ARELLANO MUSEUM GARDENPARK Written by: Fel Barcarse, March 21, 2011

The Municipality celebrated the birth anniversary of the Chief Justice Cayetano Arellano last March 2, 2011. To memorialize him, a statue was built many years ago on the municipal plaza in his honor along side with the statue of Dr. Jose Rizal. In addition a bust marker was erected on the sidewalk corner lot adjacent to his birthplace.

The City of Manila has erected the statues of President Cory Aquino, her husband Ninoy, and Cardinal Sin on the corner lot across the street from Manila Hotel and Luneta. If the City of Manila could have done such a garden park project as a tourist attraction, I am sure the Municipality of Orion could also do the same.

The Municipal Executive Order No. 10-11 has given the Orion Municipal Tourism Council the authority

"To study and initiate the development of cultural tourism, museum depicting in photos, antiques, costumes, etc., the history, cultural development, achievement etc, of the community."

Therefore, may I suggest, the Orion Municipal Tourism Council in coordination with the Municipal Planner undertake a study ways to develop the corner lot as museum garden park for the Chief Justice Cayetano Arellano and to relocate the statue on the Municipal Plaza and the bust marker on the sidewalk into the site. In addition, may I suggest building a small building to house his memorabilia.

Conduct a community survey, a graphic design competition concept of the museum garden park and feedback comment from the community.

As for funding, may I suggest, prior to the negotiation, determine from the Municipal Assessor and Treasurer who is the registered owner, the legal description, and the assessment and appraisal value.

Submit the Feasibility Study Report to the Chief Executive and Sanguniang Bayan, requesting authority to undertake the development of the project and to negotiate with the registered owner with following options:

- 1. Present to the registered owner what is being planned on the site for public use.
- 2. Negotiate with the registered owner the possibility the donation of the corner lot to the Municipality, or;
- 3. Negotiate the purchase price based on the assessment value, or;
- 4. Take control of the property under the Imminent Domain.
- 5 Use parts of the 20% Development Plan Fund to pay and develop the property.
- 6. Solicit private donation.

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