the experiences I've had with the foster care here on Guam, I would like to ask you all to consider voting yes for this resolution. Thank you!

Chairperson - You are very welcome Mrs. Joseph.

Ms. Julia Quinene - Hafa adai Chairwoman Tina Muña Barnes, Senator Tony Ada and Senator Tom Ada. Ms. Quinene reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>. In closing I pray and I ask the Lord to please pass this resolution. Thank you and Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

Chairperson - Hagu mas, buen prubechu. Ms. Cindy.

Ms. Cindy Chugrad – Hafa adai and thank you Chairperson Tina Muña Barnes, Senator Tony Ada and Senator Tom Ada. Ms. Chugrad reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>.

Chairperson - Buen prubechu Ms. Cindy. Also up to speak is Mr. Felix Benavente. is Diana Calvo in the house.

Mr. Felix Benavente – Good morning Senator Barnes, Senator Tony Ada and Tom Ada. I'm here today to provide testimony in support of the resolution today. More specifically to respond to some of the concerns of the Mayor and Vice Mayor of Barrigada. They are both in full support of it. I'm here to address the specific issues brought up by the Barrigada Mayor such as roads, adequate power, water and sewer. We have to make sure that there's adequate access for all the roads for the increased traffic. That is our response to the Mayor's concerns. In regards to the matter of the radiation, we are not qualified to speak on that. So, just in summary, adequate



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structure and building permit and I will make sure that these things are taken care of and reviewed. Thank you madam Chair.

Chairperson – Thank you Mr. Benavente.

Ms. Diana Calvo – Good morning Madam Chair and Senators. Ms. Calvo reads her written testimony, which is <u>attached</u>.

Chairperson – Thank you Ms. Calvo and thank you to everyone for providing testimony for this resolution. I will now ask my colleagues if they have any questions or comments for the different panel members. Thank you once again to everyone for staying and I'd like to call on the cabinet members up now please. Senator Tom Ada you're recognized.

Senator Tom Ada – Thank you madam Chair. There is no question in my mind about a need for a foster home. That's not where my debate is. Sister, I appreciate you closing out your testimony with a prayer to find it in our hearts to pass this resolution and you looked over in my direction. (crowd laughs) I was listening and I was observing. The only question in my mind is how much land do we need? First, it was 1 acre and now it's 2 ½ acres. As the Chairman and oversight on lands, I certainly have a fiduciary responsibility to protect the land and we're just not giving it out, so how much land do we need? I hope you understand where I'm coming from. I don't know who can answer it?

Mr. Leo Casil – Let me try to answer your question. I wish he was here with me. When we first started that sight that was identified was too small so we didn't anticipate, if you will, the opposition. In terms of the actual size, well now that we have a bigger size and we cannot project the number of foster kids that might occur, we have more than enough property to expand and maybe other items to be built there as well. Perhaps in his testimony he was very passionate.

Mr. Mike Borja – If I may add sir, over 20 years ago when P.L. 22-18 was created, where reserved lands were issued to various departments, they tried to come up with a wish for lands that they think they may need and Public Health reserved a reservation of 2 acres. When they came up with the Oka Point property they thought that it was an ideal place. During the course of this whole debate we've had chances to discuss all these issues. Well, when GHURA mentioned that they had these block grants to use to



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continue to build these kinds of resource centers of which DYA is the beneficiary of three of these facilities. The idea here is to try and be proactive in the whole process at least in the youth affairs side as well as the foster care side. Now this lot was already portioned out at 2½ acres and we said that it might be the most appropriate site and most feasible for the user. Now that's the whole process. I was also questioned also in the Chamorro Land Trust side and I explained the whole process as well. This facility, as I mentioned in my testimony, may even have the possibility of having more space for another residential facility. My understanding is these residential facilities are limited on the number of individuals in a house and limited in size as well. So this is the way we came up with this and I've provided the same explanation to my commissioners as well. So this is how we came up with this lot.

Diana Calvo – I wanted to add on to Deputy Director Casil's response. As I mentioned in my testimony, the consideration of the lot but more so the design of the structure will depend on what needs will be addressed in that particular facility. The place is also to be used as a kind of family center, where unifications meetings could be held or certain trainings can be held and used a protective unit site.

Mr. Mike Duenas – Senator I was advocating for a larger size lot. Based on our experience on building facilities and watching how the user agencies are able to adapt and then realize that we forgot to take into account that we have to provide additional services. The licensing standards have gotten more stringent so we were advocating for a larger size lot. This is what we are seeing with the dementia care center that we built for catholic social services and public health, back in 2004. They were looking to combine both a dementia day care center and emergency receiving center for elderly and abused. One of the things that we learned from this project is that there just wasn't adequate land for a suitable outdoor area for the clients. And so looking at the current lot there, we believe that there should be enough land for 3 structures and adequate recreational area and so we feel that the size of this property is adequate for future growth but also to be able to respond to the changing regulatory environment. Those are some of the issues that we've seen in the last 20 years when it comes to facilities. Thank you!

Mr. Felix Benavente – I just want to add a couple of things. They've addressed pretty much on the interior requirements but the exterior requirements include of course the outdoor recreational area and to include parking. In additional possibly adding a larger ponding basin as we know the area is limestone and we need more storm water



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retention for that type of function. So, I just wanted to add that you may require additional land.

Senator Tom Ada – I just have one last question and that is when the legislature acts on this resolution and I'm sure it will pass, there's going to be this high expectation within a reasonable short period of time, there's gonna be the ground breaking and all this stuff. So my question will be, how soon can construction get started on this project? So, we are going to put aside this 2 ½ acres and nothing happens in a decade and in the meantime the pressure needing more land for Chamorro to be able to build houses on Chamorro Land Trust property so what is a reasonable expectation for this project? Although we are talking about a resolution that doesn't have the force of law. All it is is the Legislatures version of an opinion page that you find in the PDN saying yes we support it or no we don't, so what is the reasonable expectation for this project?

Mr. Mike Duenas – Well, first of all, I think we should make it a point to have a sunset provision for all these kinds of reservations so that things don't get blocked off. In terms of this facility, from my understanding from BBMR, there is about 1.1 million dollars available in DUI funds to help cover the construction of this facility. At this point, I haven't had the opportunity to get with my staff to get the estimates to see if that's adequate but they are ready at this point to provide funding to construct. We are also working closely with public health. We certainly don't want to let things linger for years before anything gets built because that's a disservice to the family and the children.

Senator Tom Ada – That's all the questions I have.

Mr. Leo Casil – Thank you for that question. We have the funding available and the more we linger the cost will go up. There is a reasonable time-frame mentioned by the First Lady.

Sister Brigid – I just want to say that 12 years ago, I did a research and I want to thank Mike Duenas. I was working for the shelter for the first 5 years and I said to myself that something has to be done. I'm happy that this is where we are right now and my prayers are working because it has been 12 years. This is the work of mercy and the year of mercy and we need to consider. I'm not a mother by nature but I have an instinct of a motherhood. I don't have the heart to see a child wake up and pick up the cot, go to school, come back up and put out your cot. I don't have that heart! It's hard



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to bear. I'm thankful for what's going on right here and I give credit for all the people that's here for our love and concern for all the children. Thank you!

Mr. Leo Casil – Just one last thing Senator I hate to pick on you but since you picked on my Director and he's not here to defend himself, but he wrote this with a lot of emotion and I hope you don't take him literally. He loves you guys and he's very emotional about this.

Senator Tom Ada - Well let me assure you, I can sit here without any emotion at all like I've shown earlier. (crowed laughs)

Mr. Leo Casil - Thank you Senator!

Chairperson – Sister, I want to thank you! I saw you at many occasions and I know that you said, "Senator, the foster care home, please!" I want to say that I commit to you and I want to follow this through. Before I close, I just want to say that P.L. 32-226, that gave the authorization to find that site and step away from the Tamuing lot because of all the issues that came up. I want to thank Senator Tom Ada for coming, whether he likes it or not, as the oversight Chair on lands, it is his responsibility. So, sometimes Sister, we have to do things whether we like it or not, we have to do it. P.L. 32-226 does state that the Legislature may reject or accept it by resolution. Since I authorized the last legislation, I didn't want to do another bill. That journey was authorized to us and I wanted to make sure that we finish this chapter. It is a commitment of this legislature to truly work the mission mandate and we have to do it as a team. That commitment from this committee is make sure that we listen to all the stakeholders, whether you're for it not, to be able to close the chapter. We all in this room want to make a difference. So, thank you to everyone!

Mr. Mike Duenas – I just wanted to invite everyone to look at the various facilities that we've built for the agencies to assist our people. Look at the Guma' Ifit in Asan that we've built for the chronic mentally ill adults, look at the facilities that we built for Sanctuary in Maimai, look at the Guma' San Jose homeless shelter and the Catherine's home in Dededo, look at the Karidat facility just off route 10 in Mangilao. In all those instances, what we saw are the standards evolving with respect to the design. In the end, we were able to build those facilities, with still some limitations in others. It's never easy to design any of these facilities. So if you have the time to look at those facilities to see how difficult it is. Thank you!



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Chairperson – Thank you Mr. Duenas! It is now 11:36 a.m. and I want to state that Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) is publicly heard. Si Yu'os Ma'ase and thank you everyone!

Please note that written testimonies may be submitted up to ten (10) days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Tina Muña Barnes, 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 via facsimile at 472-3400 or via email to senator@tinamunabarnes.com.

The public hearing was adjourned at 11:36 A.M.

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation hereby reports out Resolution No. 21-33 (COR), with the recommendation To Do Poss

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I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN 2015 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)

Introduced by:

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T.R. MUNA BARNES

Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA'TRENTAI TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

3 WHEREAS, Public Law No. 32-226 directs the Chamorro Land Trust

Commission to select a suitable lot to exchange to the Department of Public Health

and Social Services from property reserved for their use with property owned by

6 the Chamorro Land Trust Commission; and

7 WHEREAS, the Chamorro Land Trust Commission has selected and

approved Tract 9, Block F, Lot 14, Barrigada, with an area of 10,049.75 square

meters for the land exchange; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, I Mina TrentaiTres Na LiheslaturanGuåhanaccepts Tract 9,

Block F, Lot14, Barrigada, for the land exchange required by Public Law No. 32-

12 226; and be it

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to

the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the

- Chairperson, Committee on Rules of I Mina 'TrentaiTres Na LiheslaturanGuåhan;
- and to the Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, I Maga'lahenGuåhan.

