

MINUTES

of the

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

October 22, 2019

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII, WAS HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KALANA O MAUI BUILDING, WAILUKU, HAWAII, ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M., WITH CHAIR KELLY T. KING PRESIDING.

CHAIR KING: Good morning. Good morning, Councilmembers. Welcome to this special Maui County Council meeting of October 22, 2019. It's 9 a.m., calling the meeting to order. I'd like to welcome friends and family of Danny Mateo, who was a beloved fixture in this chambers for so many years. And, and many of us go back even further beyond.

We'll start with roll call, Ms. Clark.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS NATALIE A. KAMA, ALICE L. LEE, MICHAEL J. MOLINA, TAMARA A.M. PALTIN, YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, AND CHAIR KELLY T. KING.

EXCUSED: COUNCILMEMBER G. RIKI HOKAMA, SHANE M. SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK MARGARET C. CLARK: Madam Chair, there are six Members present, three Members excused. A quorum is present to conduct the business of the Council.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Clark. Before we proceed, I just ask Councilmembers and audience to, to silence your noisemaking devices. And we'll proceed with the ceremonial resolution.

Ms. Clark.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, proceeding with the presentation of testimony on ceremonial resolutions. We have received two requests from individuals who have signed up to testify in the chamber.

The first person signed up to testify is Artemio Baxa, to be followed by Josiah Nishita.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Mr. Baxa.

PRESENTATION OF WRITTEN OR ORAL TESTIMONY

MR. ARTEMIO BAXA:

Honorable Chair, Honorable Members of the Council. On this solemn occasion, I would like to first greet the beloved family of Danny Mateo. Ms. Clarissa Mateo, their children, grandchildren, and all relatives who are here.

I want to say that at the age of 68, Danny Mateo died at a very young age. But, my friends, we do not measure the life of a man by the number of years that he has lived on this earth. We measure a man by the nobility of his character, by the way how he dealt with others, how he committed himself to public service. Our beloved Danny Mateo, what a lesson did your life have on us.

I truly believe that our beloved Danny Mateo, in Danny Mateo's heart, beautifully was that beautiful rhythm of a beauty, of a beautiful heart, the heart that beat and taught us that life is a destiny, character, and that commitment must be. To me, those are the ideals that Danny Mateo lived. Danny Mateo valued his roots and ancestral beginnings. I mean, his family history, he valued that.

But at the same time, Danny Mateo put the level of all the people that he had met in his life in the same way that he treated people of his own kind in public service, in community leadership. There was the Danny Mateo that I knew. I had known him for a long time in Molokai and Maui when he served on the Council, and when he served as a County Clerk. That this service that he gave to our community will be felt not only today, but in the very long years to come. They will be here, they will never be forgotten. No matter how humble a beginning of a life must have been, these other things that will live for great generations to come.

My friends, as I said, I had known him for a long time. I have with me a picture together. This was at his retirement from public service. You know, I know you have met him as well, talked with him as well. But if I look at this picture, the way how he holds your

hand, the way how he hugs you, the way how he looks at you, and talks to you, it talks about his humility, his humanity, the greatness, it conveys the greatness of his heart and soul.

My friends, Honorable Council, the County of Maui, and for that matter, the whole State of Hawaii, is honored that this man has lived on this earth. As I said, he had humble beginning, but the greatness of a man is not measured by his humble beginning. It is what he had shared with his heart and soul, with the people in his community, with everyone that he had met. That is the distinction of every man and woman. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for sharing, Mr. Baxa.

Madam Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person signed up to testify in the chambers is Josiah Nishita.

MR. JOSIAH NISHITA, COUNTY CLERK:

Good morning, Chair, Members of the Council. I think this is my first time on this side of the podium before you, so thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify before you today.

You know, I can't think of a better month to celebrate Danny's life than October. Recently, the Council passed a resolution recognizing the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. And one of the first things that I can ever remember Danny speaking to me so passionately and personally about many years ago was the impact domestic violence has had in our community, and to individuals he's loved as well. And he was very passionate about that issue and wanted to see a resolution to that.

