

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

Council Chamber

March 25, 2013

CONVENE: 10:34 a.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Chair
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa
Councilmember Elle Cochran
Councilmember Stacy Crivello
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino
Councilmember Mike White

STAFF:

Josiah Nishita, Legislative Analyst
Clarita Balala, Substitute Committee Secretary

Tina Thompson, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office (via telephone
conference bridge)

Carla Nakata, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via telephone
conference bridge)

Dawn Lono, Council Aide, Hana Council Office (via telephone
conference bridge)

Mahina Martin, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Guzman

ADMIN.:

Jeffrey Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel

Brianne Savage, Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation

OTHERS:

Robert Cup Choy, Sun Family Associate
Morris Haole, Jr.
Plus (1) other people

PRESS:

Akaku Maui Community Television, Inc.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

March 25, 2013

**EAR-7 COMMITTEE'S ACCEPTANCE OF A STATUE OF SUN MEI FROM VICTOR
SUN TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

CHAIR GUZMAN: . . . (*gavel*) . . . Good morning. The meeting of the Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee will now come to order. It's approximately 10:35 on Monday, March 25, 2013. Before I begin, I'd like to ask anyone in the gallery or on the floor to please turn off your cell phones and any other noise making devices. I'd like to begin this morning with some introductions on our Committee members starting with Committee Vice-Chair Robert Carroll.

VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: Good morning.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. We have Member Stacy Crivello.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. And we have Member Elle Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Aloha. Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. We have Mike White who is excused. We have Council Chair Gladys Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. And we have Member Michael Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Aloha and good morning, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: And for the Administrative side representing the Department of Parks and Recreation is their Deputy Director Brianne Savage.

MS. SAVAGE: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: We also have Jeffrey Ueoka from the Department of the Corporation Counsel.

MR. UEOKA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. And for our Committee Staff, we have Committee Secretary Pauline Martins and . . . oh, sorry, excuse me Clarita Balala, and we have Legislative Analyst Josiah Nishita. Assisting us this morning in Hana District Office we have Dawn Lono.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

March 25, 2013

MS. LONO: Good morning, Chair, this is Dawn Lono in the Hana Office.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. And we have in Lanai District Office Carla Nakata.

MS. NAKATA: Good morning, Chair. This is Carla Nakata at the Lanai Senior Center.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. And we have in Molokai District Office Tina Thompson.

MS. THOMPSON: Good morning, Chair. This is Tina Thompson at the Molokai Office.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Good morning. Just a little general announcement to the public - any testifiers that we have in the Chambers please sign up in the lobby area at the desk. Also in the remote locations you can grab one of the staff and sign up with them as well. We have . . . testimony is limited to the items on the agenda today. Pursuant to the Rules of the Council testifiers will be limited to three minutes per item and one minute to conclude. Also, if you're going to be testifying, please state your name for the record as well as any organization or entity that you represent. Mr. Nishita, can you please call the first testifier?

MR. NISHITA: Mr. Chair, the first person to testify in the Chamber is Mr. Robert Cup Choy. He'll be testifying on EAR-7.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MR. CUP CHOY: Good morning, Members of the Council. I recognize you because yesterday I was watching TV and I saw all of you at the meeting - Mr. Carroll, Ms. Cochran, Ms. Crivello, Mr. White, Ms. Baisa, Mr. Victorino - I watch your son play baseball at the Dodger's Stadium, and of course Mr. Guzman, and Brianne Savage. I am an associate of the Sun Family who resides in China and also in California and all over the world. Before that, I'd like to say that my name is Robert Cup Choy. I am a '57 grad from Maui High School. I went to Makawao School. I was born at the old Paia Hospital. I also went to Maunaolu and I graduated at the University of Wisconsin. I taught 35 years at the Los Angeles Unified School District - Adult School and Middle School. I am also an avid historian. I've been to China many times. I'm also interested in the infrastructure of the County of Maui and maybe when Victor Sun, who I represent, we might be able to get something going to help Maui's economy. They have a lot of people there who want to come here. The problem is VISAs. So on that note, I am here to represent the Sun family. We want to erect a statute of Sun Mei who resided here from 1981 [sic] until 1907 at Kamaole, which is part of Keokea up in Kula. The statute is 7 feet 6 inches tall. It weighs one ton. We have already met with Ms. Savage and Mr. Correa last Thursday and the site has been chosen. I believe that it has been approved and it's just a formality of being here to stand before you and ask any questions if you have. I believe that's about three minutes.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

