August 14, 2017

GCH 34-17-884
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

AUG 14 2017
Time: 1255 ☐ AM ☐ PM File No 790
Received By:

Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz
I Mina'trentai Kuåttro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

2017 AUG 14 PM 1:19 KC

Håfa Adai Speaker Cruz,

Pursuant to **8 GCA §8113.1,** enclosed is a copy of the Commission on Decolonization's meeting agenda, approved minutes, and other attachments and addendums discussed during the Commission's monthly meeting held August 1, 2017.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 475-9545.

Sensecamente,

AMANDA FRANCEL BLAS
Executive Director
Commission on Decolonization

Enclosure

cc: Commission on Decolonization Meeting Packet

0884

AGENDA
COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION
COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2017

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes: July 5, 2017

III. Subcommittee Updates

  a. UN Relations (Next Meeting: Thursday, August 10, 2017)

    i. Letter to UN regarding Visiting Mission

  b. Self-Governance Study (Next Meeting: Thursday, August 10, 2017)

  c. DOE Curriculum Framework (Next Meeting: Thursday, August 3, 2017)

IV. Draft Statement on War Reparations

V. Financial Report

VI. Task Force Updates

  a. Presentations during DOE Staff Development (August 15, 12 – 2 p.m.)

  b. Free Association

  c. Independence

  d. Statehood

VII. Next Meeting: September 5, 2017

VIII. Open Discussion

IX. Adjournment

COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION

Meeting Minutes

July 5, 2017

Meeting called to order at 3:17 PM by Acting Chairwoman Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje

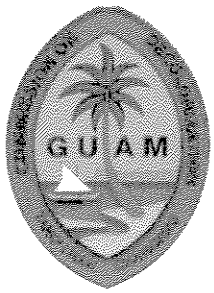
I. **Roll Call**

- Acting Chairwoman Sen. Therese Terlaje
- Sen. Telena Nelson
- Sen. Fernando Esteves
- Adrian Cruz, Free Association Task Force
- Dr. Michael Bevacqua, Independence Task Force
- Eloy Hara, Statehood Task Force
- Dr. Lisa Natividad, Member-at-Large
- Dr. Lisa Baza, Member-at-Large
- **Absences**
  - Tristan Quintanilla
  - Chairman Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo (Excused)
  - Mayor Hoffman

II. **Approval of Minutes: June 13, 2017**

- Minor typos – change of Dr. Garrido to Mr. Garrido
- Change of Lisa Baza to Dr. Baza
- Sen. Eddie Duenas – should be included in roll call
- Dr. Baza - **Motion: Approve minutes with corrections**. Seconded by PJ Guerrero, representative of Fernando Esteves. **Motion passes.**

III. **Resolution on Guam adopted by the UN Special Committee on Decolonization**



- Vice Chair – This is a report on the UN Resolution adopted by the UN Special Committee. I asked director for a copy of the last one to compare the differences. There are some additional items – reference to Chamorro land trust and the ruling in the Davis case
- Dr. Bevacqua – There were some small changes on the wording the militarization part: on page 4 – "the most acute threat was the incessant militarization." In the past words like "incessant" were not used.

IV. Self-Governance Study

- Dr. Lisa Baza – Was there a subcommittee? Is the scope of work complete? Can we reconvene the task forces? I feel like things are missing.
- Vice chair – Let's reconstitute the subcommittee so we know there is an active one. We will have one representative from each task force, Dr. Baza, Sen. Sen. Telena Nelson.
- Dr. Lisa Natividad – Make it more comprehensive and specific in terms of what we need. If we leave it that broad, that's what we're going to get.
- Dr. Bevacqua - I know it was updated. That was a change from what came out of the subcommittee. It's definitely updated. This changes it into something more general.
- Dr. Lisa Natividad - If we're looking to have a similar study done that's not in their scope, we might run into some issues there.
- Vice Chair – Subcommittee on self-governance study meeting set for the same day as our other subcommittee meeting. The director will send out notice.

V. Website Update

- Executive Director – Website is in the works. Changes – Each task force will have its own page in the website to centralize information.