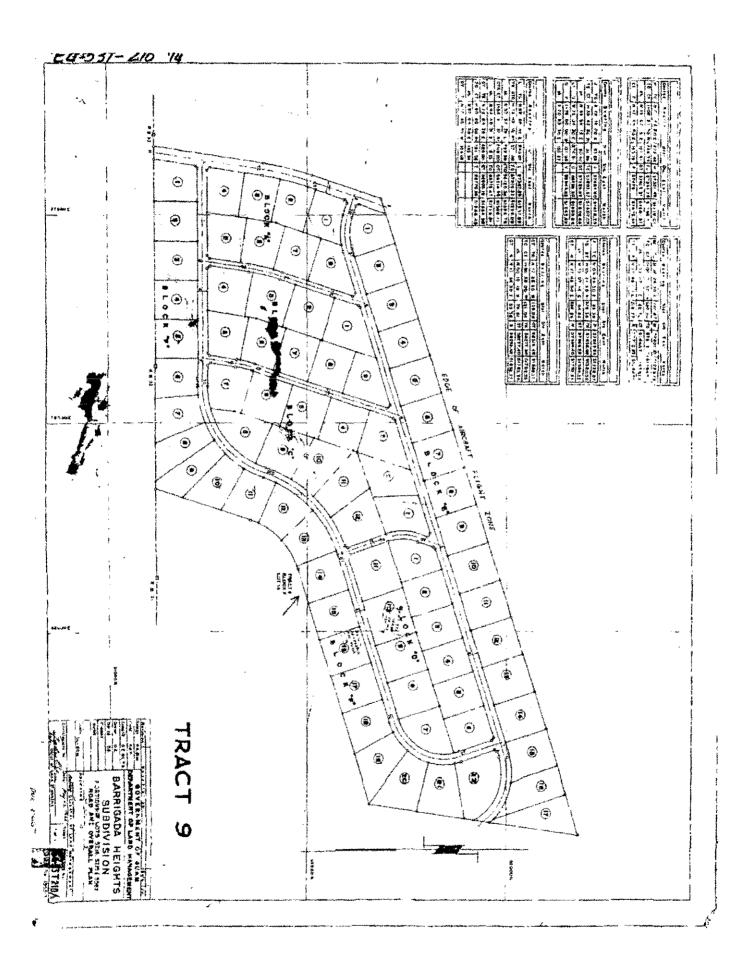
DULY AND REGULARY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAL TRES NA LIHESLATURAN GUÂHAN ON THIS ____ DAY OF _____ 2015.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D. Speaker

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TINA R. MUNA BARNES Legislative Secretary





E4-53T-2103/4

I Mina'trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation Office of Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Wednesday, April 15, 2015 • 9:30 a.m. • Public Hearing Room

Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) – "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-owned property reserved for the Department of Public Health & Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to P.L. 32-226" – sponsor: T.R. Muña Barnes

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Wednesday, April 15, 2015 • 9:30 a.m. • Public Hearing Room

Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) – "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-owned property reserved for the Department of Public Health & Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to P.L. 32-226" – *sponsor: T.R. Muña Barnes*

NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
	ANY)					
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Presenter: Sister Brigid Perez, RSM - Regalu Board Member

Regalu Project: Land for Foster Children 4/15/15

Good Morning, My dear Senators and to all of you present here, Hafa Adai!

Once again, I am here to express the importance of building the Foster Home for the Children. For 22 years the Shelter opens it door for these children because of abuse and neglect. We are here to seek your support. All of you are the key to this reality to build the home for our children here in Guam. Please, open your hearts and give the children the space and safe environment to live temporally until such time they are ready to move on. You are the key to this to solve the problem; otherwise we will have this problem as long as we exist.

Renting is not the solution. The present shelter home they are now using is not conducive; it does not meet the specification of the policy of Public Health. There are many challenges... that need to be address. Briefly, the number of children with different ages and different physical needs is just one example. Group of children need space, it is not a healthy environment when-children are using cots instead of bed, rooms not big enough, and they could be using the living room for temporary sleeping quarters. This situation can go on for weeks, months, or years... I beg again, the children need the land desperately to build the Foster Home.

Senators, Each child are part of our life, these children are the future of our Island, and they need our help. Our efforts are to provide proper living conditions for these children. One of our goal or mission as people is that we exercise greater personal responsibility to do more, to learn more, and have more, in order to be more.

As I mentioned before, working together for a better Island requires that we help one another, in a spirit of willingness and trust, without raising insurmountable barriers.

I emphasized again, the children needs the home. May we put our efforts together to create better dwelling, happy environment for our children. I have great trust and never doubted that you will address this issue to make it happen. Last year, Mr. Monte Mafnas (may he rest in peace... was very instrumental in making sure that we acquire the land. I am sure that he is looking down on all of us, praying for all of us to do the best we can to let this project go through.

Once again, my dear Senators this year Our Holy Father designate as the Year of Mercy; let us have Mercy on the Children that need our help.

I have great faith and trust in all of you that this project will be accomplished in God's time.

Pot fabot ayuda ya ta hatsa este na guma para I famagohunta.

Be assured of my love and prayers.... Thank you,. Si Yu'us Ma'ase!



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> Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2950 Hagátña, GU 96932

Website: http://dim.guam.gov

E-mail Address: dlmdir@land.guam.gov

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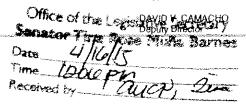
DIPÅTTAMENTON MINANEHAN TÅNO' (Department of Land Management)

GUBETNAMENTON GUÄHAN
(Government of Guam)



EDDIE BAZA CALVO Governor

RAY TENORIO Lieutenant Governor MICHAEL J.B. BORJA



April 14, 2015

Honorable Tina Rose Muna Bames
Chairperson, Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing
and Historic Preservation
33rd Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Place, Suite 101
Hagatna, Guam 96910

SUBJECT: Testimony on Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)

Buenas Yan Hafa Adai!

The Department of Land Management concurs with Resolution No. 21-33 which identifies the land to be exchanged between the Chamorro Land Trust Commission (CLTC) and the Department of Public Health and Social Services for a foster care home.

Public Law 32-226 approved the transfer of land between the two agencies, however, it directed the CLTC to identify another lot other than the one originally identified. In the course of this approval process, collective agencies and departments reviewed the use of the land and found that a larger lot would serve the community better by including a family resource facility specifically designed to assist the foster care processes. The CLTC identified several lots in the same region because of available social and community services nearby and because of the ample lot size available to build a foster home, resource services building, and potentially another residential unit.

The three sites were presented to the CLTC commissioners during their February 19, 2015, monthly meeting. The lot selected was unanimously approved by all four commissioners and is identified in this resolution. One commissioner did require me to provide additional feedback on the building footprint use on the land. At the March 19, 2015, monthly meeting, I provided a conceptual drawing of the identified lot to the commissioners which depicted the footprint of a residential building and a resource services building on the property. I also noted the need for parking and outdoor recreation. The commissioners had no objections or concerns with the conceptual layout and were contented with the updated information. This conceptual drawing was also provided to this committee and to the Committee on Land.

This lot rests at the edge of a housing subdivision in the municipality of Barrigada and makes up a part of a larger tract of CLTC land of which many lots are assigned to eligible applicants. It also is very near to the antenna farms atop the hill and about a quarter mile from a senior care facility.

The Chamorro Land Trust Commission, in originally approving a land transfer for lands reserved by Public Health for the use of a foster care home, agreed with the need to assure a facility for Guam's children is provided. Foster children are not necessarily made homeless because of acts they have committed but because of situations completely out of their control. As victims, it is the government's responsibility to assure the programs and resources are available to provide for their physical care and emotional care in an environment that provides dignity and respect. The land selected and pending your approval serves this purpose.

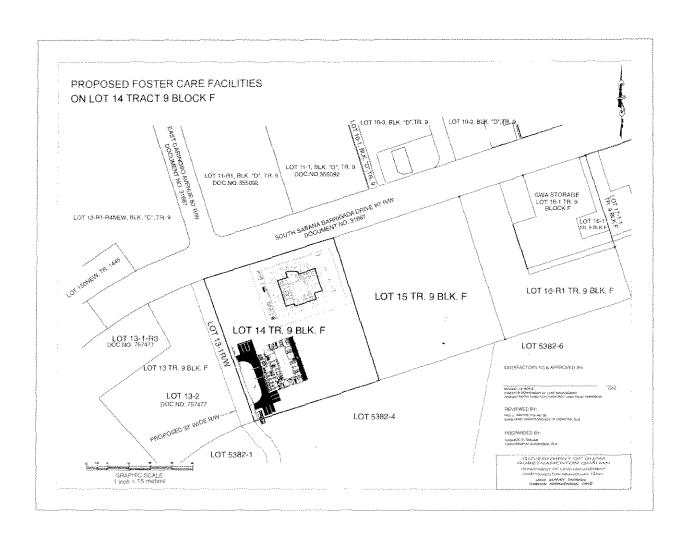
With a high rate of these foster children being Chamorro, the purpose of the land is even more self-evident and justified. The time spent debating this matter has been long and arduous. Therefore, I ask this committee to favorably report this resolution and I ask this legislative body to approve the resolution immediately.

With much gratitude, I thank you for your time and consideration.

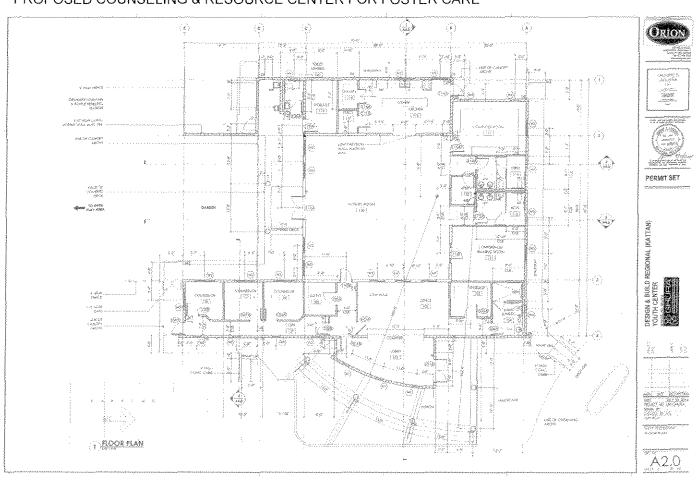
Most Respectfully,

VICHAEL //B. BORJ





PROPOSED COUNSELING & RESOURCE CENTER FOR FOSTER CARE





GHURA

Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority Aturidat Ginima' Yan Rinueban Siudat Guahan 117 Bien Venida Avenue, Sinajana, GU 96910 Phone: (671) 477-9851 · Fax: (671) 300-7565 · TTY: (671) 472-3701



April 15, 2015

Eddie Baza Calvo Governor of Guam

Ray Tenorio
Lt. Governor of Guam

David J. Sablan Chairman

Luis L.G. Paulino Vice Chairman

> John R. Ilao Commissioner

Rosie Ann Blas Commissioner

Deanne S.N. Torre Commissioner

Roland M. Selvidge Resident Commissioner

Michael J. Duenas Executive Director Honorable Tina Muna-Barnes Chairperson, Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place Hagatna, GU 96910

Re: Resolution 21-33, Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226.