You know, many years ago, he asked me to participate in a event called "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes". And you can call me naïve, but initially when I agreed, I didn't realize we'd literally be walking a mile in women's shoes. But, and luckily for us, social media wasn't that big back then. So, but there are some very funny pictures of Danny and I, and other men of the Legislative branch attending that event. But you know, what, what that first event that I attended with him kind of gave me a glimpse into his, who the person Danny was, and kind of some of the issues that he was passionate about.

You know, he often spoke to me about his hanabata days, working at the mule and rent a car facility, living on the Big Island, meeting Poni, working for Pat Kawano, his love for Molokai and representing them, raising his children and, you know, growing up with his family and so much more.

You know, a lot of people knew Danny as a grumpy old man but, you know, I knew Danny so much more than that. He, he, over the years, I saw a much softer side to him. And he was always well-known for speaking his mind, but he cared very passionately and deeply about members of his family, his friends, and all those in the community. Probably the main things though I'll always remember about Danny are his infectious laugh and his love for his family.

One day, the, I think the hardest I ever remembered Danny laughing is he took me to a Filipino festival, and he raved about how great all of the food was. And he gave me this small soup-like dish and asked me to try it. And I'm totally going to butcher the name of it, but it was Dinardaraan. And he almost fell to the ground laughing so hard when he saw my face after I tried it. And I learned that day that Danny was a Filipino man who didn't really care for Filipino food. So, he's gotten me a few times over the years like that.

According to Danny though, and he's spoke about this many times to me over the years, really the greatest things that have ever happened to him in his life was marrying Poni and having his family. And, you know, I can't, I can't even begin to express how often he would talk to me about how much he loved them, how much he cared about their well-being and happiness.

And you know, in closing, we have an informal tradition in the Clerk's Office where the departing Clerk will leave a message for the incoming Clerk. And I want to share with you Danny's message to me. And it's right here and he typed it in all caps and for the life of me, throughout the entire time together I could not break him of that habit to not type in all capitalized letters. But here's his message to me: "Life is too short to wake up with regrets. Love the people that treat you right and forget the one's who don't. Believe everything happens for a reason. If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands, and if it changes your life, let it. Nobody said life would be easy, they just promised it would be worth it".

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. And I would ask for your full support of the resolution. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Ms. Clerk, do we have another testifier?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, next person signed up to testify is Jasee Lau, to be followed by Stacy Crivello.

MR. JASEE LAU:

Good morning, everybody. Danny was special in my life because I voted for the first time with his help right over there, right here in Wailuku at the community center. So, thanks you guys.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person signed up to testify in the chambers is Stacy Crivello.

MS. STACY CRIVELLO:

Aloha, everyone.

CHAIR KING: Aloha.

MS. CRIVELLO: My name is Stacy Helm Crivello and I'm here on my own time this morning to express your support and all of our support for this special resolution, for a very special person.

Poni and our dear ohana, I cannot express further the kind of indelible imprints with Danny's footprints. Your Kaupu Ohana embraced him and all of Molokai hanai, Danny Mateo. We had many wit, witty times together, and we have times of not necessarily agree.

But I do remember when he was on the Council and as we were formulating our Molokai Land Trust, I called Danny how we can go about to getting some funds to purchase some perennial streams and about 196-acres of lands in Kainalu, being that he's familiar. And you know, there was no question about it from Danny. You know, his thing was oh, everybody else can ku'e ku'e, but we will make a difference. We will save the open space and we will be able to restore the perennial watershed that was out in Kainalu.

So, that was one of the first connection I've had with Danny years back when we wanted to form a Molokai Land Trust, which is in full spinning wheels today. But he opened up the door so that we could have this open space. And, Poni, you know

where Kainalu and Kawaikapu is? And you know, we never had always complete access to, to many of the open space lands on our island. So, this, to, to me, was a moment of Molokai's history, because it's a first time. And then we extended further, with Danny's help to extend further some 1600 other acres of pristine coastal lands. So, he not only did the talk, he did the walk.

But most of all, his talk has always been about Poni and his ohana, his children, his grandchildren. Of course, he will always have some remarks about maybe Poni not giving him enough attention and all goes to the mo'opuna, but it was with, with loving gesture.

So, first of all, mahalo for sharing your loved one with us. And I'm sure he'll continue to brace us as he lies in the bosom of our Lord. And we just got to call on him to pray for us as we try to continue to do the work that he leaves for us to continue moving forward. So, mahalo and thank you for doing this for Danny Mateo. Aloha.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for being here, Ms. Crivello.

