Amoranto Sports Complex

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS SINCE 1900
2 MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Saturday, November 7, 2009

QC okays Amoranto repair fund

By **CHITO A. CHAVEZ**

The Quezon City government approved a resolution appropriating funds for the repair and rehabilitation of the Amoranto Sport Complex including the Quezon City Performing Arts Theater.

Authored by the husband and wife team of Councilor Restituto Malangen of the fourth district of Quezon City and Liga ng Barangay president Concepcion Malangen, the proposal seeks to uplift the complex's stature as a world-class sports and cultural facility.

The fourth district councilor said that the stadium is in bad state with comfort rooms and dressing rooms need refurbishing and electric fans and air-conditioning units need repair.

He noted that repairing the dilapidated track and field oval is necessary to promote tourism and erase the country's "rundown sports facility image."

"There is an urgent need to rehabilitate and repair the Amoranto Sports Complex and the Quezon City Performing Arts Theater because their existing facilities and equipment do not comply and conform with the standard of a best and world-class kind of sports complex and theater," Malangen said.

Critics said that the swimming pools of the sports complex which is closed on Mondays for cleaning is not the most suitable place to swim although its 50-meter length is good enough reason for serious swimmers to patronize the venue.

MANILA BULLETIN, Sun., Sept. 8, 2009

QC dad urges renovation of Amoranto Stadium



DEL ROSARIO

Quezon City Councilor Ricardo "Viva" Del Rosario of the 4th district has filed a resolution authorizing QC Mayor Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte, Jr. to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the private sector for the renovation of the Amoranto Stadium and its development into a Sports and Entertainment Complex under the build-and-operate scheme as provided in RA No. 7718.

The Amoranto Stadium, named after the longest reigning Mayor of QC, Norberto S. Amoranto, was once the venue for the training of the city's athletes, who had a baseball and track n field, basketball court and olympic-sized swimming pool, to use, but the stadium has long fallen into disrepair and is seldom, if ever, used now, Del Rosario said.

But with its vast area of 5.8 hectares, he continued, the renovation of the stadium and its development into a Sports and Entertainment Complex would afford the city government a rich source of revenue. It will attract people like a magnet, Del Rosario said, including businessmen whose investments will be a big boost to the city's economy. The Sports and Entertainment Complex will have the advantage of a strategic location, right in the heart of Quezon City and Metro Manila. (Eddie C. Flores)

amoranto Stadium Renovation

The Philippine STAR

18 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2003



Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. leads city officials in the inauguration of the SB multi-purpose gymnasium at the Amoranto Sports Complex over the weekend. The mayor cited the importance of the facility in expanding the city's barangay-based sports development program and in training potential athletes. Joining the mayor are (from left) QC Liga ng mga Barangay president Xyrus Lanot, Councilor Ariel Inton, Rep. Nanette Castelo-Daza, Amoranto Sports Complex officer-in-charge Andy Apostol, Councilors Wilma Amoranto Sarino and Eric Rey Medina, barangay captain Lily Serrano of San Martin de Porres, barangay captain Jimmy Lim of Don Manuel and other barangay officials.

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LOCAL HISTORY

January 29, 1990 ✧ Malaya

QC gov't hits education dep't over Amoranto sports complex

The education department occupied anew the Amoranto Sports stadium on Roces ave., Quezon City amid protests from city officials.

Aparicio Mequi of the DECS Philippine Institute of Physical Education and Sports said they moved back to the 3.5-hectare sports complex with the consent of Mayor Brigido Simon Jr.

But Simon denied this, saying the city government "has no intention to donate the property which was acquired through the taxes paid by city residents."

City counsel Nescito Hilario said he has asked the Amoranto Stadium administrator to request police assistance in evicting the "illegal occupants."

Hilario said he has filed graft charges against former Education Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing, Mequi and several other DECS officials for allegedly leasing out the sports complex to private groups without the authority of the city government.

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LOCAL HISTORY

Manila Standard, Wednesday, October 25, 1989

DECS takes up QC dare over stadium ownership

Officials of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) yesterday said they will ask the courts to settle the question of ownership of the Amoranto Stadium in Quezon City which the city government says it owns.

DECS Undersecretary Luis Baltazar, in an interview, said they have already asked Solicitor General Francisco Chavez to look into the matters.

The Quezon City government took over the Amoranto Stadium and padlocked the premises after giving the DECS several days to vacate the offices of its Bureau of Physical Education and School Sports (BPESS) at the stadium. The city dared the department to go to court over the ownership issue.

Baltazar described the takeover as "unfortunate," adding that the DECS has asked Quezon City Attorney Nescito Hilario to lift the "sequestration."

"We hope to resolve (the problem) through due process." Baltazar said.

The Amoranto Stadium was allegedly given to the DECS through a deed of donation in 1974 by then Mayor Norberto Amoranto.

The city government said the deed was not binding as a transfer of ownership.

Hilario, speaking to reporters the other day, said the city government will file charges of illegal exaction and misappropriation of funds against DECS Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing, BPESS director Aparicio Mequi, and other top officials of the department.

(Ana Aguino)

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LOCAL HISTORY

The Manila Times October 24, 1989

'Amoranto' anomaly unearthed

THE Quezon City government will file anti-graft charges against ranking officials of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, including Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing over the Amoranto sports stadium anomaly.

QC government lawyer Nescito Hilario said Quisumbing would be included in the charges for alleged official negligence. Others to be charged are Director Aparicio Mequi of the DECS bureau of physical education and sports, and a certain Edilberto Villaflor.

Hilario said that the anti-graft charges would be filed before the Tanodbayan.