Hafa Adai Madam Chairperson:

My name is Michael Duenas. I am the Executive Director of the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA). I am here this morning in support of the passage of Resolution 21-33.

First, let me provide some background of GHURA's involvement with children and families:

- 1. GHURA provides housing assistance to over 3,000 families. This represents about 8% of all island households.
- 2. There are over 13,000 individuals residing in these households. This represents about 8% of the island population.
- 3. About 58% of the residents in GHURA's housing assistance programs are under 18 years old. In contrast, about 33% of our island population is under 18 years old.

At every groundbreaking or ribbon cutting event we display a banner which reads "Strengthening Families and Building Communities One Project and at time."

Over the past 20 years GHURA has partnered with DOE to build 12 Head Start classrooms and 3 special education classrooms at the middle school grade level. We have partnered with the Department of Youth Affairs to build 3 youth resources centers serve at-risk youth and families.



GHURA has invested resources in the Sanctuary complex in Maimai and the Island Girl Power complex in Dededo. Finally, GHURA has partnered with both Catholic Social Service and Public Health to build a homeless facility for families with children, provided 5 transitional housing units for homeless families as well as a shelter for victims of domestic abused.

Perhaps the largest and most direct program we have that assist at-risk families is the Family Unification Program (FUP). This program consists of 126 special purpose housing assistance vouchers from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which we have administered over the last 15 years.

Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) are provided to two different populations:

- 1. Families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in:
- a. The imminent placement of the family's child or children in out-of-home care, or
- b. The delay in the discharge of the child or children to the family from out-of-home care.
- 2. Youth at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old who left foster care at age 16 or older and who lack adequate housing. FUP vouchers used by youth are limited, by statute to 18 months of housing assistance.
- GHURA administers the FUP in partnership with Guam's Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWAs), the Department of Public Health and Social Services. Public Health is responsible for referring FUP families and youths to GHURA for determination of eligibility for rental assistance. Once the Public Health makes the referral we place the FUP applicant on our waiting list, determine whether the family or youth meets HCV program eligibility requirements, and conduct all other processes relating to youcher issuance and administration.

In addition to rental assistance, supportive services must be provided by Public Health to FUP youths for the entire 18 months in which the youth participates in the program; examples of the skills targeted by these services include money management skills, job preparation, educational counseling, and proper nutrition and meal preparation.

There are currently 126 households in the program with a waitlist of 15 families.

From GHURA's perspective, the proposed foster care facility will be part of an array of programs intended to assist at-risk children and their



families. The foster care facility will serve as a transitional residential facility while the government sorts out the most appropriate placement option; whether it is reunification, placement with relatives or foster home placement.

Support services must be provided for at-risk families, reunified families as well as foster families. Public Health is assessing the feasibility of establishing a program service building to assist their client families. We have advised Public Health of the eligibility requirements for funding under the Community Development Block Grant program to construct such a facility. The size of the Barrigada lot can accommodate both a foster care facility and a program service building

In closing, I urge the legislature to approve the selection of the Barrigada lot. As a community, we must continue to respond to the needs of at-risk families.

Michael J. 4966 nas Executive Director

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



LEO G. CASIL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

GOVERNOR

RAY TENORIO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Honorable Tina Rose Muna Barnes Chairperson, Committee on Municipal Affairs Tourism, Housing and Guam Preservation Trust 33nd Guam Legislature 155 Hessler Place Hagatna, Guam 96910

RE: RESOLUTION No. 21-33 RELATIVE TO IDENTIFYING A SUITIBALE LOT TO EFFECTUATE AND EXCHANGE OF GOVERNMENT OWNED PROPERTY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR GOVERNMENT – OWNED PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CHAMORRO LAND TRUST COMMISSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW No. 32-226

Dear Senator Barnes:

1 have been asked to submit the following testimony by the Director, James W. Gillan on his behalf, since he is attending a Pacific Heads of Health Meeting in Fiji. He has asked me to make it clear that this testimony was prepared by him and he has instructed me to present it.

Since it was the will of all 15 members of the 32nd Legislature to reject the use of a lot in the Tamuning area, being very specific that "a suitable lot...except....lot No. 5173-1-R2NEW-6" for use to build a Foster Care Home. For whatever reasons those 15 Senators saw fit, and since P.L. 32-226 authorized the selection by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission of a suitable lot for such purpose and since P.L. 32-226 states that the Legislature, by resolution ,may reject or accept that selection, or if no action is taken within 90 days, the selection shall be deemed approved. Your Committee has opted to hold a hearing on this resolution to accept the Commission's selection. I am here to support the Commission's selection. I am not going to refer to the lot number as we attempt to keep the location somewhat confidential.

I have heard that there is some concern about the size of the lot for the proposed foster care facility as being quite large. Actually, with our plans for the future, the lot is an ideal size. In addition to building the first group home, soon thereafter, with the assistance of GHURA through the Community Development Block Grant, a resource center will also be built, and given the trend in both Emergency and longer term Foster Care placement, a second group home will be built.

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT

As you know, sadly, the need for foster care continues to grow. And more sadly, most of our children are Chamorro. What better use of Chamorro Land Trust land than to provide safe, decent housing and support service for our children. There are those here, sitting in front of me who have raised the issue of "value for value, dollar for dollar" That's outrageous!!! I have been accused of being disingenuous, by playing on the emotions surrounding the justification for this land. Really? I think those who say, I too care for the children, but...." Kind of like that old saying I'm not prejudiced, why, some of my best friends are..." I wonder really who is or was being disingenuous when the first lot was specifically **excluded**, by law. I still have hard feelings about that, but we must move on. And actually, perhaps an angel was guiding this second chance, maybe one of those angels who died due the neglect and unspeakable acts perpetrated on that angel before he or she was given back to God. This new lot will more than meet our needs. Two group homes (eventually) and a family resource center, where the whole community can come and learn parenting skills, anger management, etc. Where the healing can begin and where families can begin to be united. As you know, where possible, that is our primary purpose.

Foster Care and the protection of those innocents is a proper Government obligation, and it is a system of care, if you will, that aims to heal the sickness that prompts the need for Foster Care. All of you up there and many in the audience today, will go home after work, sit down with family or friends, have dinner perhaps, and not give another thought to those children upon who right this minute are suffering from acts so terrible, I cannot here describe some of the depravity. We have a whole armamentarium of dedicated persons, who stand the watch 24/7. Our Child Care Development staff who provided needed, but woefully inadequate foster care payments and childcare payments. The Guardian Angels, men and women of our Child Protective Service, who respond to calls, to pleas for help and witness such terrible things that it's a wonder I am so fortunate to have them continue on with their jobs. You want to talk about PTSD...these folks have it, yet they carryon. As one told me, the reward is getting the child out of the terrible circumstances, that's what keeps them going. Our hard working folks at the Attorney General's Office who work in partnership with us and the Guam Police Department, getting those children protected, and where warranted putting the worst perpetrators in Jail!

We really want to see a society where we can close up our operation. To me, that would indicate that we have been successful. But that day is far away Senators. I ask, and not humbly, actually, though respectfully, I demand that you approve this transfer of property so that our traumatized children have a safe environment, where they are not excluded from our community...remember things were done to them, they need to heal, and develop and learn in the best environment possible. The Land Trust Commission has agreed to the transfer. Approve it.

There will be other testimony brought today from caregivers, foster parents, and our own staff. We will share with you photographs of some of the environments from which we have rescued our children. You note that I say our children, because, really, they are.

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT

If I have written emotionally and from my heart, I do not do this to "game" the situation or to shame you in to action. I just tell you, the worst part of my weekly Division meetings is the report from Child Protective Services, we must let these children have their home! So when you do go home tonight, please have a good thought and a prayer for these children, and the ones who are now soon to be listed on our reports.

Please pass this resolution as soon as possible.

James W. Gillan



Department of Youth Affairs

Dipåttamenton Asunton Manhoben

Government of Guam P.O. Box 23672 GMF Barrigada, Guam 96921 Tel: (671)735-5010 Fax: (671)734-7536



Peter A. Ada Deputy Director

Public Hearing Res. No. 21-33 Testimony (Oral/Written)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my support with regards to the Foster Care Home also known as the First Lady's initiative "Regalu House". The Department of Youth Affairs wholeheartedly supports this and other efforts to provide adequate and appropriate placement services to children who find themselves as victims in what otherwise would be safe and secure homesteads.

Similarly, DYA itself has had to be used as placement for many children over the years due to the age and circumstances of individual cases too sensitive or conflicted to deal with anywhere else foster care was offered. DYA sees the need this Foster Care Home provides and would like to assure the island community that as our population grows, home situations become more distressed, pressures and unfortunate circumstances befall parents and their children, that the Government of Guam help to secure and solidify future plans by acting now on this measure. To stall the process or fail to clear obstructions would only exacerbate the trauma and added costs of caring for those most vulnerable and at risk of need for behavioral and physical health services too many to name. The services of Regalu for children and families will be more seamless and efficient by centralizing a home and respite for care through such a facility rather than using institutions and facilities such as DYA's Cottage Homes.

It is with great gratitude that other organizations continue to do their best to maintain and operate a system of care for foster children in past and current conditions, however, it behooves our leaders to see and take aim at a greater vision in the wake of the growth and development of our island by moving this effort forward. For the sake of the families and the children of today and tomorrow, we ask that this august body consider the experience and opinion of professionals to improve upon what has worked and what needs to be improved for the future.

Un Dankulo na Si Yu'uos Ma'ase yan benidise' todos hamyu. Saina Ma'ase for allowing us to testify before you today.

> Submitted by: Adonis J. Mendiola, Director



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 21-33, TO BUILD A FOSTER CARE HOME FACILITY.

