



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Isabela
Municipality of San Isidro
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

ORDINANCE NO. _____
Series of 2023

AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING THE MUNICIPAL HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL COUNCIL (MHCC) FOR THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION AND ENRICHMENT OF CULTURE AND ARTS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ISIDRO, ISABELA, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF

Authored by: SB MEMBER GUILL MARC D. MARIANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Goal 11 of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals prescribes that culture matters. It prescribes that all sectoral efforts shall be made to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage. This is also enshrined in the 1987 Philippine Constitution which declares that the State shall foster the preservation, enrichment and dynamic evolution of a Filipino culture based on the principle of unity in diversity in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression. The Constitution also mandates the State to conserve, develop, promote and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creation. This mandate of the State gave birth to the National Commission for Culture and the Arts in the Philippines and was further strengthened by the passage of the National Cultural Heritage Act.

The municipality of San Isidro, Isabela, has a unique geographical location and history that need further exploring. The historical records of the Province have identified Camarag as one of the early regions where Christianity and Catholicism in the north have started. The presence of the Camarag ruins also signifies an old civilization that had first settled in the municipality prior to the modern dwellers today. As a matter of fact, Camarag is one of the first pueblos that the Dominican Missionaries have founded in mid 1700s. However, this rich history is no longer known to many particularly the younger generation. The Camarag ruins, with its deep connection to the past, has also been left without proper protection.

This Ordinance seeks to gather historical records of the Municipality and the Province, and to ultimately protect and preserve its historical heritage. The creation of a Council that will be solely dedicated to design policies and programs that will protect, preserve and promote the rich historical and cultural heritage of San Isidro is of utmost importance. Furthermore, it is also important to showcase the history of San Isidro as it is part in the evolution and development of the colorful history and culture of the Province of Isabela.

With the Constitutional mandate to create mechanism that will help protect, preserve and promote historical and cultural heritage in the country, It is therefore recommended that the foregoing ordinance be approved.

HON. GUILL MARC D. MARIANO
AUTHOR
SB MEMBER

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN DULY HELD AT SB SESSION HALL ON _____, 9:00 am.

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Authored by: SB MEMBER GUILL MARC D. MARIANO

Be it **ENACTED** by the Sangguniang Bayan during its regular session _____

Section 1. **Title.** This shall be known as “Municipal Historical and Cultural Council (MHCC) Ordinance of San Isidro, Isabela”.

Section 2. Definition of Terms

2.1 **Cultural and Historical Heritage** – refers to places of significance to people on account of historical, physical (i.e. technological, archeological, and architectural) and historic heritage or simply ‘historic places’.

2.2 **Culture** – refers to the arts, material and non-material, and other manifestations of human intellectual achievement regarded collectively. It also refers to the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.

2.3 **Cultural Preservation** – refers to the act of using deliberate and well-designed methodologies to maintain cultural heritage from the past for the benefit of the present and future generations.

2.4 **Intangible Cultural Heritage** – refers to the expression, representation, skills, and practices which individuals, groups and communities recognize as their cultural heritage. These include all the processes and products of a specific custom which are preserved and passed down from one generation to another.

2.5 **Local Heritage Zones** – is a designation that is mean to protect the historical and cultural integrity of a geographical area.

2.6 **Cultural Property** – movable or immovable property of great importance to the cultural heritage of every people, such as monuments of architecture, art or history, whether religious or secular; archeological sites; groups of buildings which, as a whole, are of historical or artistic interest; works of art; manuscripts, books and other objects of artistic, historical or archeological interest; as well as scientific collections and important collection of books or archives or of reproductions of the property defined above.

Section 3. **Declaration of Policy**

3.1 Consistent with the 1987 Philippine Constitution, it is hereby declared policy of the Municipality of San Isidro, Isabela to foster the preservation, enrichment and dynamic evolution of a Filipino culture based on the principle of “bayanihan”. To this end, the municipality shall conserve, develop, promote and popularize the municipality’s historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations.

3.2 In the pursuit of cultural preservation as a strategy for maintaining Filipino identity, this Ordinance shall pursue to protect, preserve, conserve and promote the municipality’s cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, its property and histories, and the ethnicity of local communities.

3.3 The municipality shall likewise endeavor to create a balanced atmosphere where the historic past coexists in harmony with modern society. It shall approach the

problem of conservation in an integrated and holistic manner, cutting across all relevant disciplines and technologies.

- 3.4 The municipality shall further administer the heritage resources in a spirit of stewardship for the inspiration and benefit of the present and future generations.

Section 4. **Creation of Municipal Historical and Cultural Council.** - It is hereby created a permanent council in the Municipal Government of San Isidro to be known as “Municipal Historical and Cultural Council” of San Isidro, Isabela under the direct control and supervision of the Office of the Municipal Mayor, and which is hereinafter referred as the “Council”.

Section 5. **Primary Mandate.** - The primary mandate of the Council is to formulate, recommend to appropriate agencies in both public and private sector, implement, and evaluate programs which are specifically designed for the preservation and enrichment of San Isidroan identity and culture in general, and to familiarize the people with the rich history and heritage of the municipality, and encourage them to participate in such programs which will develop a unified sense of Filipino identity.