- Governor.guam.gov: there is a tab for COD with June and July meeting packets
- Website would have a page which will have a link to your website

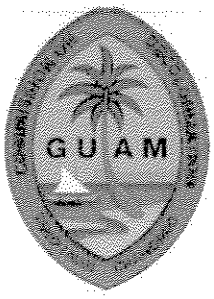
- Vice Chair – Will this not be done in house? Purchase order?
- Executive Director – It will be done by a third party. I will get back to you on purchase amount.
- Vice Chair – Who is going to be responsible for compiling studies that have been done in the past?
- Executive Director – I will give those to the vendor to put on the website. Similar to how the Governor's website works.

VI. Guam DOE Curriculum Framework

- Task Force Participation in DOE Staff Development
- Vice Chair – The draft was submitted by Deputy Superintendent Joe Sanchez for curriculum and instructional improvement. Skeleton for curriculum on decolonization, self-determination, and the three status options was designed based on a long-term K-12 program. A short term education plan would require a different approach.
- Executive Director – What he meant to say was that if the plebiscite were to be held next year, it would be good to have a more compact framework, which would be focused on the high schools. Joe Sanchez could not be here today but would love to have your questions or comments.
- Dr. Baza – It's important to teach our historical trauma and history of colonization and identify our own tales and heroes. We should get literature including indigenous books that might fall under these categories. We should be pushing our own stuff. Students from Kindergarten to Second grade don't discuss government. We can tell stories and be more culturally appropriate in terms of books exposed to the

kids. If there is a group working to find books chosen in that conjunction, I'd like to participate.

- Vice Chair – They might have History of Guam in middle school instead of high school. What they put here for content is good but broad. I'd like to see more detail. I'd say go for the short term instead of long term plan. We need to know what we could do in the high schools. Start with Guam History curriculum. We could have a specific list of books that task forces recommend, so the teachers at least have a little to work with. We could get agreement with task forces as to what they are going to teach.
- Dr. Bevacqua – If we could have a working group to develop the details with a rep from each task force and maybe a member who wants to be involved with that.
- Executive Director – Ms. Murphy has offered to help. They have lesson plans they developed available on their website.
- Dr. Natividad - Can we ask DOE team of curriculum writers to be a part of this as well. There is a big piece missing.
- Dr. Bevacqua - If you could set up that first meeting then we could go from there.
- Sen. Eddie Duenas – I keep asking about us setting a date for the plebiscite. What good will this do if we have the plebiscite a few months from now? This is for an advocacy, to educate them how to vote for the plebiscite. What is this going to cost?
- Executive Director – He says it is fairly inexpensive.
- Dr. Bevacqua – Even in the absence of the set date for plebiscite, making social studies more relevant would be good.
- Sen. Eddie Duenas – When we talk about compressed time for plebiscite, how would this help the voters make an educated vote? This is good for long term. If they do not turn 18 by the time, they will not be able to vote.



I think the program is a good idea, but funds are limited. What is our target?

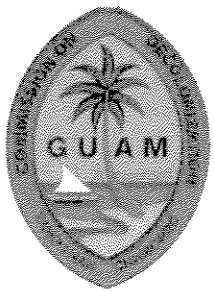
- Vice Chair – I agree. I would ask for the short term. The working group can come back with a short-term plan.
- Sen. Eddie Duenas – I see this as being a distraction. How much would it cost? Unless we have a lot of money to spare.
- Dr. Natividad – I think there is great value in Dr. Bevacqua's point. The students need to understand our place. The Davis case binds our right to set a date at this time?
- Sen. Eddie Duenas – Now it is an open vote, no longer only inhabitants before 1950 and their descendants.
- Adrian Cruz – Did the AG give an opinion on that? How we can move forward regarding the Davis case?
- Sen. Eddie Duenas - Did they send the appeal already? Do you know when they are going to argue? Any idea?
- Vice Chair – There is an active appeal. I don't know the schedule soon if they don't have one already, and we will be updated on when the hearing will be.
- Sen. Eddie Duenas - We have to be cautious about what we do so we don't end up spinning our wheels. I think the educational plan is good, but I'm wondering is this the time and the right place to do it?
- Vice Chair - Your concerns are very valid. Is there more discussion on the DOE plan or working group?
- Sen. Eddie Duenas - We can probably discuss this at another meeting. Otherwise it is going to delay us.
- Dr. Natividad - Either way it will be brought up to the Commission for approval, and we can look at the plan to decide.