We have another testifier. I think that, Mr. Couch, did you sign up? Don Couch, thank you for being here.

MR. DON COUCH:

Aloha and good morning, Chair King and Members. My name is Don Couch and I'm testifying on my own behalf. I just want to say heavy heart.

I've known Danny for a long time. He was the first Chair when I was on Council my first term. And you know, people take some time getting used to when you don't know them, you know, face to face, so we had a rough time at the very beginning. But we got to go, I had the very distinct pleasure of going to the Philippines with him, and we rode in a bus for 10 hours from Manila all the way up to Badoc. And I got to learn a lot about Danny. It was wonderful. One of the things I learned that I, I laugh to at this day; he's part Filipino and he hated Filipino food. We were in the Philippines and I thought, okay, you're going to show me the right stuff to eat. And he, no, I hate Filipino food. So, but it was really good.

I don't know if amongst his things, we were up in Baguio, on the way to Baguio City and that's where the Igorot population, indigenous people were. And apparently, he said he was part Igorot. So, I got him, I really, it took me a while, but I got him to pose for a picture in an Igorot native attire. So, I got that picture and I was able to make that into a bobblehead doll. You still have that? I hope you do. It was wonderful.

He was a great guy, gone too soon and I'm sorry about that. Very heavy heart, but one of the, the funniest people I've met as well. He could be strict when he needed to be here on the floor, understandable. But outside, fabulous and just gone too soon. And you know, my thoughts and prayers are with you and the family. And Maui County has lost a true leader. So, thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, Mr. Couch. Thanks for coming down.

Do we have anymore testifiers in the chambers or in the District Offices?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, there are no further individuals signed up to testify in the Council chamber nor the District Offices.

CHAIR KING: Okay. I have one more testimonial that I've been asked to read. And I know that the family has heard this before, but I was asked by sister Ludy to read this at this event. We haven't, those of us in the chambers have not necessarily heard this and I was asked by the Governor's representative. So, this is the, from Governor David Ige.

In memoriam Dennis "Danny" Alfred Mateo. It is with a heavy heart that I offer my sincere condolences to the family and friends of the late Danny Mateo. To his wife, Clarissa Mateo; to his son Dennis Kaneala (Sarita) Mateo Jr.; to his daughters Heidi (Reynaldo) Tomas, Noralyn (Gary) Koahou, and Tiara, Tiara Mateo; to his sisters Norma (Fred) Leite, Janet (Toby) Fernandez, Ludy (Frank) Garcia, Marie (Stanley) Souza, and Carol (George) Fernandez; to his grandchildren; and to his extended family and friends, please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss.

From 2002 to 2012, Danny served on the Maui County Council, representing the Molokai District. During his tenure from 2006 to 2008, Danny was the Maui County Council Vice-Chair and also served as the Maui County Council Chair from 2008 to 2012. After Danny reached his maximum term on the Council, he then became an Executive Assistant for Mayor Alan Arakawa's Office in 2013, and worked as the County Clerk for Maui County before retiring in December 2018.

Danny was no stranger to hard work as he was raised in the sugar plantation era. As a leader, he was known for his tenacity, quick-wit and perseverance. Danny was well-respected by his peers for his leadership and compassion for his community.

To his family, he was full of humor, loving, yet committed to ensure that he did his part in making a difference for future generations. Danny once stated, "As a father, I always look ahead and pray that the world finds peace, and the quality of life for the generations to come be a better one. I pray for a time when war, hunger, and hate will

no longer be a part of the social fabric of mankind. I dream of the day when our children will be able to buy their own affordable homes and good paying jobs will be many, keeping our children home in Maui County, instead of leaving for the mainland".

Danny is much appreciated with the impact he has made on the lives of others and will be dearly missed. To Danny's ohana, I join each of you in bidding him a fond aloha and wish you strength and comfort in the days ahead. With deepest sympathy, David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii.

So, I'll, I'll pass this final, this is a second copy for you. I'll pass that along to the family.

And if there are no more testimony, if there's no more testimony from the chambers, any objections to closing testimony?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Testimony is closed.

And proceed with the ceremonial resolution.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, proceeding with ceremonial resolutions.

