

PIA Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2016 8:46 AM
To: PIA Committee
Subject: FW: Vote "NO" on Adele Olbinado nomination to Lanai Planning Commission on 9/2/16

From: mpeary1947@aol.com [mailto:mpeary1947@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 4:49 PM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Cc: Riki Hokama <Riki.Hokama@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Vote "NO" on Adele Olbinado nomination to Lanai Planning Commission on 9/2/16

Please distribute this to all Maui County Council Members prior to the Council meeting on September 2, 2016 - Mahalo.

Aloha Council Members,

Today, while attending the Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee Meeting via electronic transmission at Riki Hokama's office, I heard the testimony of the nominee Adele Olbinado which, in my opinion, was woefully inadequate considering the importance of the job at hand to fill a vacancy on the Lanai Planning Commission created by the resignation of Jarrod Barfield.

I testified against the nomination prior to hearing her testify because that's the backward way Maui County has set up the process. However, I was even more certain, after hearing Mrs. Olbinado respond to questions from the Committee, that she is definitely unqualified to fill such an important position on the Lanai Planning Commission!

Prior to the Committee posing questions, Mrs. Olbinado was asked to please give an overview of what her interest was in being on the LPC to which she responded, **"I want to get involved in the Commission; help some kids, just wanted to get involved."**

(NOTE): I'm not sure what "helping kids has to do with being on the LPC?

Following that, the Committee was given an opportunity to ask questions of the nominee. Here's examples of a few questions posed by the Committee and Mrs. Olbinado's responses as follows:

Don Couch: "Can you make the LPC meetings?"

Adele Olbinado: **"I always work Wednesdays so I cannot promise I can come to every meeting but I will try my best.,"**

(NOTE): Keep in mind Mrs. Olbinado is working two jobs including the night shift at Four Seasons Hotel at Manele.

Riki Hokama: "What are your thoughts regarding the updated Lanai Community Plan?"

Adele Olbinado: **"I never go to the meetings, I cannot answer your questions."**

Riki: "What made you want to apply? Did you have a general interest or were you asked to apply?" Are you interested in other areas as well (he listed other commissions as examples),.

Adele: **I work two jobs, I just wanted to be on the Lanai Planning Commission. I was asked if I wanted to be on the Liquor Commission but I couldn't travel to Maui to do that."**

In addition to Mrs. Olbinado's seemingly difficult work schedule, she is employed by Four Seasons which could present a potential conflict, inasmuch as Pulama Lanai allegedly signs her pay checks. Since Pulama Lanai projects often come before LPC for their review, Mrs. Olbinado would likely have to recuse herself along with several other current LPC members who are either employed by Pulama Lanai or their spouse is employed by the company, thereby creating a bigger problem for the Commissioner's trying to conduct business.

In closing, I respectfully request the nomination of Adele Olbinado be withdrawn while a more suitable candidate be considered to fill the current vacancy on our Lanai Planning Commission. If a vote is taken on September 2, 2016 by the Council, then I respectfully request all of you vote, "No."

Mahalo,

Margaret Peary
Lanai City, HI