Good Morning Senators:

My name is Christine San Nicolas and I am a Social Worker with the Department of Public Health and Social Services providing testimony in support of the building of a Foster Care Home Facility. However, I am not providing you testimony from a social worker perspective nor a government employee, but I am providing you testimony from my personal experience with the foster care system.

My experience first began in 1990 when my older sister was asked by Child Protective Services to take care of a 3 year old child entering into the foster care system because the natural mother was unable to provide the care she needed. Little did we know that this little girl was more than just a "temporary" addition to the family. She was a loving, funny and a happy child as long as she had a place to call home and people who she could call family.

My sister's dream was to become a mom and this child helped her achieve that dream. Then in 1995, she was asked once again to take in a 4 ½ year old boy who since the age of 2 was in and out of the Alee Shelter. 14 years later (2009), she was asked once more to open up her home to 2 female siblings (10 months old and a 4 ½ year old). As of 2015, these children are still with her. Ashley is 26 and working as a realtor, Antoinette who is now 6, is intelligent and enjoys school. Jodie, who is now 10, is involved with a dance company and is active in sports activities. These children are not only legally adopted by our family but, they are in a stable home surrounded by people they call family and know that we love them unconditionally. If it was up to my sister, she would buy a large enough house to provide shelter to children needing a home or if the foster care home was built she would dedicate and volunteer her time to make sure these children are cared for. That is what makes her a great mom.

Each of these children that my sister cared for also have siblings of their own but placed with various relatives or foster families. These children were scared, vulnerable, and insecure because they were taken away from their brothers, sisters, etc and placed in an environment that was strange and new to them and from the only place and people they called home. We all know that children are survivors and are capable of adjusting to a new environment and some may not adjust as well when not placed with their siblings.

Our family was fortunate that these children came into our lives. We love and treat them as though they are our own because loving them is the easiest part. What I feel that is most unfortunate is that when children are taken away from a dangerous environment, it is the governments job and responsibility to ensure that these children are transitioned carefully and most delicately into permanent homes. They are not pieces of a game that should be played. They are little souls depending on us to keep them safe and protected. But to do this

effectively, a foster care home facility that can serve as this "transition or bridge" that can provide the necessary services for these children, needs to be built. This facility will offer a temporary home until they are placed in permanent settings, but most importantly it will help keep the families together under one roof rather than to be torn apart because there are not enough foster homes or shelters on the island to accommodate sometimes large number of children (especially siblings). The Social Workers who work around the clock are often challenged in finding these children temporary homes at a moment's notice. This facility will add a sense of relief that children will be placed in an environment that is safe and one that can accommodate them. "As L. Lionel Kendrick states so clearly "we cannot always control everything that happens to us in life, but we can control how we respond". Although we cannot protect every child from Abuse, what we can do is help them when they need us the most by responding to their call for help in finding them a place that can keep them safe, nurtured and cared for while still being in the same company as their siblings. It is our utmost responsibility to provide them some stability in their life while they experience this transition into and out of the foster care system.

Just imagine you being pulled away from not just your home, but from your brothers and sisters. You are young, scared and have little understanding of what is happening. I ask you to look at it from the eyes of a child in the foster care system and simply respond to their need by supporting this resolution.

There is a saying that "The need for foster homes is a constant one because we want to have sufficient options to meet the children's individual needs, and that laws should be like clothes. They should be made to fit the people they serve." So let us respond to their need by serving the children who need us to be their voice, protector and advocate. Please support Resolution 21-33.



Office of the Mayor & Vice Mayor 124 Luayao Lane, Barrigada, Guam 96913

April 15, 2015

Honorable Tina R. Muña Barnes Chairperson Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation I Mina 'Trentaitres na Liheslaturan Guåhan 155 Hesler Place Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) - "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226"

Madame Chairperson, Members of the Committee

Bueñas yan saludo para todos hamyu ginen taotao Barigada. Vice Mayor Jessie Bautista and I, together with members of the Municipal Planning Council hereby submit our comments pertaining to Resolution No. 21-33 (COR).

Although the site selected by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission has selected and approved Tract 9, Block F, Lot 14 Barrigada, containing an area of 10,049± square meters, we have concerns that should be addressed before any other action is considered regarding Resolution No. 21-33 (COR).

Vice Mayor Bautista and I, have met with some of the residents that will be impacted. It must be clear from the start that the properties in question belong to the Chamorro Land Trust and some have already been leased for the specific purposes of farming and agricultural development. Another concern is the RF Radiation from the multiple telecommunication antennas situated in the area. We are concern of the long term exposure to residents. The other, is the lack of infrastructure. We take the position that adequate infrastructure, (paved roads, water, power, street lights and utilities), which we have been requesting for, be made available to the families that are already residing in the area, before Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) is adopted by I Liheslaturan Guåhan

Thank you for your time, and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at bmomayor@teleguam.net; or jessie.bautista007@gmail.com or call us at 734-3737.

Sinseramente,

P.O. Box 786, Hagátha, Guam 96932 * Tel; (671) 734-3737/3859 * Fax; (671) 734-1988 * Email; hmoudmin á teleguam.act

Dear Senators,

Today I submit to you my utmost and heartfelt support for Resolution No. 21-33, a resolution that will help ensure that children entering Guam's child welfare system always have a safe place to call home.

My name is Joan Margaret C. Blas and I am a proud public servant of the people of Guam and more specifically, I am the proud mayor of the beautiful village of Asan-Maina to include Adelup minus The Governors Complex and Nimitz Hill (up to Mama Sandy Road – Right side). Much of my duties and many of my days are spent hard at work for the people I serve. Whether it's checking on the families in more flood-prone areas or supporting the needs of the students and young kids who come to the center just to hang out and play Basketball. I spend many hours worrying and praying for the best for the kids that were brought out into this world.

While I consider this work one of my life's greatest accomplishments, I consider my most precious gifts to be the children I've opend my home to, and made part of my family. In 2009 I made the decision to become a foster parent by sharing my family with two children who desperately needed a safe place to rest their heads. The experience was so rewarding and in getting to know these children and gaining a better understanding of their lives, I decided four years later in 2013 I would make things more permanent by becoming their full legal guardian.

Since then, I pray every day that the stability I bring them will give them the love and support they need for the future. Every day these children become an even bigger part of me and I can't imagine life without them.

But in their eyes I see - and know for certain - that there are others like them who won't find someone to take them in immediatelty. They'll experience the instability of what it's like to be taken from their parents and moved around to wherever space is available - from emergency shelters to foster parents and often times, back to another shelter - and this is just when there is space.

Many times there isn't space. Many times - like right now - innocent children will find themselves waiting for a safe place to stay in the Department of Youth Affairs.

This is unacceptable and I'm here today to strongly urge your support for Resolution No. 21-33 - to provide the land needed for the Rigalu Foundation to build the Rigalu House. Together we can give foster kids a better chance of turning a not-so-good situation into

a learning experience where we do OUR job and show them how to serve and make a difference for the people who need us most.

Senators, please pass Resolution No. 21-33 and support the Rigalu Foundation's mission to serve Guam's most vulnerable children. This shouldn't be a question abnout land value. It is a question about how much we value life.

Un dangkolu na Si Yu'os M'asee and may God guide your work.

Sincerely,

Joana Margaret C, Mayor of Barrigada

Proud to be a foster parent, proud legal guardian and proud public servant



April 15, 2015

I Mina'trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guahan 155 Hesler Place Hagatna, Guam 96910

Dear Guamanian Leaders,

I write to you with great hope that, as you contemplate your support of Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) to grant the land necessary for the construction of the Rigalu House, you will consider nothing more than the urgent plight of our young, innocent foster children.

Attached with this letter you will find the most recent report provided by the Department of Public Health and Social Services' Child Welfare Division. In this report you will find that four children are currently seeking refuge in the Department of Youth Affairs correctional facility.

Unfortunately this situation occurs far more often than we, as leaders, should allow.

In working with our government partners and our community supporters, the Rigalu Foundation already has completed the necessary legwork and identified the financial means to make the Rigalu House a reality - without the use of the government's limited resources.

In addition, we have worked strategically with our DPHSS partners and our 24-7 child advocates to create a holistic, long-term vision in which the Rigalu House can be more than just an emergency shelter. We already are working with the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority to identify ways in which we can utilize federal funding to include a family resource center with the professionals and services foster children and their families need as they undergo the reunification process.

All this project needs is your stamp of approval - your vote of support for the foster children who so desperately need a place to stay in their time of crisis.

As you prepare to vote on this resolution, I urge you to remember the information provided to you in the attached report. Your support in this endeavor is guaranteed to make a difference - without it, more children will suffer at the hands of selfish inaction.



As we contemporary Guamanian leaders carry out the work that will ultimately become part of the mark of our generation. I hope to inspire you with the words of a contemporary Catholic leader charged with strengthening the spirituality of a society of rapidly-changing values:

"Any society, any nation is judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members; the last, the least, the littlest."

May we leave for our children the same, loving community our parents built for us. May we always value life above self-interest.

May God bless you, your families and all the children of Guam,

FIRST LADY CHRISTINE M.S. CAI

Founder, The Rigalu Foundation

Bureau of Social Services Administration (BOSSA) Weekly Report April 6, 2015 – April 10, 2015

HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ON CHILD WELFARE SERVICES?