CEREMONIAL RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
NO. 19-177

EXTENDING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE DENNIS "DANNY" A. MATEO

CHAIR KING: Okay. Councilmember Mike Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Good morning, Madam Chair.

CHAIR KING: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA:

I MOVE TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION "EXTENDING
CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE DENNIS
'DANNY' A. MATEO".

COUNCILMEMBER LEE:

SECOND.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Moved by Councilman Mike Molina, seconded by Councilmember Alice Lee.

Mr. Mateo, ay, Mr. Mateo, Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: That's okay, Madam Chair. It's an honor. May we have the Clerk read the resolution in its entirety?

CHAIR KING: Okay. Madam Clerk.

(The resolution was read in its entirety).

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Madam Clerk.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Well, as read by the Clerk, Danny Mateo's legislative accomplishments were impressive. One piece of legislation that stands out for me was his Workforce Housing Policy. And with the timely issue of affordable housing, it's certainly something that we can reflect back and look into. He took the lead in addressing the affordable housing needs for our community back in the day when I served on the Council before. And his leadership in that area set the stage for future Council legislation such as the First Time Homebuyers Fund and the Affordable Housing Fund which benefits many families today and gives them housing opportunities.

And although Danny was not from Molokai, the community and his passion for Molokai was immense. And one of his big accomplishments was bringing in a state-of-the-art fire station, which was much needed.

And my personal relationship with Danny and the Mateo family goes back to when our families grew up in Makawao. His mother, Nora, worked with my mom and my dad in our family business, and she had a tremendous work ethic, which certainly carried over to Danny. He was very meticulous, hardworking, and he came from very humble beginnings and never forgot his local roots and respect for the Hawaiian and Filipino cultures.

Danny, as we all know, had a very witty sense of humor and a knack for quick responses. And he also had a talent for bringing together, whether it be for work or entertainment. And the Clerk mentioned about the "Three Amigos"; myself, Joe Pontanilla, and Danny, with our so-called hit performance. Well, the hits was more, we were going to get hit after the way we butchered a couple of songs, is what I think it was related to.

But he put together another group with Joe Pontanilla and former Councilmember Bill Medeiros, and they entertained senior citizens. And they called themselves the "Dream Boys". And Danny told me he came up with the name of "Dream Boys" not because they were handsome and sexy, it was because they were three men over the age of 50 who could now only dream about what they used to be able to do as youngsters.

But from one great politician to another, Abraham Lincoln once said, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in those years". Danny made his years count with his legislative accomplishments, volunteering his time for a number of community causes, and leaving a legacy as a good son, brother, husband, father, and grandfather.

And one final legacy is right here in this building that Danny left for us. Outside of the Council chambers, in the glass cases, are documents and pictures of current and past County leaders. Danny was the one who came up with this idea, and along with others, put in many hours of personal time to create this historic exhibit of Maui County government for our citizens.

And in closing, Madam Chair, the Bible's Book of Peter, Chapter 1, Verse 10, reads, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms". We should all strive to use our gifts as Danny Mateo did to establish a wonderful legacy that was built on love for family, friends, and the community.

We thank Danny's wife, Poni; his children; grandchildren and his siblings, for sharing Danny with us, who enriched and brightened all of our lives. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Let's kind of go down the line here.

Councilmember Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Madam Chair. When I think of Danny, I think of one word, and that word is "kolohe". He was a rascal, mischievous, but very forthcoming and never held back on his opinions of others. He liked to swear. He was a, he had a

wonderful sense of humor. And, but on the serious side, he always took his work very, you know, seriously and professionally, always prepared and organized. He was very dedicated, always made time to share; however, a funny story with a colleague or staff. Somebody mentioned "gift of gab", yea, that's him too.

And then, I just feel that he was such a great family man. We were so lucky to have him in our lives. I know Danny is here right now smiling on us and with us. And I say to him, "a hui hou, my dear friend". Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Councilmember Lee.

Anyone else? Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. You know, it's a real tribute to a special person who entered our lives in this arena. I met Danny through this political world when he was with Pat Kawano as his, his staff, along with Tina Thompson. And he continued on, when he was appointed to take Pat's place when we lost him. I thought, that's the appropriate person who probably lived Molokai through the many ways that Pat Kawano did.