March 25, 2013

MS. GUZMAN: Members, is there anything in the testimony that needs to be rephrased? Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Cup Choy. Can we also ask the Members if we can utilize Mr. Cup Choy as a resource person, if needed be, during discussion?

COUNCIL MEMBER VICTORINO: No objections, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No objections.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Mr. Cup Choy, can you be on standby just in case any of the Members have questions?

MR. CUP CHOY: Absolutely.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you very much.

MR. CUP CHOY: I forgot to mention, excuse me, that we wanted to plant two sandalwood trees, and Mr. Correa approved that and I don't know if it's included in our presentation today.

CHAIR GUZMAN: I believe we can have that during our discussion and we can ask Corporation Counsel whether that would be feasible or allowable at this time. Thank you, Mr. Cup Choy.

MR. CUP CHOY: Okay, you're welcome.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Getting back to our District offices, Ms. Lono, is there anyone wishing to testify in the Hana District Office?

MS. LONO: The Hana office has no one waiting to testify.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Ms. Nakata, is there anyone wishing to testify in the Lanai District Office presently at the Lanai Senior Center?

MS. NAKATA: Mr. Chair, there is no one waiting to testify on Lanai.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. And Ms. Thompson, is there anyone wishing to testify in Molokai District Office?

MS. THOMPSON: The Molokai Office has no one waiting to testify.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Is there anyone in the gallery that is wishing to testify?

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

March 25, 2013

MR. NISHITA: Mr. Chair, we have another testifier in the Chamber. The next testifier is Mr. Morris Haole, Jr. He'll be testifying on EAR-7.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you.

MR. HAOLE: Good morning, Committee Members. My name is Morris Haole and I am representing Members of the Kwock Hing Society, and I'm also the President of the Maui Chinese Chamber of Commerce. Everybody in Kula is just ecstatic over the erection of the new statute of Sun Mei, and they wholeheartedly endorse this effort to assist in any way they can with the putting the statute up and they wanted me to come down and say, please, approve the resolution. Thank you.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Is there anyone . . . I'm sorry. Is there any questions from the Members or any rephrasing of the testimony that needs to be made? Seeing none; thank you very much. Moving to our outer district offices, is there any additional testifiers in the Hana District Office?

MS. LONO: There are no testifiers in the Hana Office, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. How about for Lanai, any additional testifiers?

MS. NAKATA: There are no testifiers at the Lanai Senior Center, Chair.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Any additional testifiers in the Molokai District Office?

MS. THOMPSON: Molokai Office has no additional testifiers.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Members, seeing no further individuals in the Council Chambers or the District offices wishing to testify, without objections I will now close public testimony for the items on today's agenda.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No objections.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you.

. . . END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

CHAIR GUZMAN: Members, we have one item on today's agenda and that item is - the Committee is in receipt of County Communication 13-111, from the Director of Parks and Recreation, transmitting a proposed resolution entitled "AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A STATUTE OF SUN MEI FROM VICTOR SUN TO THE COUNTY OF MAUI, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 3.56, MAUI

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

March 25, 2013

COUNTY CODE". The purpose of the proposed resolution is to authorize the acceptance of a statute and inscription panel to the County of Maui, Department of Parks and Recreation, pursuant to Chapter 3.56 of the Maui County Code. At this time, I would also open up the floor for the comments from the Department of Parks and Recreation. Ms Savage, could you please provide us your comments?