- Jose Garrido – Plebiscite or not, we need to educate our kids. Make them know who we are and what we are. We are not educating them so they can vote statehood, free association, or independence. We are educating them so they could know. It has nothing to do with the plebiscite. It is pure education. We have to own our history and teach it. I don't think it will delay anything. For the sake of educating our own kids – this is what we are, and this is what we are facing. I don't know if we'll ever have the plebiscite. We are just going through this colonial process. We want to educate them with history of the truth.
- Vice Chair – We could have the director set up a meeting with the DOE to talk with DOE to see what their plans are. It could be a voluntary meeting with everyone who wants to talk with DOE.
- Jose Garrido – (In Chamorro) Give it your all. It's important for our people that our children will know where they come from and where they are going.
- Vice Chair – The director will arrange it for anyone who wants to see about the curriculum.
- Executive Director – Thee 3 task forces have been invited to take part in staff development to educate all the teachers. We don't have a confirmed date. Either August 14th or 15 from 12:30-2:30. Once I find how it will work and the date, I will pass it on to the task forces and commission members.

VII. Financial Report

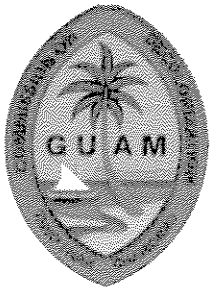
Executive Director - As of July 01, 2017:

- Task Forces
  - Free Association
    1. FY 16: $15,040
    2. FY 17: $50,000



- Independence
    1. FY 16: $24,346
        - There was a posting error for purchase orders which was fixed. The amount now is correct.
    2. FY 17: $43,410
- Statehood
    1. FY 16: $52,617
    2. FY 17: $45,000

- DOI Grant for Self-Determination Educational Outreach
    - Funding Available: $179,000
        1. $121,000 allocated for Self-Governance Study, including advertising for IFB
- Local Funding for Educational Outreach
    - Funding Available: $22,480
    - Website funds were allocated from this.
    - It does not include RFQ for video editing for Sen Guaiya Hao Conference. $500 was approved, but we cannot control the quotes.
- For self governance study, I'm not looking into the prices until the scope of work is done. It may go above the $121,000.
- Vice chair – you said they've allocated from the DOI grant?
- Executive Director – I am still doing the research on prices. Some of the options were the education plan and the video series. We can see about whatever ideas were thrown out since the DOI grant was awarded.
- Vice Chair - Last meeting there was a question about staffing. Is there any information about that in this?
- Executive Director - No, not at this time. There will be next meeting.
- Sen. Eddie Duenas – These funds are all local?
- Executive Director – For the Task Forces and local funding, yes.

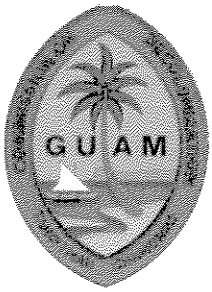


- Executive Director – Website, lowest responsible bidder was awarded $3,800 for website creation and $1,000 for website annual maintenance
- Dr. Natividad – How much DOI money do we have left?
- Executive Director - We haven't spent any so it's the full $300,000.
    - With the $121,000 allocated for Self-Governance Study, $179,000 will be left.
- Dr. Natividad- Social media – we need to respond in a way that's conducive to community's way to receive information. Can I suggest that we have an integrated marketing plan with all the information – what is colonization, and go into the three task forces. The task forces have gotten together in the past to put the pamphlets together. Maybe we could approach marketing company about a social media campaign.
- Executive Director – We can't go to marketing companies to ask the price and then put it. I'd have to research and then allocate money to follow procurement law. I went to the library, and there was an insert that was done some time ago. I can send that out as well.
- Vice Chair – Those are the things I would like to see on the website. If we could put those all up so all the task forces can access it, I'm sure they will be creative in using it.
- Executive Director – There are quite a few things at the library. I can get copies of some and send to the task forces and post on the website as well.
- Dr. Natividad – I could give you a scan of the pamphlet.
- Jose Garrido – I gave copies of different documents to Alvarez. Those are supposed to be turned to me.
- Executive Director - Let me check the office for those. I do have the digital copies, which will be used for the website.
- Sen. Eddie Duenas – There was a study done by a gentleman from Bank of Guam – we paid $60,000 and it was very conclusive.

