

**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
BATANGAS CITY**

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION HELD BY THE
MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF BATANGAS CITY
ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 AT THE SANGGUNIANG SESSION HALL**

PRESENT:

Hon. Emilio Francisco A. Berberabe Jr.,	Presiding Officer
Hon. Alyssa Renee A. Cruz,	Councilor
Hon. Aileen Grace A. Montalbo,	“
Hon. Nestor E. Dimacuha,	“
Hon. Karlos Emmanjuel A. Buted,	“
Hon. Gerardo A. Dela Roca,	“
Hon. Oliver Z. Macatangay,	“
Hon. Nelson J. Chavez,	“
Hon. Julian B. Villena,	“
Hon. Julian Pedro M. Pastor,	“
Hon. Isidra M. Atienza,	“
Hon. Maria Aleth A. Lazarte,	“
Hon. Lorenzo A. Gamboa, Jr.,	“
Hon. Marjorie A. Manalo,	SK-Fed. Pres.
Hon. Angelito “Dondon” A. Dimacuha,	ABC-Rep.

“On motion of Councilor Chavez seconded by Councilor Nestor Dimacuha, the following Resolution was Adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 298 S. 2019

**ADOPTING THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL WELFARE
ON THE MATTERS REGARDING RUGBY BOYS**

RESOLVED, to adopt the report of the Committee on Social Welfare and the recommendations stated therein on the matters regarding Rugby Boys.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to refile the letter from the City Mayor Beverley Rose A. Dimacuha endorsed to this August body last December 04, 2018 and was referred to the Committee on Laws, Rules and Regulations and to the Committee on Social Welfare through Resolution No. 401 S. 2018 regarding the Batangas City Comprehensive Local Juvenile Intervention Plan 2019-2021.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.”

Continuation of Resolution No. 298 S. 2019

**ADOPTING THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL WELFARE
ON THE MATTERS REGARDING RUGBY BOYS**

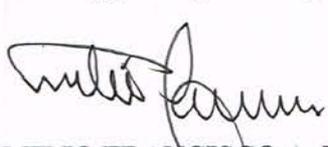
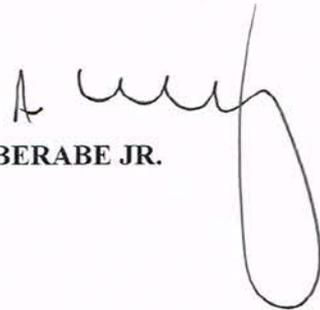
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 298 S. 2019 was approved by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Batangas City during its Regular Session held on September 17, 2019.


LUNINGNING A. AQUINO
Board Secretary III
Sangguniang Panlungsod

NOTED:


ATTY. OLIVA D. TELEGATOS
Secretary
Sangguniang Panlungsod

ATTESTED:

 
EMILIO FRANCISCO A. BERBERABE JR.
Presiding Officer

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Republic of the Philippines
BATANGAS CITY

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Tel. No. 723-2175

COMMITTEE REPORT

SUBMITTED BY : Committee on Social Welfare
SUBJECT : Matters regarding Rugby Boys

BACKGROUND

The issue regarding the involvement of "Rugby Boys" in an arson case at Rizal Avenue, as well as their association in various cases of harassment and other petty crimes in Batangas City was raised by Councilor Alyssa Renee A. Cruz during the Privilege Hour of the Regular Session last July 30, 2019. Because of this alarming issue, the attention of the Committee on Social Welfare was called and last August 23, 2019 at 1:00 PM, a Committee Hearing was held in the Sangguniang Panlungsod Session Hall. The committee hearing was attended by Barangay Officials from various Barangays of Batangas City, City Social Welfare Office headed by CSWDO Mrs. Mila M. Española, RSW, Philippine National Police headed by PLT Col. Sancho O. Celedio, City Defense and Security Services (DSS) Office represented by Mr. Bryan Ebor, City Mayor's Office represented by Mr. Manolo Perlada, and the Committee Members of the Committee on Social Welfare and Sangguniang Panlungsod Members including Vice Mayor Emilio Francisco A. Berberabe, Jr.

BRIEF DISCUSSIONS

During the committee hearing, various concerns were raised by the Committee Chairman and other members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod regarding the issues involving Rugby Boys which includes the following:

1. Reports of various minor crimes that involves Rugby boys including but not limited to, harassment, hold-up, and theft;
2. Loitering along major streets of Batangas City, obstructing business for various establishments and harassing pedestrians;
3. Possession of sharp and pointed objects, particularly knife and/or ice peak which terrorized the general public;
4. Participation in various acts of destruction of private properties;
5. Bullying incidents of innocent children;
6. Gathering in groups and forming gangs to collectively perform menacing acts, among others.

The discussion flow include testimonies of resource persons of their various acts of intervention to suppress and/or prevent the aforementioned problems as well as the many limitations they face in performing their duties brought about by the boundaries of existing Laws, Regulations, Ordinances and other similar issuances due to the fact that the involve parties are minors.