MS. SAVAGE: I have nothing . . . too much in addition just that we had recently visited the site last Thursday to try to find the best location for the potential statute, and you'll see that in one of the pictures you received I think the one that's individual . . . so where you see Robert Cup Choy standing there. In the photo is the location where the proposed statute with the inscription panel would go.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. I would like to open up the floor for any questions that you may have. Member Mike Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Not so much a question because I think everything is pretty self-explanatory and I'm very thankful for the donation and, again, to honor one of the Chinese greats in history, especially modern history, is amazing to think that a lot of those routes came from the island of Maui that they spent much time here on Maui I think is very important. And I would like to ask about the sandalwood tree because I think that was the question that was brought up for Corporation Counsel or even for you, Ms. Brienne . . . Ms. Savage I should say. Sorry. Is that allowable? I mean, I don't see a problem but I guess like everything else we've got to check with Corporation Counsel if that's allowable.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Mr. Ueoka?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Can we accept the trees?

MR. UEOKA: I believe so. They're not included on the resolution but they are valued at less than \$750 right now. So the Mayor can accept gifts of less than \$750. It just has to be included on the report annually to the Council.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So we don't need any resolution or any change in the resolution itself?

MR. UEOKA: We should be fine the way we are now.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. Again, Chair, I think . . . I'll let others ask questions but I really don't have any questions. I just think this is a great day for Maui County again to have this opportunity, and I continue to be amazed at all the great people that at one time resided here in Maui County. Thank you, Chair.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

March 25, 2013

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Members, any further questions? Yes, Council Chair Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. Question for Ms. Savage. I'm looking at the picture of Sun Yat-sen Park and I see where Mr. Cup Choy is standing. This is a pretty steep incline there. So exactly where he's standing, is there going to be a mound built up there or is it going to be built on that level?

MS. SAVAGE: You can see kind of right behind where his feet are there is a little bit of a berm.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yeah.

MS. SAVAGE: And the incline goes up. So that is going to be taken back a little bit and then a retainer wall be put up back where the hillside cut ends up being. So that area . . . and it will be similar to how the other one is set up with a circular basin and then they'll build a rock wall at the bottom around it.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I see. So one will be lower than the other so there won't be conflicting views?

MS. SAVAGE: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I think that's really, really nice and I certainly like to thank the donors. This is going to enhance our park Upcountry and another thing for us to go and look at and enjoy.

MS. SAVAGE: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Any further questions from the Members? Oh, yes, Vice-Chair Bob Carroll?

VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: Thank you. Not a question but just a comment. I think this is really something special. You have a man that came over here as a laborer as many people came and did extraordinary things not only over here with his family, which was always first to him, but in China he was a leader in the revolution. He gave his entire life for people, not just his own family but everyone and I think that's really nice that we can honor somebody like this who started from nothing and left a real legacy. Thank you.

CHAIR GUZMAN: Thank you. Is there any further comments or questions from the Members?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Recommendation?

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE,
AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**


Council of the County of Maui

March 25, 2013

CHAIR GUZMAN: Okay, at this time, I would just make a quick comment and just say that I'm very excited to see a new statute come up with Sun Mei. I think it represents a new generation considering Victor Sun is the grandson and he's following in the footsteps of his grandfather in terms of making sure that we younger generation remember the sufferings and the sacrifices that have been bestowed upon us or have done to encourage us to be more productive in our community. I think it's a wonderful thing that we have this diverse community to accept a new statute and I'm so much looking forward to it coming up and being part of it, and this Council in full support passes this resolution. That being said, I'm going to be concluding this, adjourning this Committee. I'd like to thank Mr. Robert Cup Choy for coming and traveling all this miles to be here today as well as our Administration - Deputy Director Brianne Savage, thank you. And so, this concludes the March 25th, 2013 Energy, Economic Development, Agriculture, and Recreation *[sic]* Committee. Thank you very much for your time. . . . *(gavel)* . . .

ADJOURN: 10:49 a.m.

APPROVED BY:



DON S. GUZMAN, Chair
Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture,
and Recreation Committee

ear:min:130325

Transcribed by: Jo-Ann Sato