Last Friday, Hilario asked the commission on audit to look into the financial records of the sports complex for possible misappropriation of its funds by some DECS officials.

"Director Mequi treated the Amoranto sports stadium as if it were his private business enterprise," Hilario charged.

The city counsel during a press conference yesterday at the QC Hall revealed he unearthed proof allegedly strongly implicating Mequi, for possible mishandling of the funds.

He cited that Villaflor, acted as the signatory in the lease contract for the use of the premises by Angelus International Ministry and Invictus Inc. in the amount of P50,000 pesos in two separate days.

The lessee had already advanced half of the amount to Villaflor, whose designation was listed as "officer-in-charge."

Hilario said that any fees, rentals or charges collected for the use of the Amoranto facilities should first accrue to the national treasury before the DECS could dispose of it for whatever purpose.

"What is patently anomalous in the transactions is that, Hilario said, "the amount will not even appear on DECS' record because it was not even the lessor." – PNA

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LOCAL HISTORY

Tuesday, October 24, 1989

Tuesday, October 24, 1989

QC gov't readies raps against Decs

THE Quezon City government is set to file criminal and administrative charges against Education Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing and other officials of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (Decs).

City attorney Nescito Hilario disclosed in a press conference at the Quezon City Hall that criminal charges against Quisumbing; Aparicio Mequi, Decs PE and Sports director; Edilberto Villaflor, caretaker of the Amoranto Stadium and others will be filed before the Tanodbayan, while administrative charges will be filed before the Metropolitan Manila Commission.

Hilario said the Decs officials were allegedly involved in illegal exaction and misappropriation of funds through illegal renting out of the stadium.

Hilario said Decs has been charging Jesus Christ Evangelistic Association, Inc. P7,000 a week and the Jesus Miracle Crusade, P3,500 per session for the use of the stadium.

The Angelus International Ministries Inc. recently issued a P25,000 check to a certain Rhodora of the Decs for the use of the stadium, said Hilario.

Hilario said Quisumbing must have known about the questionable collections.

"These fees and rental collections should first go to the National Treasury before it could be appropriated for whatever purpose by the Decs," said Hilario.

Hilario also accused the Decs of mishandling the facilities of the sports complex and violation of the agreement made by the QC government and Decs.

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LOCAL HISTOR

THE STAR THE PHILIPPINE STAR

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1989

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QC gov't set to file raps vs DECS officials

By SEAN REYES

The Quezon City government will file criminal and administrative charges against ranking officials of the Department of Education Culture and Sports (DECS) for their alleged illegal collection of fees and misappropriation of public funds during their supervision and management of the Amoranto Sports Stadium.

At a press conference, Quezon City Vice Mayor Vicente Sotto III clarified problems brought about by the takeover by the city government of the Amoranto stadium last Wednesday.

City attorney Nescito Hilario said they will sue DECS sports director Aparecio Mequi, Edilberto Villaflor and a cashier, identified only as a certain Mr. Arsenio, with the Tanodbayan for illegal exaction of fees.

At the same time, Hilario said administrative charges will also be filed with the DECS against the same officials for their alleged misappropriation of the money they collected since 1974 during their supervision of the 5.3 hectare arena.

Also to be charged administratively before the Office of the President is DECS Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing for her alleged knowledge of the collection of the fees at the stadium, which was not authorized by the law, Hilario said.

It was learned that Mequi, Villaflor and Arsenio were allegedly collecting fees for the use of the stadium premises that included the rental of the center stage for P3,500 a session to a charismatic group, entrance fees for the use of the swimming pool, rental of a canteen for P7,000, and the proliferation of the squatter families.

Angelus International, a civic organization, also disclosed that they paid P25,000 in cash to the DECS but a cashier named Arsenio tricked them into addressing the check under the name of Villaflor.

Investigations showed that the receipts used by the three were not approved by the BIR.

The DECS claimed it can use the Amoranto stadium since the property was donated in 1974 to the DECS by then QC Mayor Norberto Amoranto on behalf of the city government.

However, Simon claims that the donation was null and void since one cannot donate what he does not own.

The stadium was purchased by the QC government in 1964 for the amount of P1.3 million. Full payment was completed only this month.

Simon also contends that while the QC council of 1974 authorized the turnover of the administration and supervision of the sports complex to the DECS subject to several conditions, these conditions were not complied with by the department.

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LOCAL HISTORY

THE PHILIPPINE STAR
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1989

QC gov't 'reclaims' Amoranto Stadium

The Quezon City government forcibly took over yesterday the Amoranto stadium on Roces avenue to reclaim ownership of the sports arena which was previously claimed by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports.

At least 60 employes of the Bureau of Sports under the DECS were asked to leave the stadium while some 15 squatter shanties built inside the sports complex were scheduled to be demolished as of press time yesterday. The DECS employes were also asked to pack their things until Friday.

Elizardo Agsalud, secretary of the mayor, said that "the physical take over of the stadium was untenable" due to the refusal of the DECS officials to return the ownership of the multimillion peso sports complex to the city government.

The city employes were ordered by city authorities to padlock the main entrances leading to the stadium.

City Attorney Nescito Hilario said that the stadium was not maintained by the DECS which will cost the city government millions of pesos to fix.

Earlier, Education Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing turned down a request by Quezon City Mayor Brigido Simon Jr. to grant the city government the ownership of the stadium.

Quisumbing reportedly told city officials that the Amoranto Stadium was donated by the city government in 1964 on a deed of donation signed by then acting Mayor Carlos Albert.

However the present city council rejected Quisumbing's claim, saying that the city could not donate the stadium because it is not yet owned by the city.

– Sean Reyes

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LOCAL HISTORY