

Excerpts from Minutes of the Meeting on March 27, 2008 held at Balete Drive, Quezon City:

For a starter, Secretary Sonia Ballo reported to the group the minutes of February 12, 2008 meeting which was unanimously approved by the body. The following matters were discussed during the meeting.

1. Registration of reunion attendees will be held at the secretariat room.

2. Souvenir Program:

The directors and members of the reunion committee are requested to place a page of ads in the souvenir program. These can be personal ads or solicitation from friends and businesses. Each page costs 5,000 in pesos or \$100.00. International coordinator Puring de Jesus will actively solicit ads from the MCI chapters and overseas-based members.

3. The welcome dinner will be held on Day 1 (Friday). Secretary Ace Durano of the Department of Tourism will be the featured guest speaker. To give a little formality to the occasion, it was recommended that the proper attire should be worn - Barong or polo barong or long sleeved shirt for men and Sunday dress for ladies. A presentation of Philippine Cultural program will be sponsored by the Department of Tourism.

4. Tours

There will be a city tour in the morning of Day 2 (Saturday). The tour will include the Rizal Park (for the wreath laying at the Monument), Intramuros (Fort Santiago) and Malacanang Palace. Frisco San Juan is making the arrangement with the Palace tour, including an audience with President Arroyo. Other information about the tour:

- a) 2 buses, with 55 seats capacity
- b) tour guides
- c) pick-up time at the hotel: 8:30 AM
- d) return to hotel - about noontime
- e) attendees will take care of their own lunch

Frisco San Juan noted that these tours will entail finances. The committee will study whether the Philippine reunion committee can afford to pay the expenses or ask each attendee to pay for the tour. They estimated the tour will cost 780.00 pesos per person.

5. Dinner Dance to be held in the evening of Day 2 (Saturday). Either the U.P. Singing Ambassadors or the brother-sister team of Nolyn and Liza Cabahug (tenor and soprano) will be featured. Attire for the night's dinner-dance is formal.

6. Attendance

Frisco San Juan, as chairman of the committee, told the members that Mekong Circle Philippines, as host of the reunion, will do everything to ensure the success of the event, to showcase the traditions, cultures and beauty of our native land and to make the stay of our kababayans a pleasant and enjoyable one. The matter of convincing the international members will be taken cared of by Puring R. de Jesus, international coordinator, and her team. Although the side trip to Laos is not a part of the reunion agenda, Frisco is presuming that those going to Laos will come to the Philippines to attend the reunion.

As for the local attendees, Jovit Revilla reported, that as of this date, around 60 members have committed to come to the reunion. She and Sonia Ballo will continue to contact members and convince them to come to the reunion.

Roll call: Frisco San Juan, Sonia Ballo, Jovit Revilla, Jun Belicena, Toti/Letty/Grace dela Paz, Dom/Jeane/Dominic Menguito, Marilou Enriquez, Gene San Juan and special guest Pat Tesoro Gonzales from California, USA.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2008.

Signed by: Sonia Ballo
Secretary of MCP