- Vice Chair - If we get all our resources produced by our government in the past, we can put them all up for all the task forces to use.
- Jose Garrido - That insert missed all the most important information today - militarization of our island and taking of lands for a live-firing range. That needs to be included.
- Dr. Bevacqua – Bradley admitted it was not meant to be an in-depth study.
- Vice Chair – It is my understanding that those are stored here.
- Executive Director - Anything else that I might not have should be at the library. By law, everything for the Commission on Decolonization.
- Dr. Bevacqua - were you able to find anything else there?
- Executive Director - I spoke with Johnny Sablan, who mentioned they are still sorting as well. I'm looking at what they have already sorted. I'm looking to scan them and give them all to you.
- Dr. Natividad - People who were working in the 90's said that they had scanned everything in those files already.
- Vice Chair - If you could review old minutes and any action items that they already voted on that are pending, so that we could confirm that they are done.

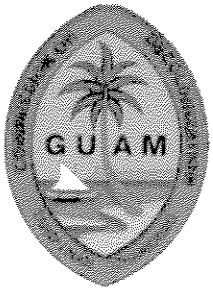
VIII. Task Force Updates

- Free Association, given by Adrian Cruz
  - We have some procurement we are waiting on.
  - Website should be up and running soon.
  - We are going to go ahead with media campaign.
- Independence, given by Dr. Michael Bevacqua
  - Monthly activities
    1. General assembly in Toto – 60 people
    2. July 4 concert – 400 people. Local artists singing original music. Tribute to Angel Santos death anniversary.



- One outstanding thing for procurement is just for the website

- Statehood, given by Sen. Eddie Duenas
  - Process of trying to rejuvenate our movement. It has settled down for the past 15 years.
  - Purchase orders – I have three purchase orders for printing. I usually go to Copy Express and Fast Copy because they are very time sensitive, but I have some for American Express who say they can't do anything for a week. They are not as responsive and fast. According to this PO, we are putting $4,490 for American Express and we have no use for it.
  - Adrian Cruz– There were problems. We took receipts to some places and they refused to print because they hadn't been paid in 6 months.
  - Executive Director – I spoke with the printers, and that is no longer a problem. The reason we have so many different vendors is to follow the law. We can't only use one printer. We have to "share the wealth."
  - Eloy Hara - My understanding of the Commission is that our mission is to educate the eligible voters only. In regards to purchases, back during Carl Gutierrez's time, we handled our own purchases. perhaps we can go through the legislature to have our funding, and we could do what we need to do accordingly, without all these obstacles. We are ready with all our research and funding. We had town hall meetings in every village, and only ever got 50 people at the most. The best thing to do would be to go through what everyone has access to - social media.
  - Sen. Eddie Duenas - there is a PO for Cost-U-Less



- Executive Director - Those are for office supplies. I do have all of your equipment, ready for you to sign off.
- Jose Garrido – Can we be authorized to buy a copier/fax machine.
- Executive Director – I have to see about that. There are different object classes that I'd have to check.
- Vice Chair – We are going to get a report from the Director at the next meeting regarding what our limits are regarding procurement. Please spend as much time with director to get your answers.
- Sen. Nelson – Possible creation of flow chart for what task forces will come to Director for and what they get on their own with PO.

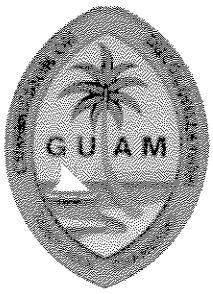
IX. Next Subcommittee Meeting

- 2nd Wednesday in this conference room.
- Tentative UN Calendar
  - Vice chair – Give updates to Director separately with items or events with any relevance to Guam

X. Next Meeting: August 1, 2017

XI. Open Discussion

- Jose Garrido – Write a statement from the commission regarding the war reparation settlement. It is insulting to our colonial status. I saw it as a settlement that didn't come to Guam for discussion. There was no public hearing on it. The settlement that was agreed upon was where people are disqualified. We should write a statement opposing the settlement, saying it is unjust and there should be a new discussion with the US congress with the Guam reparation. I believe the speaker is still chairman of that commission?
- Adrian Cruz - **Motion: The commission will prepare a statement upon discussion as to what kind of statement will be prepared.** Seconded by Dr. Bevacqua.