- Total Child Protective Services (CPS) Intake Unit Referrals Received: 21
 (4/3/15 4/9/15)
- Number of Children that were Victims of abuse and neglect: 40

Intake and Crisis Unit

Report by Maltreatment

Physical Abuse (PA)	12
Sexual Abuse (SA)	8
Emotional Abuse (EA)	4
Neglect – Physical	5
Neglect – Medical	0
Neglect – Abandonment	0
Neglect – Educational	1
Neglect – Emotional	1
Neglect - Lack of Adult Supervision	0
Neglect – Deprivation of Necessities	0
Neglect Other:	
Referrals involving Teen Pregnancy	3
Referrals involving Children at-risk due to drug use by caretakers	7
Referrals involving exposure to Family Violence	2
Referrals involving Alcohol Abuse by caretakers	0
Referrals involving Teen Suicide	0
*Other	0
Maltreatment Total:	43

By Ethnicity

African American	0
Canadian (CN)	0
Caucasian	1
Chamorro – Guam	25
Chamorro – Saipan	0
Chinese	0
Chuukese	5

Filipino	2
Hawaiian	0
Hispanic	0
Japanese	0
Korean	0
Kosraean	0
Marshallese	0
Mexican	0
Palauan	2
Pohnpeian	0
Portuguese	0
Vietnamese	0
Yapese	0
Other	0
Unknown	5
Ethnicity Total	40

By Age and Sex of Victim (Male)

Below 1 year old	0
1 years old	0
2 years old	0
3 years old	2
4 years old	0
5 years old	0
6 years old	1
7 years old	0
8 years old	0
9 years old	0
10 years old	0
11 years old	1
12 years old	3
13 years old	1
14 years old	2
15 years old	0
16 years old	0
17 years old	3
18 years old and above	0
Unknown	0
Male Total:	13

By Age and Sex of Victim (Female)

Below 1 year old	0
1 years old	0
2 years old	0
3 years old	0

4 years old	0
5 years old	0
6 years old	0
7 years old	0
8 years old	1
9 years old	0
10 years old	0
11 years old	4
12 years old	0
13 years old	1
14 years old	7
15 years old	4
16 years old	1
17 years old	1
18 years old and above	0
Unknown	0
Female Total	19
Unknown Sex and Age	8
Unknown Gender	0
Total Count Victim	40

By CPS CAN Perpetrators

CAN Perpetrators	
Adult Relative	6
Brother	4
Classmate	2
Father	10
Mother	6
Neighbor	2
Non-Household Member	2
Residential Facility Staff	2
Unknown	6
Both Parents	6
Total CAN Perpetrators	46
In Home Perpetrators	26
Out of Home Perpetrators	16
Unknown Perpetrators	4
Total Perpetrators	46

Number of crisis: 1

Note: This referral was assigned to Crisis Unit but did not require immediate response.

Number of children subject of crisis: <u>2</u>

- The youngest victim is a 3 year old male with an allegation of physical abuse
- Number of referrals from the military: 0
- Number of referrals from schools: 5
- Number of children with disabilities: 2
- Number of referrals forwarded to Investigation Unit for assignment: 0
- Number of case transferred from Crisis Unit to Case Management Unit: 3

Investigation Unit

CAN referrals received

Referrals for active cases: 1

New referrals from Intake and Crisis Unit: 10

- CAN case assigned for Investigation Unit: 11
- CAN cases closed: 2
- CAN crisis cases transferred to Investigation Unit: 0
- CAN investigation cases transferred to Case Management Unit: 1
- Cases terminated to suspect due to not picked up (beyond 60 days): 0

Case Management Unit

No. of Cases Assigned/Closed:

CANADA STORES	No. of Cases Transferred to Case Management Unit	0	
00000	No. of Cases Closed by Case Management Unit	0	

Reunification:

No. of Children Returned to Parents' Physical Custody	0
No. of Children Returned to Parents' Legal Custody	0
No. of Children Placed Under CPS' Legal Custody	0
No. of Children Terminated From CPS' Custody	0

Foster Placements:

No. of Children Placed at Alee Shelter this week	0
No. of Children Placed at Sanctuary this week	0
No. of Children Placed in Foster Home this week	0
No. of Children Placed in Foster Home (Unlicensed)	0
No. of Children Placed in Relative Home this week	0
No. of Children Remanded to DYA this week	0
No. of Children Released from DYA this week	0
No. of Children On the Run this week	0

Home Evaluation and Home Placement Services (HEPS) Section

157 14 23 4 6 4 1 0 1 2 81 13 22 0	children in foster care children on a waiting list children are in licensed foster care children live temporarily at DYA children are at Alee Shelter children are at Sanctuary Shelter child(ren) in Latte Bridge Residential Group Home in medical facility in treatment facility in mental health facilities in placement with relatives in placement with non-relatives in parents' physical custody on the run
24 5 0 0 0 0 0 1	Licensed Foster Homes Group Homes Foster Care Renewal Foster Care Inquiries Foster Care License Issued Foster Care Amended License Issued Foster Care Packet Issued Foster Care New Application Received Foster Family Home Placement Requests
42 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 2	Licensed Child Care Centers Inspections of Child Care Centers Child Care Application Received Child Care Inquiries/Consultation Child Care Provisional License Issued Child Care Application Packet Issued Child Care Technical Assistance/Consultation Child Care Notifications Child Care Training/Conference/Meetings Child Care Site Monitoring/Inspections Other Complaint Investigation

Family Services Section

Outreach/Display Table	Services provided
Anderson Air Force Base Health and Wellness Fair "For the Love of Kids". 18 individuals visited the table	1
UPI Elementary School 3 rd	1

Quarter Parent Fair. 41 individuals visited the table	
Finegayan 5 th Annual Parent Fair, 80 individuals visited the table	1
Guma Mami Clothesline Project and Sexual Assault Awareness Fair	2
Library Reading to Children at the Hagatna Library Saturday, April 11, 2015	2
Harvest House Annual Photo Shoot for foster children Saturday, April 11, 2015 Collateral Contact	2
Meeting with Family	1
TRANSPORT	
Medical appt.	2
Counseling	3
School/home	4
VISIT	
Home visit	1
Office Visit	6
DROP	
Deliver Medicaid/MIP	2
Pick up & drop documents for Gov. Agency	1
Assist in Medical Appointment	1
Process Medicaid/MIP Application	2
Pick Up School Verification	2

Court Hearings: 10

CPS Registry Cross Check: 10

HEPS Files Processed: 2

Service Providers for Foster Children: 84

Compact Impact Report: None this week

WHAT DOES THE COMMUNITY NEEDS TO KNOW

- Call the Bureau of Social Services Administration at 475-2653/72 for more information on how to become a Foster Parent.
- Call the Bureau of Social Services Administration at 475-2653/72 of any suspect of Child Abuse and Neglect from Monday to Friday at 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For after hours, holidays, weekends and in case of emergency, please contact the Guam Police Department at 472-8911 or 911.

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

BOSSA continues to collect, tabulate and analyze the Customer Satisfaction Surveys (CSS) that were filled out and completed at the reception area by clients who walk in for services or information. The customer services standards are in accordance with the Governor's Customer Service Guideline issued on April 7, 2011 and the Bureau implemented its Customer Service Standards on April 22, 2011. This will allow BOSSA to achieve the following: Reduce customer wait time; receive customer feedback; and receive opinions on ways to improve services. No CSS were completed this week.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP/TRAINING

- On 4/7/15, the BOSSA Administrator and the direct workers attended the in-service training with the Serenity Home, Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center. The purpose of the training was to orient staff on whom they serve, as well as how they handle clients that are placed there.
- On 4/8/15, the BOSSA Administrator, Supervisors and the Licensing SW attended the public hearing at the Guam Legislature regarding the implementation of P.L. 31-73, Standards for Child Care Facilities and Group Child Care Homes.
- On 4/10/15, the BOSSA Administrator and Supervisor attended a meeting with the
 Department Director and others to discuss an upcoming legislative hearing on the
 proposed Rigalu House property in Barrigada. The Director wanted BOSSA,
 especially the first responders, to attend the hearing scheduled for 4/15/15 to show
 support, as well as share their experiences when responding to child maltreatment
 cases.
- On 4/10/15, the PCIII and Administrative Assistant attended the Receipt, Stage, and Store (RSS) Team Meeting in the department Central Office.

PhPro Status

- The Intake Unit has been using the PH Pro since January 2015 and has completed
 a full quarter of inputting referrals and other information. It appears that the system
 is collecting the information that has been included in the weekly, monthly, and
 quarterly reports. Beginning this quarter, the unit will cease using the spreadsheet
 that was created to collect statistics.
- The PCIII continues to assist staff with PhPro issues, with the assistance of the Management Analyst I.

Prepared by: Lerma G. Duarosan, Program Coordinator III 4/13/15

Dear Senators,

This testimony is submitted to you in support of Resolution No. 21-33 for the transfer of land between two government-controlled entities for the purpose of providing vulnerable children under the care of child welfare services with a safe, emergency shelter.

As the president of the Rigalu Foundation and a proud supporter of First Lady Christine Calvo's efforts to help Guam's foster children, I can tell you with certainty that this emergency shelter is needed. In my tenure as the organization's president, I have learned so much about the needs of foster children and the greatest of these is the most basic: a safe, place to stay in their time of crisis.

Building the Rigalu House has been the top priority of the foundation since we first found out that innocent children were being placed in the Department of Youth Affairs correctional facility as an emergency measure when there was no other place for them to stay. We believe, as many others, that this is unacceptable.

Since then, we have been fundraising and working with our partners at the Department of Public Health and Social Services and many of our other community partners to build a safe, loving home away from home for our foster kids until they can be placed with a foster family or reunited with their own families.

The Rigalu Foundation is committed to supporting the government agencies that serve these children. Our role will be to ensure that this facility is a 'home'. As many of you know - children need more than just food and water. When children become part of the CPS and foster care system, they often neen school uniforms, socks, shoes, toothbrushes and more of the things we take for granted every day. The Rigalu Foundation is committed to playing this supportive role while letting the experts focus more on their jobs to help these children and their families get the professional services they need to be reunited.

Senators, the question today isn't how much is the land worth - it's how much are these poor inncocent children worth? We've always been a community that supports one another by reaching out and helping the least fortunate. Today we have the opportunity to show our children the true *inafa'maolek* spirit.

Please support Guam's most vulnerable children. Please pass Resolution No. 21-33 and help build the Rigalu House today.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase yan Si Yu'os fan imbenedisi,

Evelina McDonald

President, The Rigalu Foundation

Cheli C. Madell

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Nimitz Estates
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Re: Rigalu House Emergency Shelter for Foster Children, Res No. 21-33 /

Buenas, yan Hafa Adai, Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas, Chair and Committee on Finance & Taxation, General Governmental Operations & Youth Development of the 33rd Guam Legislature. We are the above-captioned Evelyna and Evelyn, respectively here this morning in favor of the Rigalu House request for land to build an Emergency Shelter for Foster Children.

Every child deserves to be cherished, nurtured and cared for in a safe and loving environment, with dignity by his or her parents. Sometimes, in our dysfunctional and aberrant society, this is not possible. This is where the Government steps in to interfere with private citizens' rights in order to protect minor, unemancipated children with the Child Protective Services. When it is deemed in the best interests of the minor child, physical custody is remanded to the foster care system. The inventory of available homes is not adequate to accommodate the foster children population and these wards are institutionalized in the Department of Youth Affairs (DYA) mainstreamed and exposed to "hardened" youth, where the foster children can be bullied and learn socially unacceptable character traits. While we are sure that the DYA staff carry out their duties and responsibilities in a very professional manner, they cannot watch every child 24/7, thus harm may actually happen to these foster children.