Section 6. **Specific Functions.** – In addition to the Primary Mandate of the Council as provided in the immediately preceding Section, the Council shall also:

- 6.1 Prepare an annual plan on culture, arts, and the cultural heritage consonant with the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, to be integrated in the Comprehensive Development Plan and considered in the annual appropriation ordinances;
- 6.2 Formulate programs and recommendations to develop and sustain local cultural and artistic talents, cultural industries, traditional and contemporary arts and crafts, and their processes;
- 6.3 Coordinate with the appropriate affiliated cultural agencies of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) for the conservation and monitoring of national cultural properties found in the municipality;
- 6.4 Conduct cultural mapping that will include written account of all areas which are rich in heritage and culture in the municipality and/or enter into an agreement with reputable and qualified survey company to gather and monitor pertinent historical datum in all Barangays;
- 6.5 Conduct cultural events such as cultural festivals, competition, lectures, seminars and symposia;
- 6.6 Design a short curriculum that will be introduced to schools in order to teach the history and culture of San Isidro;
- 6.7 Encourage and supervise the publication of written publications including magazines and books detailing the history and culture of the municipality.
- 6.8 Ensure the protection, preservation, conservation and promotion of the local cultural and historical heritage particularly the Camarag Ruins;
- 6.9 Declare and maintain Local Heritage Zones;
- 6.10 Establish a Local Registry of Cultural Property;
- 6.11 Acknowledge the importance of traditional folk artist as singular conduit between skills of the past and the future;
- 6.12 Revitalize a community’s artistic tradition thereby protecting a valuable fact of the Philippine Culture;
- 6.13 Provide mechanism for identification and assistance for qualified traditional folk artists to transfer their skills to the community;
- 6.14 Create opportunities for popularizing artistic works locally;
- 6.15 Formulate, recommend, and implement, maintain and sustain policies for the establishment of a municipal-owned and operated museum and archival system;

- 6.16 Encourage and support scholarly research into, and documentation of, Philippine cultural traditions, arts and crafts, as well as significant cultural movements, achievements and personalities especially in the literary, visual and performing arts, and in mass media, as well as the various aspects of Filipino culture within the municipality; and
- 6.17 Perform such functions as the Sangguniang Bayan or the Municipal Mayor may direct.

Section 7. **Composition of the Council.**

- 7.1 The Council shall be composed of the Municipal Mayor as Chairman and the following as members:
- a. Vice-Chairperson, Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Culture and the Arts
 - b. Municipal Cultural Officer
 - c. Municipal Planning and Development Officer
 - d. Municipal Information Officer
 - e. Municipal Budget Officer
 - f. Municipal Tourism Officer
 - g. Representative, Department of Education (DepEd District)
 - h. Representative, History Major Teachers
 - i. Representative, Local Artists Group
 - j. Representative, Business Sector
 - k. Representative, Youth Sector
 - l. Representative, Senior Citizen
 - m. Representative, Barangay Officials
 - n. Representative, Each from Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Communities in San Isidro, Isabela
 - o. Representative, Provincial Tourism Office
- 7.2 The membership of the council and the corresponding representatives enlisted in the section 7.1 of this ordinance shall be based on the tenure of which the representative holds office from the sector/organization/office its represents.

Section 8. **Meetings.** – The Council shall meet regularly at least once every quarter or any other times as may be necessary to effectively carry-out its functions.

Section 9. **Appropriations.** – This Ordinance further provides the necessary funds as maybe appropriated by the Sangguniang Bayan Members and that the expenditures thereof shall be subject to regular accounting and auditing procedures.

Section 10. **Sunset Review.** – Within three (3) years after the effectivity of this Ordinance or as the need arises, the Sangguniang Bayan shall conduct a sunset review. For purposes of this Ordinance, the term “sunset review” shall mean an impact of the Ordinance, as well as the operations and performance of the organization herein provided, for purposes of determining remedial legislation.

Section 11. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The Office of the Municipal Mayor shall, within ninety (90) days after the enactment of this Ordinance, formulate the necessary Rules and Regulation for the effectivity and orderly implementation of this Ordinance.

Section 12. **Applicability Clause.** – The pertinent and applicable provision of Republic Act (RA) No. 7356 or an Act Creating the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, RA 10066 or the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, RA 7355 or the Manlilikha ng Bayan Act, with its corresponding Implementing Rules and Regulations and other laws and ordinances relating to the subject of the foregoing, are deemed written herein and shall govern the impositions of this Ordinance.

Section 13. **Separability Clause.** – If for any reason, a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provision, section or part of this Ordinance invalid, suspended, or revoked, for being unconstitutional or contrary to existing laws, or for any other legal jurisdictions, such judgment shall not affect or impart in any way or another remaining provisions, sections,

or parts hereof, which shall remain or continue to be in full force and effect, as long as such decision or judgement will not affect or impair the intended purpose of this Ordinance or render the remaining provision inutile or a mere surplusage.

Section 14. **Repealing Clause.** – All Municipal Ordinances, Executive Orders, Resolutions, other issuances, rules and regulations for part thereof which are found to be inconsistent, in conflict, or contrary to the provisions set by this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended and modified accordingly.

Section 15. **Effectivity Clause.** – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after having complied with existing rules in posting and publication.

ENACTED: _____, 2023

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I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance which was duly enacted by the Sangguniang Bayan during its regular session on _____, 2023.

ATTY. KAREN MAE R. SERVAN
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Attested and Certified to be
Duly Enacted:

LEONARDO A. TUMAMAO
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved by:

VILMER B. BRAVO
Municipal Mayor

DRAFT (for 2nd Reading)