And I think everybody said it well, how much he loved his family and how special Poni was. And the number of people in the audience today, in the chambers, which reflects the many generations on the legacy of Pat Kawano represents truly a man who loved his family and caught the spirit of the things that are important through them.

I wanted to share a personal story I had with, of, with Danny in that when I decided to run for this seat, it was Danny I turned to before I made a decision just to get some advice. And of course, he told me that he couldn't talk to me in the Council chambers or the, or his office, or any place cause he was Clerk. But he, he just wanted to, when I reached out to him, he gave me his perspective of what it was running for office, making that commitment and the responsibility that it would take to really, for me was crossing that line and deciding. And I, I just wanted to thank Danny for that.

Every, every day when I come into the office and I, and I see the display that Danny put together, I know he had boxes, and boxes, and boxes of documents and memorabilia that different departments had sent to him and he had to select what to put in the display outside. And that was an accomplishment. I think he worked diligently with Arthur Suyama, who did the graphics and helped Danny with the meticulous work to come up with the final display.

But Danny is an amazing guy. I always called him my sergeant of arms, sergeant at arms. And I said one day when you retire from your Clerk's Office, I wish you will be

our Council sergeant of arms, as we've seen there's a need to have that oversight. And somebody like Danny who has, who understands the house rules, understands Parliamentary Procedure, and really the importance of the people's chambers, which I call this. And he understood that, because he lived it.

So, I, I support this resolution. Thank you for doing this and recognizing him. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Member Kama, Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. It's hard to not cry at a time like this, because when a family loses something, it's precious. And when they grieve, we grieve too. But I'm glad that we have a, we have cause to grieve. It's a celebratory kind of grief as opposed to the other kind of grief we get on the floor, so I'm very grateful to that.

But I'm thinking about when I first met Danny. I was a pastor here in Wailuku. And I was concerned that many of the people in my church didn't have housing. And he was the Chair of the Housing Committee. And I actually called him, and he actually came to my church and talked to me and my people about what it was that he was trying to do. And be, and that is when I first understood what workforce housing was. So, I feel really honored to be here today, to be able to continue his legacy of housing for our local people, to be able to thank his family for their years of sacrifice and giving up him to us so that we could all have a better community for all of our people.

When I think about Danny, I think about this display back here and how, if you look at it, you really look at it, you're going to see Maui through his eyes as a child, what did he see, and as an adult, what did it look like. I'm amazed that Maui County puts out wonderful people and I'm so grateful to the seniors who live here, who have born and bred their children, who have raised their children to be citizens of this County, and whose now grandchildren are now taking, taking stock in what's going on, and that the generation continues to be able to make Maui No Ka Oi. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, Member Kama.

I wanted to let folks know that the family brought, as a thank you, some pastry treats that are in the back to thank the Council. And I really want to thank the family for letting us do this, because we needed to honor Danny in this way; in the way that we honor people in these chambers, and especially those of us who knew him for a long time and worked with him.

I, I'm, I'm so honored that you, you picked a date to be, to all be here, because I'm, I first met Danny back in the early 90's when he was involved in something that's not

even on any, I couldn't find any mention of it, because it was before the internet, it was before cellphones, it was before Facebook. But there was a thing, he was involved in education, there was the thing called the School District Council. I don't know if you folks remember that, but Danny was involved in that. And we had one, we had a district council for, for Maui when my kids were little, and so I started getting involved in education. That's where I met him.

When I decided to run for the Board of Education in the late 90's, he encouraged me, and he supported me all the way. It was, he was a great, because he was so honest, he was, it was, you know, you knew when he was telling you something, he was telling you the truth and he didn't hold back, as Member Lee said. So, that was my first, you know, my first encounter with him was over education issues. And that was very near and dear to my heart at the time, because I was raising little kids.

And then as I got into other issues involving energy, Danny was on the Council. I talked to him and, and, and the head of that Committee, Charmaine Tavares, into going to a conference in Idaho. And Danny told me that he had never been to the mainland except to Las Vegas before. So, we traveled together. I literally held his hand through, through San Francisco Airport. And I got one of our partners to take him up to the snow, and he said it was the first time he had actually touched snow and seen snow. And he was, it was just wonderful to see that, to share that with someone for the first time; that, that just wonderment. He was just so open and honest that way.