The following are the notable statements, comments and suggestions from different implementing agencies present at the committee hearing:



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1. The Philippine National Police (PNP) represented by PLT. Col. Sancho Celedio reported that they are conducting regular round-up of the Rugby Boys, identified the existence of organized group behind some of the criminal acts, profiled their SOP and worked on disbanding and apprehending suspects. Due to the limitations of the law, they cannot detain minor offenders and was forced to release them instead to the care of other agencies like the CSWDO or VAWC Desk officials of Barangays where they reside. They observed that there is a need to put in place a strong working and preventive guidelines to support the campaign against the proliferation of Rugby Boys in the City. The PNP requested the various Barangays for their full cooperation and participation by being their eyes and ears in their respective Barangays, monitor the situation and report to the PNP if necessary. It was also suggested that there is a need to establish a rehabilitation facility away from the City to accommodate the children involved;
2. Because of the limitation of the Law, criminal charges cannot be given to the Rugby Boys. There is a suggestion to include or implement other measures to instill the gravity of the offense to the minor offenders aside from the prescribed punishment available to them (e.g. performing community service);
3. The inclusion of insisting parental responsibilities to the parents or legal guardians of the minor offenders should also be institutionalize in the local level;
4. Increasing the visibility of police and local law and order enforcers like DSS and Barangay Tanods in places identified as Rugby Boys gathering area or in areas where they are possibly present at certain times of day and/or night (e.g. Luma or Bagong Palengke, Mabini Plaza, Rizal Avenue, P. Burgos St. etc.);
5. There is a need to strengthen the existing local implementing law against the Rugby Boys particularly Ordinance No. 01 S. 2000 and update it to comply with the Batangas City Child Welfare Code of 2019, Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004, and Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006;
6. To institutionalize the action of the Local Government and to provide humane and systematic procedure in handling cases of Children in Conflict with the Law, the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) urges for the adoption of the Batangas City Comprehensive Local Juvenile Intervention Plan 2019-2021.

To address the issues mentioned during the discussions, the Executive Department stated that it will be included in the agenda of the Peace and Order Council as they convene to formulate the Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan for the year 2019-2022.

The importance of institutionalizing various efforts in the rehabilitation of the Rugby Boys and their parents to include comprehensive program for the Psychiatric guidance, health improvement, education and skill enhancement program was recognized to be very important and recommended to the Local Executive Department

The committee recognizes the importance of working hand-in-hand and urges the various agencies to work together in the effective and efficient implementation of the various existing laws that governs the handling of various cases involving Rugby Boys.



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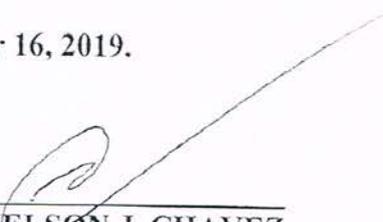
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RECOMMENDATIONS

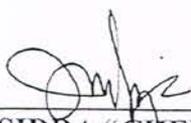
In view of the forgoing, the committee hereby recommends the following:

1. The adoption of the Committee Report;
2. The approval of the Resolution hereto attached titled "A RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT (CSWD) OFFICE, THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) – BATANGAS CITY, CITY DEFENSE AND SECURITY SERVICES (DSS) OFFICE AND ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS TO EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY IMPLEMENT ORDINANCE No. 9, S. 2012 AND ORDINANCE NO. 01, S. 2000;
3. The passage of an ordinance introducing amendments to the existing Ordinance No. 01, S. 2000 otherwise known as "An Act Prohibiting Minors and Persons of Legal Age to Sniff or Consume Glue, "Rugby" and Other Products or Volatile Substance Containing Dangerous Chemicals" particularly, Section 3, paragraph (a), copy of which is hereto attached;
4. The refiling of the letter from the City Mayor Beverly Rose A. Dimacuha endorsed to this August body last December 04, 2018 and was referred to the Committee on Laws, Rules and Regulations and to the Committee on Social Welfare through Resolution No. 401 S. 2018 regarding the Batangas City Comprehensive Local Juvenile Intervention Plan 2019-2021.

Respectfully submitted, September 16, 2019.


COUN. NELSON J. CHAVEZ

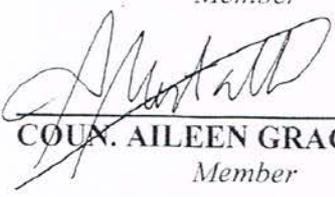
Chairman


COUN. ISIDRA "CHED" ATIENZA

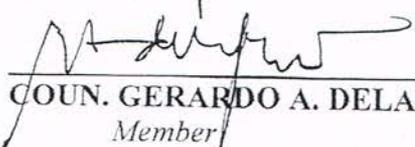
Member


COUN. ALYSSA RENEE CRUZ

Member


COUN. AILEEN GRACE A. MONTALBO

Member


COUN. GERARDO A. DELA ROCA

Member