- Vice Chair – The draft will come for approval. Can I get agreement on who starts the draft?
- Dr. Bevacqua – Independence Task Force can start the draft.
- Jose Garrido – The most important part of the discussion is the disqualification of people who are survivors who then passed away. We should stay away from talking about just Section 30 money. I think commission should at least be involved with at least a statement.
- Vice Chair – Please run the draft by the other task forces when ready to see if they agree with it.

XII. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 4:22 pm.

August 1, 2017

The Honorable Rafael Dario Ramirez Carreño
Chairman
Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24)
United Nations

Håfa Adai Chairman Carreño:

Recently, the executive director of our island's Commission on Decolonization attended the 2017 Caribbean Regional Seminar on Decolonization in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, on my behalf. During the seminar, there was significant discussion about sending visiting missions to non-self-governing territories, as was done in the past, in an effort to help facilitate the eradication of colonialism.

Despite Guam being one of the 17 non-self-governing territories recognized by the United Nations, our administering power, the United States, has yet to facilitate a visiting mission to our island. In light of this, as Governor of Guam and the Chairman of the Commission on Decolonization, I formally request a visiting mission to Guam.

For several years, we have worked toward educating our community in preparation for a self-determination plebiscite. However, we now face legal challenges after a U.S. federal court ruled that our political status plebiscite is unconstitutional. In light of this, a visiting mission will be an effective way to further ascertain preliminary actions necessary for a U.S. and UN approved plebiscite that will make known the will of the people of Guam. As was mentioned in the Resolution Concerning Guam that was approved by the Special Committee on Decolonization during its substantive session:

> ... The wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people...

While the court ruling currently hinders the ability of the native inhabitants on Guam to conduct a plebiscite on the island's political status, we feel a visiting mission will draw attention to Guam's current obstacles in achieving self-government, while also helping us maintain the momentum that we have established in the decolonization process. A visiting mission will also assist the people of our island in the development of a UN approved process of self-determination for Guam.

DRAFT

Also noted in the Resolution Concerning Guam, we must be:

> Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Guam and to fulfill its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United States of America as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory...

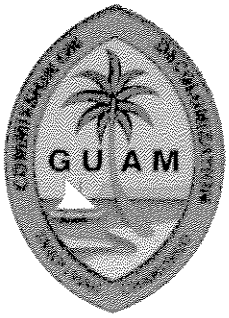
A visiting mission is an appropriate source for the Special Committee to receive information that will enhance the understanding of Guam's political status. And as we near the end of the Third International Eradication of Colonialism, we strongly believe that a visiting mission to Guam will encourage our administering power to be more engaged in the decolonization process, and increase international cooperation and engagement in the United Nations' goal of eradicating colonialism.

I look forward to hearing from you about our request.

Senseramente,

EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor of Guam

Draft



COMMISSION ON DECOLONIZATION

Financial Report

As of July 20, 2017

- **Task Force Accounts**
  - **Free Association**
    - FY 16: $15,040.00
    - FY 17: $50,000.00
  - **Independence**
    - FY 16: $25,134.70
    - FY 17: $43,310.00
  - **Statehood**
    - FY 16: $52,617.02
    - FY 17: $45,000.00
- **DOI Grant for Self-Determination Educational Outreach**
  - **Funding Available: $179,000.00**
    - ($121,000 allocated for Self-Governance Study, including advertising for IFB)
- **Local Funding for Educational Outreach**
  - **Funding Available: $17,264.00**
    - $4,800.00 encumbered for Commission on Decolonization website creation and annual maintenance
    - $416.00[1] encumbered for GCC Procurement Classes – Module 1

[1] This amount will be moved to the director's office.