It is our understanding from the Rigalu Foundation that funding is available to erect/build a home befitting these foster children where they can be cared for, nurtured and cherished. This is such a wonderful cause and it removes the burden from the Government of Guam since a private foundation is willing to undertake this noble and humanitarian responsibility. We wholeheartedly support this idea which is long overdue. We ask that our elected leaders, with the power to make the Rigalu House come to fruition, likewise support this idea and do whatever it takes to make this a reality. Our foster children deserve nothing less. Ayuda fan, pot fabot!

Thank you for your time and Dankalu na si Yu'os Ma'ase!

July Day- Castanela

Eyelyn A. Blas-Castaneda

April 15, 2015

Senator Tina Rose Muna Barnes Chairperson Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation

Testimony: Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226.

Good Morning Chair and Senator Tina Muna Barnes and all Senators and members of the committee.

I am Lydia Diaz Tenorio, retiree as Human Services Administrator after serving over 30 years with the Bureau of Social Services Administration of the Department of Public Health & Social Services. My years of work were mostly with the bureau which provided all of Child Welfare Services to our island. Such services included Child Protective Services, Foster Care Services, Adoption and Custody Services, Child Care Licensure, etc., among contractual services for Alee Shelter for abused and neglected children; Alee Shelter for abused women and their children and the San Jose Homeless Shelter with Catholic Social Services.

I am confident and here to attest that this resolution is truly an investment for our foster children who are a vulnerable and delicate population that must and deserve to be well served. These children are clearly WARDS of the state. We therefore assume parental responsibility to ensure their health, safety, protection and overall welfare while in Protective Custody.

The initiative to build a home for Foster Children was a Vision of First Lady Christine Calvo that was welcomed by most stakeholders who served our children. This outcry was recognized as another alternative and need to support Foster Placement.

In addition, it was also her primary initiative to ensure continued support and recognition to our licensed Foster Families and assist in growing the number of licensed Family Foster Homes. Then and as of today, much action continues in recruiting and retaining Family Foster Homes. The need for Family Foster Homes is crucial for alternative placements, but continues to be a recruitment challenge that is not only isolated to our island, but also nation wide. Families that can commit to this endeavor are unique and not easy to secure.

In the beginning of my work, there were a few existing licensed Foster Families, among families or relatives who were able, stable, available and accessible. At times, we would take a child into our own homes for the sake of placement. No longer were those days, as the deterioration of the family structure and the security of families or relatives eventually dissipated; families also had struggles of their own; liabilities existed when workers took children home; and the increase and complexities of cases compounded the agency. The POKSAI

practice was also hampered by the requirement of legal documentation for custody. In addition, some of our children were beginning to be placed off island in residential or institutional care.

Those challenges made for the agency to become resourceful and provide for alternatives at which time the Alee Shelter for abused and neglected children was created which exist today, but is limited to space as cases continue to increase; Sanctuary Incorporated became a place for youths and unfortunately, sometimes the Department of Youth Affairs or Cottage Home was the alternative. Although, these agencies also have regulations of their own and are limited to only certain placements. Currently, Cottage Home no longer exists. Today, resorting to off-island placement is only to be considered if all services on island are exhausted, so the creation of residential homes are here today to keep our children home and in touch with families to get involved and included in treatment services.

The role of Child Protective Services is crucial in ensuring the protection of children when removed and providing for care. While cases will continue to increase and families continue to experience sudden calamities that warrant our intervention, we must continue to provide the resource and support necessary for CPS to perform their functions. It is not an easy task to remove, let alone having to find placements for children when there are a few or overloaded placement alternatives. While the child is in crisis due to removal, sometimes CPS is in a difficult predicament when there is no ideal placement. While Families First is the preferred, some time may be necessary to ensure assessments are made for appropriate placements and reunification.

Unless you walk in the shoes of a CPS Social Worker, you will not be able to comprehend the amount of work and time that is involved when exerting Protective Custody over a child. Placement is only one component of a case among securing the health, education, physical and emotional well-being of a child, among other needs or even Special Needs.

I am therefore in full support of this resolution, so that there can be implementation of Public Law 32-226 and added alternatives to temporary care for our Children away from home. It is our hope that our Foster Children will be provided with better placement outcomes to ensure reconnection to families and/or permanency placements.

Thank you for this opportunity.

ĽÝDIA D. ŤENORO

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



RAY TENORIO LIEUTENANT GÓVERNOR LEO G. CASIL

TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTION NO. 21-33 April 15, 2015

Buenas! Senator Muna Barnes. My name is Linda Rodriguez and I am the Administrator for the Bureau of Social Services Administration (BOSSA) of the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS). Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present testimony on Resolution No. 21-33 (Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate and exchange of government owned property for the DPHSS for government owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission to Public Law No. 32-226).

BOSSA's mission is to provide protective services to children and strengthen families. When Child Protective Services (CPS) receives a referral on child abuse or neglect, an immediate response may be necessary. These referrals may involve children being left unattended for hours by a parent in the home or out in public in the middle of the night or early morning. Some of these children are infested with head lice and live in deplorable conditions without power or water. There are also physical or sexual abuse cases which may involve domestic violence or substance abuse by one or both parents. The Guam Police Department (GPD) may call CPS after normal working hours to request for CPS' assistance because parents are being arrested and there is no one identified to care for these children. In more fatal cases, there may be a suspicious death of a child and the parents are the alleged perpetrators so other children living in the home may be removed.

Most of these scenarios warrant immediate response by CPS because children are in imminent danger. Child Protective Services (CPS) Social Workers who respond to these child maltreatment cases are often left with no options for placement. Some cases occur beyond the normal working hours so placement may become an issue, if parents have not identified any relatives to care for their children.

When children are removed from their homes, they are traumatized and often experience fear and confusion. A very young child can cry for hours because he or she does not understand why they are being separated from their family. CPS tries to keep siblings together when they are removed from their home, but sometimes it is difficult to place a family with six or more children.

In these type of situations, the Alee Shelter for Children is a very important component for foster children within the Bureau. Since 1993, the Alee Shelter for Children has provided a safe haven for our abused, abandoned and neglected children on Guam.

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT

Not only does the shelter help these children heal from child abuse and neglectful experiences, but it provides a loving and nurturing home environment. Although the shelter is an emergency shelter for children in crisis, children may exceed their 90 day stay because there are no alternative placements. When this occurs, it places the Bureau in a very difficult position.

BOSSA funds the Alee Shelter for Children through the local Foster Care Account. This account is funded through the General Fund and is very limited. Funds are available to care for only a maximum of 12 children at the shelter at any given time. However, it is not uncommon for the shelter to exceed its capacity because there is a shortage of foster homes on our island. Between December 2014 to March 2015, the Alee Shelter had 12 to 15 children residing at the shelter because it was difficult for the Bureau to find placement for these children.

The Bureau expended \$627,712.75 in foster care reimbursements and an additional \$21,626.67 for other foster care expenditures such as therapeutic foster care, passports, prescription eye glasses, psychotropic medications, dental treatments, neurological exams and other medical treatments not covered under Medicaid or the Medically Indigent Program (MIP). The DPHSS expended \$287,658.38 for foster children under the Medicaid Program and \$708.05 under the Medically Indigent Program (MIP).

In FY2014, there were a total of **236** foster children under the Bureau's legal custody. Of the 236 foster children, (178) were of Chamorro descent. The remaining children included: (25) Chuukese, (9) Pohnpeians, (7) Filipinos, (7) Caucasians, (6) Palauans, (2) Yapese and (2) Koreans.

Currently, there are 161 children under foster care on Guam and only 24 licensed foster homes on our island. Of the 161 children, only 23 foster children are in licensed foster homes. The remaining children are with relatives, group homes or have been reunited with their parents.

Many adults who were abused as children remember one special person who talked to them, spent time with them, smiled at them or just made them feel good about themselves. The Alee Shelter staff or a foster parent can be this special person in an abused child's life. These special people have the opportunity to give our foster children new information about who they are and what they have to offer. Foster children may have many questions, need to talk things over, or need quiet reassurance. Whatever these children need, foster parents can give them an important and lifelong gift.

Each day, the safety and well-being of our children on Guam are threatened by child abuse and neglect. The numbers keep increasing and we definitely have a need to provide a better living environment for children who have been removed from their homes. Intervening effectively in the lives of these vulnerable children is not the sole responsibility of any single agency or professional group, but rather it should be a shared community concern.

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We humbly ask the 33rd Guam Legislature's compassion and support on transferring the property so we can build a new shelter for our foster children that come under the Department of Public Health and Social Services' temporary legal custody. Our foster children deserve a clean, safe and loving home away from their homes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and thank you for supporting the foster children of Guam.

Senseramente,

LINDA B. RODRÍGÚEZ

Human Services Program Administrator

TESTIMONY

My name is Arlene Gadia and I am currently a Social Service Supervisor with the Child Protective Services Section (CPS) of the Bureau of Social Services Administration (BOSSA). I have been working with CPS since 1996 when I started as a Social Worker in the Investigation Unit and was a line worker for 5 years before becoming a supervisor. I had the opportunity to oversee the Investigation Unit for 12 years and now the Intake/Crisis Unit for approximately 1 ½ years. Throughout this time, I have worked alongside a group of very hard working and dedicated employees whom are all committed to the Bureau's mission of providing quality protective services to children and strengthening their families.

The Bureau has continuously been challenged with many issues, but most especially with manpower shortage and a lack of foster homes. Yet thru these trying times, the direct services personnel, social workers and paraprofessionals, and the administrative and program management staff, have worked together to ensure that the mission is met.

This morning, I would like to share with you some real life scenarios of what our CPS workers encounter. Very briefly, let me explain what happens when we receive a referral alleging child maltreatment. Referrals are received 24 hours, 7 days a week via phone calls, walk-ins, and facsimiles. During the regular work day, referrals are received by the intake workers in the unit. After hours, an on-call supervisor receives the referrals. The referral is then assessed for its validity and the type of response required. If it requires immediate response, it is assigned to a crisis worker. Currently, there are 3 crisis workers. All other referrals are assigned to the Investigation Unit, which is currently manned by 6 workers.

When crisis workers and investigators, and sometimes case managers, respond or meet with the clients and/or their families, they sometimes encounter more issues than what is initially reported in the referral. What may not have initially been deemed a crisis is now a case with very serious safety concerns. Inasmuch as workers make every effort to keep children with their families, sometimes the families are unable or unwilling to make provisions for their safety. They may also be unwilling or unable to engage in services recommended by the Bureau and other service providers. As a result, the children need to be removed from their placement. In some cases, there may be a suspicious child death, warranting the removal of the other children in the household, pending further investigation by CPS, as well as law enforcement.

What happens then to these children and where do they get placed? If the removal is late in the evening or in the early morning hours, the supervisor and worker will usually call the Alee Shelter or Sanctuary, Inc., whom have been very accommodating during the afterhours, even if they are at their maximum capacity. It wasn't uncommon for BOSSA staff to ask Sr. Bridget, "Can you please take in the children?" and her response would be, "We already have 11 children. If we take them in, they would have to sleep on futons." The next day, the worker and the licensing worker are scrambling to find alternate placement for the minors and hoping that siblings will not have to be separated, which can cause further trauma.

In the 18 years of my employment with BOSSA, I have not known the Alee Shelter, wherever it was located, to be licensed for more than 10 children. Only recently has it been licensed to accommodate 12 children. Although the Alee Shelter is supposed to be an emergency shelter, BOSSA has had some children remain

there for over a year because there are multiple siblings with special needs and/or the Family Court judge refuses to have siblings separated.

What I'd like to do next is highlight some real life scenarios that our workers have had to respond to. As I do so, a binder of pictures will be circulated.

FXAMPLES

1. CPS on-call supervisor received a call regarding an infant who was brought to the hospital emergency room. Efforts to resuscitate the child were unsuccessful and she was pronounced dead. Child was described as malnourished among other things. Crisis worker was dispatched. She went to the hospital, as well as the family home where the child resided with her parents and 6 other siblings, ranging from 3 years old to 13 years old. The home had 1 bedroom and one bathroom. In addition to worker observing the home to be substandard, the worker also noted some hazards, a bucket filled with water next to electrical cords and mold build up on the wall.

Due to concerns surrounding the death of this child and the home conditions, the remaining 6 children were removed from their parents' care. Some of them were placed with relatives while some were placed at the Alee Shelter. Today, none of the surviving children have returned to their parents' care.

- 2. CPS received numerous calls regarding a family that was soon to be evicted and that they were planning to move to an abandoned home that had no power or running water. Worker, along with a GPD escort, went to the family's residence and found it littered, inside and out. The home was found unsuitable and unsafe for this family of 4 children, ranging from 10 months old to 6 years old. The children's mother was asked to seek alternate placement for herself and the children. Due to mother's unwillingness to cooperate, CPS had to exert temporary legal custody of the minors. Fortunately, physical custody of the children was arranged with family. The children have since been reunited with their mother.
- 3. CPS received a call requesting the presence of a worker as the GPD was conducting a raid on a home. Stolen items, drugs, and weapons were found in the home where 4 families reportedly resided with 7 children, ranging from 4 months old to 9 years old. All parents were to be arrested. As the living conditions were poor and unsafe and further assessment/investigation was necessary, temporary legal custody was exerted over all the children whom were placed at the Alee Shelter. They have since been reunited with their families.
- 4. CPS received a referral alleging medical neglect of an infant whom had multiple hospital admissions during his first 6 months since birth. He would be discharged home, yet return to the hospital. Home visits by the CPS worker and other service providers noted that the family's living conditions were very poor and not conducive to the infant's medical issues. The family was asked to secure other living arrangements, but were unable to do so. Eventually, CPS exerted temporary legal custody over this minor and placed him in foster care where he has continued to thrive.
- 5. CPS received a referral regarding an infant that was brought via ambulance to the hospital emergency room. Although CPR was administered while enroute, he was unresponsive upon arrival and subsequently pronounced dead. It was reported that the minor appeared

malnourished and he also had questionable marks throughout his body. This was confirmed by the crisis worker whom was dispatched to the hospital where she and a GPD officer observed the minor at the morgue. Two other CPS social workers were sent to the home to secure the 7 other children, ranging from 7 months old to 13 years old. While at the family residence, they observed certain parts of the home to be in disarray, as well as unclean. There was no food in the refrigerator and the only food in the home were some non-perishable items. There also was no baby formula in the home. Drug paraphernalia was also found and was easily accessible to the children living in the home.

Due to concerns surrounding the death of this child and the concerns of drug use, the remaining 7 children were removed from their parent's care and placed in foster care. At the time of placement, two licensed fosters were readily available to take the children. However, arrangements were soon made for them to all be placed together at the Alee Shelter as they could provide them the stability needed. This placement, as well, was highly recommended by the children's therapists who did not want the children to be further traumatized. The case remains active and efforts are being made to transition the children to family.

I can only hope that having heard of just some of the cases that our devoted workers respond to that you all vote yes to pass the bill so that the Rigalu House can be built without further delay. Our children deserve a home away from home that is free from abuse or neglect.

Finally, one last scenario that I would like to share is of a minor who just recently turned 18 years old and who was a previous client of CPS. He came to CPS' attention when he was 12 years old. He was physically abused by his father and his mother could not care for him. He adamantly refused to return to his father even if he engaged in services. In the meantime, he went from one placement to another, a relative, the Alee Shelter, DYA Cottage Home, a licensed foster home, the Latte Treatment Center, until he was successfully reunited with his father. Most recently, CPS received a call from a concerned citizen as he witnessed a young man who appeared to be homeless and sleeping at the beach. It was this same minor who was one month shy of his 18th birthday. He told this person that he was kicked out of his home and had nowhere else to go. CPS had told the caller to report the minor to GPD as they may be able to locate the minor's father. It turned out that the minor had left the home on his own accord and father did know his whereabouts. Ultimately, the minor went to Sanctuary, Inc.

CPS learned that while the minor was away from home, the one place he seemed to remember was Alee, which is defined as 'to the leeward side, the sheltered side'. After approximately 2 years since the closure of his CPS case, he apparently still remembered the **ALEE SHELTER.** It was reported that he went to the current location of the Alee Shelter, knocking on their door, looking for Sr. Bridget. The staff, unfortunately, could not acknowledge that this was the Alee Shelter.

Hafa Adai,

Good morning Senators, my name is Julia Quinene, I'm a Homemaker with the Family Support Services, under the Department of Public Health and Social Services, (DPHSS), Bureau of Social Services Administration (BOSSA), which is also Child Protective Services (CPS). I'm here, in behalf of my colleagues, to speak up on the importance of having another shelter built for our children. As a Homemaker, one of my job descriptions is to assist with crisis when needed. Senators, I would like to share my testimony as a Homemaker going out on a crisis with the Social Workers and having to exert a child, sometime's it' a family of two and sometimes six. Senators, it is very heartbreaking and traumatizing for a child or children when they are removed from their parents or guardian and then having to find placement for them because the shelter is full or they only have one or two rooms available and having to separate the children from their siblings after being separated from their parents is traumatizing and heartbreaking!

Senators, I witness the hard work, the countless hours and the sacrifices that the Social Workers go through trying to find a safe place for the children because the only shelter on island is not accepting anymore children due to, no space available. This is heartbreaking!

Senators, in the end of the day, you and I have a home to go to and a bed to sleep, while these children are waiting to be placed at a home that they are not familiar with and are traumatize by the separation from their love ones.

Senators, in closing, I, humbly asked for your consideration in this matter. Thank you and May God bless you all.

Submitted by:

Julia S.A. Quinene, Homemaker

April 13, 2015

Testimony for Public Hearing for Resolution No. 21-33

Approval of Tract 9, Block F, Lot 14. Barrigada for Foster Care Home

DPHSS-CLTC Land Transfer, PL 32-266

Cindy L. Chugrad 194 Hernan Cortez Ave. Suit 309 Hagatna, Guam 96910

Good Morning Madam Chair and all the Committee Members. My name is Cindy Chugrad and I am the Licensing Social Worker for Foster Homes with the Bureau of Social Services and Administration under the Department of Public Health and Social Services. One of my main roles is to certify homes for foster children and place children in these homes when Child Protective Services (CPS) removes children due to Abuse or Neglect.

I have been working as a Licensing Worker for eight (8) years and all through those eight (8) years it is has been very difficult to place foster children when more than one sibling is removed from home. We tried to place siblings together but due to no placement, we have to separate them which causes more trauma to the children. Teenagers and children with severe medical or special needs are also difficult to place. Another Foster Care Home will help our foster children be in an adequate place while services are provided to their parents to work toward reunification. Therefore, I fully support this Public Law 32-266 and hopefully one day our dream will come true by building a Foster Care Home.

I hope you will help secure for our children for they are our future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cindy L. Chugrad
Social Worker III
Bureau of Social Services
Department of Public Health and Social Services



234A U.S. Army Juan C. Fejeran Street Barrigada, Guam 96913 Tel: 671-635-1406 Fax: 671-635-1444

Email: css@guam.net Website: www.catholicsocialserviceguam.org

Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron OFM CAP D.D. President / Chairman Board of Trustees

Diana B. Calvo Executive Director

Peter John Camacho Deputy Director April 15, 2015

Senator Tina Muna-Barnes Legislative Secretary 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Ste. 101 Hagatna, Guam 96910

Re: Support for Resolution No. 21-33

Dear Senator Muna-Barnes:

Buenas. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Agana dba Catholic Social Services submits this Letter of Support for the identification of a lot for the Rigalu House.

It remains a tragedy that within our island community, children continue to be neglected or abused by those who should be nurturing and protective. The Rigalu House is slated to be a center for both the protective sheltering of children from birth to seventeen years, or through twenty-one if a child with a disability, and a place where parents can be strengthened in their roles through support and assistance from community groups, including the government.

Consideration for location of a lot should include sufficient space to enable a healing environment for children placed in shelter, and be fairly accessible to government and community services, including schools and parks. The site should consider the age range to include age appropriate designs.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input on a very critical issue – ensuring the health and welfare of Guam's children.

Senseramente,

Diana Calvo
Executive Director





GOVERNMENT OF GUAM



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



JAMES W. GILLAN DIRECTOR

LEO G. CASIL DEPUTY DIRECTOR

RAY TENORIO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Street Hagatna, Guam 96910

Attn:

Tina Rose Muna-Barnes, Senator

Legislative Secretary

< senator@tinamunabarnes.com >

Subject:

Testimony in Support of Resolution 21-33

[to approve designated property to build Rigalu House]

Dear Senator Muna-Barnes,

On behalf of Project *Kariñu*, we would like to indicate our support of efforts to construct *Rigalu* House. We are aware this resolution is intended to identify property for construction of the facility and we invite the opportunity to discuss provision of social-emotional services to children (and their care-givers). The facility can include design elements to maximize on healing a child who is placed in shelter because of negative circumstances that prompted their removal from family.