The other story I wanted to share was, I'd only been on the Council a year when he said he was going to retire at the end of that first year. And I was kind of bummed because I was really wanted to work with him in this capacity a little bit longer. So, I went into his office in December with a retirement gift, and there was a big box in his room, in his office that had a big red bow on it. And it said, and it was from his staff, and it said, "you selfish", and it was the "b" word that ends with a "d" on that box. And he said I'm not retiring; my staff won't let me. I have to work, go another year to, through the next election. So, I let him keep the retirement gift.

But you know, I sat down with Danny several times and just had these really heart to heart discussions. He knew a lot of the backstory of what's going on in the County and on the Mayor's floor, especially. And was just the honesty, and sharing, and the encouragement that he gave to keep going to, you know, you're on the right track, keep going is, you know, you got to stay the course. I think he was with that with everybody that he knew and, and worked with.

A lot of times, and the display out there, we all, those of us who were on the Council last year, myself and Yuki Lei, were here during the year, it took him a year to put that display case together. And there were so many times when he wanted to share what

was going on in that display case, why he was choosing one thing over another that I think I was probably late to at least three or four meetings from talking to Danny out in the lobby. But always had great things to share.

So, I want to join everybody else in thanking the family for sharing such a great community member with us, in so many aspects; from, from the administrative side to the education side to the Council side, the policymaking, to the Clerk, which was, which was service to all of the Councilmembers. I'm, I'm so honored to be part of this, this tribute to him. And thank you all for showing up. I really appreciate it.

So, I'll, if there's no other comments, we'll call for the question. All those in favor of the resolution on the floor, say "aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, LEE, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SUGIMURA, AND CHAIR KING.

CHAIR KING: Any opposed?

NOES: NONE.

EXCUSED: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, SINENCI, AND
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ.

CHAIR KING: Measure passes six "ayes", three "excused", zero "noes".

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes, Madam Chair, with your permission, may we have the family approach the front?

CHAIR KING: Absolutely. Can we ask the family to come down to the front of the chambers? And I did request, I did ask them if they would like a photo, so we'll do a quick photo in the front here with the family.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair, first of all, I'd like to start off by saying to you, thank you very much for holding a special Council meeting today as we reflect and honor our beloved brother and friend, Danny Mateo. I'd like to proceed now with asking the family to present the ceremonial resolution from the Council and asking the family if they'd like to say a few words.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. TIARA MATEO: Aloha, County Councilmembers. I am Tiara Mateo, the oldest grandchild of the late County Clerk Dennis "Danny" A. Mateo, Sr. On behalf of Danny Mateo's ohana, words cannot express the loss in our hearts. Mahalo nui loa for being with us during this difficult time. Your thoughts, prayers, and words of sympathy will always be remembered. We would like to thank you all for taking the time out of your day to honor this amazing man who can never be replaced. Although he is no longer with us, his legacy will live on forever through his children and grandchildren.

My Papa understood the importance of helping the community in every way possible. He dedicated his life to the people of Maui County, trying to better our community for future generations. As my Papa said, as a father of three and grandfather of 15 at the time, "I always look ahead and pray that the world finds peace and the quality of life for the generations to come to be a better one. I pray for a time when war, hunger, and hate will no longer be the part of the social fabric of mankind. I dream of a day where our children will be able to buy their own affordable homes, and good paying jobs will be many, keeping our children home in Maui County, instead of leaving for the mainland".

He also hoped to hear the words "please" and "thank you" more often, and that respect and common courtesy would be a part of every day life, as well as a time where government actually addresses the people's business and common sense was the norm. It won't be easy, but the love we have for each other, the strength we have together, and the values he instilled in us will overcome the obstacles that are ahead of us.

I'll leave you all with these words from my Papa, "we're in this together". So, if there's not any objections, meeting adjourned.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. And if there's any other family would like to say a few words the mic is open. Okay. I guess, seeing none, I just want to thank the family and everyone for being here to honor and recognize our brother Danny Mateo.

Thank you very much again, Madam Chair, for holding this special meeting in honor of Danny. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Molina.

He's a special man to all of us and couldn't have a better reason to have a special meeting. There being no further business before the Council, the meeting will be adjourned at 9:53.

ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting of October 22, 2019 was adjourned by the Chair at 9:53 a.m.



JOSIAH K. NISHITA, COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII