

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of September 15, 2009

MEMBERS:

Allan Rosenbaum
Sylvester Lukis
Steve Edelstein
Carolina Rendeiro
Luba DeWitt
Art DeNunzio
Paul Posnak

A J J M A M F J D N O S COMMISSIONERS:

P	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
P	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
P	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
P	X	X	P	P	P	P	X	E	E	E	P	Mayor Don Slesnick	
P	X	X	P	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
P	X	X	P	P	P	P	X	-	-	-	-	P	Patrick Salerno, City Manager
-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	P	Council-at-Large Appointment

Ex Officio:

Deirdre Nero

Business Affiliation:

Vice Chair, Int'l. Division, CGCC

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused
X = No Meeting

Staff in Attendance:

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC
Jessica Wotherspoon, Economic Sustainability

Guests:

Dave Woodward, Executive Director – Florida Delegation, Southeast U. S. / Japan
Chantal Gloor, Membership & Programs Coordinator – Florida Delegation, Southeast U. S. / Japan
Alvaro Lacayo and Jorge Valle – Recently completed City Hall visit to Granada, Nicaragua.
Gaël de Maisonneuve - Consul Général de France à Miami.

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. A quorum was present.

The Chair opened the session by welcoming everyone and thanked all visitors for attending.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Art DeNunzio to approve the minutes of the International Affairs Coordinating Council Meeting of August 18th, 2009. Motion was seconded by Allan Rosenbaum. The minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

SISTER CITY DESIGNATION:

Chair Carolina Rendeiro informed that this item would be tabled for next month's meeting.

AIX-EN-PROVENCE PROPOSED MISSION:

Mr. Edelstein informs on the Aix-en-Provence mission. Former Mayor Raul Valdés-Fauli has confirmed for October 13th, through October 15th, 2009. Mr. Edelstein requested a letter to be prepared by Mayor Slesnick's office to be exchanged and schedules for the two day period. Ms. Rendeiro states that she would follow through with Mayor Slesnick's office on the program for this mission.

Ms. Rendeiro reports that the upcoming Beacon Council /Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce 2010 Mission will be to France. There will be an Aix-en-Provence outreach component. Ms. Rendeiro informed the Council that the Mission is planned for April 17th through April 24th, 2010. The Mission is being set for the south of France.

Ms. Rendeiro welcomes French Consul General Gaël de Maissonneuve.

Consul General introduces himself and expresses how Aix-en-Provence is one of the most vibrant exchanges that we have. He went on and offered to provide an additional letter of support with respects to our continuous communication.

Discussion occurred regarding the protocol on letters, scheduling and Sunshine laws.

Ms. Rendeiro informs on a seminar for the Sunshine laws and Commission on Ethics which applies to all Boards and Committees members. The seminar scheduled for October 2nd, 8am through 5pm.

Ms. Wotherspoon reports on the proposed cultural exchange from Aix-en-Provence's Sister City liaison, Muriel Pradon. The proposal aims to bring about a cultural art, recreation, and culinary exchange between both sister cities' residents to take place in the spring 2010.

Discussion occurred on the Aix-en-Provence cultural exchange.

Ms. Rendeiro introduces Ms. Deirdre Nero, from The Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, Vice Chair of the International Affairs, Ms. Nero will be serving as ex-officio for this board.

Ms. Nero confirms on the mission's dates and that the Beacon Council is currently looking into reserving hotels.

THE VISIT BY MAYOR JOSE TORRES HURTADO FROM GRANADA, SPAIN:

Ms. Rendeiro informs of the package offered to Mayor Hurtado of two coach tickets from American Airlines, but after informing Mayor Hurtado on the tickets being American Airlines he has requested Iberia. We are also working on getting a letter from the Mayor's Office to clear that Express Travel will work with Iberia.

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE SURVEY:

Florida League of Cities, Sister City survey, is trying to get an idea of synergies and other organizations in the cities. This survey has been the most comprehensive. A brief discussion of the Florida League of Cities/Florida League of Mayors was held among members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Rendeiro introduces guest Mr. Dave Woodward, with Southern U.S./Japan which is a statewide organization promoting trade, investments, education, tourism and cultural ties through 8 states with 30 years of history. He also informed the Board of the 33rd Annual Joint meeting of Japan/U.S. Associations which will be held in Tokyo this coming October 18-20. The Florida delegation is not established; Governor Crist will not be available for this conference but will delegate one of his Deputy Governors to head this conference in Tokyo. Sister Organizations include Korean and China partnerships. He stated the beauty of the mission is to open dialogue that would not normally be open. This delegation consists of attorneys, accountants, international business and economic developers. Mr. Woodward mentioned his involvement on the International Advising Committee for Enterprise Florida, the Beacon Council, and other organizations across Florida.

Ms. Rendeiro introduces guest Mr. Alvaro Lacayo, local resident and native Nicaraguan who recently visited Granada, Nicaragua. He would like information on the protocol requirements of joining the Sister City program.

The Board members present unanimously confirmed the next meeting date to be Tuesday, October 20th, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Rendeiro informed the Board on the outreach letter which was sent to Quito on September 10, 2009. Waiting on a response.

Mr. DeNunzio spoke on Education for the next IACC meeting/architectural engineering, environmental engineering, and lectures.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz
Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council