What is Project *Kariñu?* We partner to work with a child and their family in provided Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) services. How is this done? First, by listening to their needs, and secondly, by helping the child and their family identify areas they would like to improve upon while building on their strengths. Our vision statement is simple – Our children and families will have healthy minds, bodies and spirits for lifelong success. We believe that children that live in loving and nurturing home environments are more likely to grow into healthy, happy and productive adults.

The establishment of an appropriate facility is a step in providing quality services. We can deduce that the needs of our children will continue to increase. Unfortunately, the urgency for a facility like *Rigalu* House, is over-due. Should you have any questions regarding this letter of support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lilli Pere≰ÆhD ECMH Provider Project *Kariñu*

Office of the Legislative Secretary

Anathor Time Rose Model Name

Cape.

Alceived by

COMMITTEE ON RULES



I Mina trentai Tres na Liheslaturan Guåhan • The 33rd Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • www.guamlegislature.com E-mail: roryforguam@gmail.com • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

Senator Rory J. Respicio CHAIRPERSON MAJORITY LEADER

February 25, 2015

Senator Thomas C. Ada Vice Chairperson Assistant Majority Leader

Speaker Judith T.P. Won Pat, Ed D. Member

> Vice-Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member

Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muna Barnes Member

Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr. Member

> Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. Member

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member

Senator Nerissa Bretania Underwood Member

> V. Anthony Ada MINORITY LEADER.

Mary C. Tortes MINORITY MEMBER

MEMORANDUM

To: Rennae Meno

Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Therese M. Terlaje Legislative Legal Counsel

From: Senator Rory J. Respicio

Majority Leader & Rules Chair

Subject: Referral of Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)

As Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of Resolution No. 21-33 (COR). Please ensure that the subject resolution is referred, in my name, to the respective sponsor, as shown on the attachment.

I also request that the same be forwarded to all Senators of *I Mina'trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

Si Yu'os ma'åse!

(1) Attachment

l Mina Trental Dos Na Liheslaturan Guåhan Resolutions Log Sheet

Resolution			an. 1444 ann ann an 1444 ann ann an 1444 ann an 1	Date of	Date	Committee / Ofc
No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Presentation	Referred	Referred
21-33 (COR)	T.R. Muña Barnes	Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an	02/23/15		2/25/2015	The
	Name of the state	exchange of government-own property reserved for	2:34 p.m.			Sponsor
	***************************************	the Department of Public Health and Social Services for				****
		government-owned property owned by the Chamorro				
		Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-				
		226.				

First Notice of Public Hearing - Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Jeanenne Cordero < jean@tinamunabarnes.com>

Wed, Apr 8, 2015 at 1:05 PM

Reply-To: Jeanenne Cordero < jean@tinamunabarnes.com>

To: Phnotice <phnotice@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: Tom Unsiog <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org>, Yong Pak <yong@guamlegislature.org>, Adam Bearce

<adam@guamlegislature.org>, Clerks Office <clerks@guamlegislature.org>, Stephanie Flores

<sgflores@tinamunabames.com>, Bernice Rivera <bernice@tinamunabames.com>, Millie Acfalle

<millie@tinamunabarnes.com>, Darryl Bearce <darryl@tinamunabarnes.com>, Tomas Gutierrez

<ctomasg68@gmail.com>

FIRST PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 8, 2015

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9:30 a.m. **Resolution No. 21-33 (COR)** - "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the

Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to Public Law No. 32-226" – sponsor: T.R. Muña Barnes

2:00 p.m. Informational Hearing from the Ayuda Foundation, Inc. on the I Manmofo'na Latte Village poster and books project – P.L. 32-181, Section 25: Appropriates to GVB for Ayuda Foundation, Inc. the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

Pursuant to 5 GCA, Chapter 8, Subsection 8107, public hearing notices should be sent on Wednesday, March 4, 2015, which is five (5) working days prior and a second public notice on Monday, March 9, 2015, which is forty-eight (48) hours prior.

Written testimonies may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to ten days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes, 155 Hesler Place, Hagatña Guam 96910, via facsimile to 472-3400 or via email to senator@tinamunabarnes.com. We comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you require assistance or accommodations please contact Jeanenne Cordero or Stephanie Flores from our office at 472-3455/6 or via email atjean@tinamunabarnes.com or sgflores@tinamunabarnes.com. Ilook forward to your attendance and participation.

CC:

Jeanenne "Jean" P. Cordero Office Manager Office of Senator Tina Muna Barnes

Tel: 671-472-3455/6 Fax: 671-472-3400

jean@tinamunabarnes.com

2 attachments



First Notice.pdf



Agenda.pdf 374K



I Mina'Trentai Tres Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

FIRST PUBLIC NOTICE

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Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

cc: Sergeant-At-Arms/Protocol/AV

MIS

Clerk of the Legislature

All Media

4/8/2015 Print

Subject: First Notice of Public Hearing - Wednesday, April 15, 2015

From: Jeanenne Cordero (jean@tinamunabarnes.com)

To: michael.borja@land.guam.gov, james.gillan@dphss.guam.gov,

Cc: janice.sablan@guam.gov,

Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2015 1:25 PM

FIRST PUBLIC NOTICE

April 8, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Michael J.B. Borja, Director, DLM

Mr. James W. Gillan, Director, DPHSS

FROM: Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes

SUBJECT: First Notice – Public Hearing

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

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Si Yu'os Ma'ase'!

Attachments

cc: First Lady Christine Calvo CLTC

4/8/2015 Print

Jeanenne "Jean" P. Cordero Office Manager Office of Senator Tina Muna Barnes

Tel: 671-472-3455/6 Fax: 671-472-3400

jean@tinamunabarnes.com



Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

FIRST PUBLIC NOTICE

April 8, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mr. Michael J.B. Borja, Director, DLM

Mr. James W. Gillan, Director, DPHSS

FROM:

Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes

SUBJECT:

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Attachments

cc:

First Lady Christine Calvo

CLTC



Office of The Legislative Secretary
Tina Rose Muña Barnes

SECOND PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 10, 2015

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Historic Preservation Review Board of Directors

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Si Yu'os Ma'ase'!

cc: Sergeant-At-Arms/Protocol/AV

MIS

Clerk of the Legislature All Media 4/10/2015 Print

Subject: SECOND NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING, APRIL 15, 2015

From: Jeanenne Cordero (jean@tinamunabarnes.com)

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org;

sgtarms@guamlegislature.org; yong@guamlegislature.org; adam@guamlegislature.org;

clerks@guamlegislature.org; sgflores@tinamunabarnes.com; millie@tinamunabarnes.com;

bernice@tinamunabarnes.com; darryl@tinamunabarnes.com; tomas@tinamunabarnes.com;

talicto@tinamunabarnes.com;

Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 8:56 AM

Cc:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 10, 2015

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cc: Sergeant-At-Arms/Protocol/AV

Clerk of the Legislature

Print

MIS

All Media

Jeanenne "Jean" P. Cordero Office Manager Office of Senator Tina Muna Barnes

Tel: 671-472-3455/6 Fax: 671-472-3400

jean@tinamunabarnes.com

Subject: SECOND NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015

From: Jeanenne Cordero (jean@tinamunabarnes.com)

To: michael.borja@land.guam.gov, james.gillan@dphss.guam.gov,

Cc: janice.sablan@guam.gov,

Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 9:07 AM

SECOND PUBLIC NOTICE

April 10, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Michael J.B. Borja, Director, DLM

Mr. James W. Gillan, Director, DPHSS

FROM: Senator Tina Rose Muña Barnes

SUBJECT: Second Notice – Public Hearing

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

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CLTC

Si Yu'os Ma'ase'!

Attachments

cc: First Lady Christine Calvo

Jeanenne "Jean" P. Cordero Office Manager Office of Senator Tina Muna Barnes

Tel: 671-472-3455/6 Fax: 671-472-3400

jean@tinamunabarnes.com



Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

SECOND PUBLIC NOTICE

April 10, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mr. Michael J.B. Borja, Director, DLM

Mr. James W. Gillan, Director, DPHSS

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SUBJECT:

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Attachments

CC:

First Lady Christine Calvo

CLTC

Listserv: <u>phnotice@guamlegislature.org</u> Updated as of March 25, 2015

aalladi@guampdn.com
action@weareguahan.com
admin2@guamrealtors.com
admin@frankaguonjr.com
admin@guamrealtors.com
admin@weareguahan.com
aguon4guam@gmail.com
agusto.aflague@gmail.com
ahernandez@guamlegislature.org
ajuan@kijifm104.com
alerta.jermaine@gmail.com
aline4families@gmail.com
am800guam@gmail.com
amandalee.shelton@mail.house.gov
amcborja@gmail.com
amier@mvguam.com
ang.duenas@gmail.com
ataligba@gmail.com
av@guamlegislature.org
avon.guam@gmail.com
baza.matthew@gmail.com
bbautista@spbguam.com
bdydasco@senatorada.org
bella@judiwonpat.com
bernice@tinamunabarnes.com
berthaduenas@guamlegislature.org
betsy@spbguam.com bmkelman@guampdn.com
brantforguam@gmail.com
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ccastro@guamchamber.com.gu
ccharfauros@guamag.org
ccolbert@guamlegislature.org
ccruz.duenas@gmail.com
charlesonedera@gmail.com
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Office of The Legislative Secretary Tina Rose Muña Barnes

Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Historic Preservation Confirmation/Public Hearing 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 15, 2015

AGENDA

- Appointment of James P. Viernes, History Alternate Member, Guam Historic Preservation Review Board of Directors
- Resolution No. 21-33 (COR) "Relative to identifying a suitable lot to
 effectuate an exchange of government-own property reserved for the
 Department of Public Health and Social Services for government-owned
 property owned by the Chamorro Land Trust Commission pursuant to
 Public Law No. 32-226" sponsor: T.R. Muña Barnes

Informational Hearing 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 15, 2015

• Informational Briefing from the Ayuda Foundation on the I Manmofo'na Latte Village poster and books project – P.L. 32-181, Section 25: Appropriates to GVB for Ayuda Foundation, Inc. the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000)