

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

Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2008

Members	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	Commissioners:
Stephen McGaughey	P	P	P	P	A	P	X	P	P	E	P	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Michelle Moskowitz	P	P	E	P	P	P	X	P	E	E	P	P	Comm. Ralph Cabrera Jr.
Ray Airan	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	E	P	Vice Mayor William H. Kerdyk Jr.
John Carpenter	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	A	P	P	E	A	Mayor Don Slesnick
Luba DeWitt	P	P	P	E	A	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Art DeNunzio	P	P	P	E	P	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	David L. Brown, City Manager
Carolina Rendeiro	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	E	P	P	P	Council-at-Large Appointment

STAFF:

Olga M. Garcia, Mayor's Office

GUESTS:

Chair Carolina Rendeiro called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. A quorum was present.

Motion was made by Ms. Carolina Rendeiro to approve the April minutes as submitted. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ray Airan and passed unanimously.

Chairman Rendeiro spoke about establishing guidelines for the scholarship fund to fit the IACC needs. She said that this has been the year of fact finding and that the Commission is willing to listen to this Board. She requested feedback from IACC members to develop specific criteria selection for upcoming scholarships.

Ms. DeWitt spoke about the request received from Guatemala Trade Commissioner Dunia Miranda Mauri to fund a trip from Ponce Middle School students to Guatemala. Commissioner Cabrera requested more information about the selection of these children before approving this item.

Further discussion was held about fine tuning the scholarship criteria which already has been established in the Hopkins scholarship. Ms. Rendeiro recommended using some of the existing selection criteria wording that the City already accepts.

Mr. Stephen McGaughey said that this scholarship criteria has to be organized and approved by this Board, showing evidence that it would be in the best interest of the City. Ms. Garcia volunteered to do some research and bring forward information related to this at the next agenda. Members agreed to conduct a special task meeting in the upcoming weeks to work on the criteria. Mr. McGaughey agreed to work on the language. It was also agreed that scholarship caps be established to be no more than \$2,000 or \$2,500 and limit the program participation to middle and high school students.

Ms. Rendeiro provided an update regarding the city trust account. She met with City Attorney Liz Hernandez back in March and she advised her that the Board can indeed set up a trust account. City Attorney asked for another meeting once the Board decides how they want this trust account to work. Ms. Rendeiro suggested establishing a trust account which would be administered through the Coral Gables Community Foundation.

Ms. DeWitt said that this issue has been discussed for months. She is under the impression that a trust fund has already been established and that a sub-account can be set up for the purposes of this Board. She recommended contacting the Community Foundation directly to explore the options of setting up this trust fund.

Mr. Stephen McGaughey recommended going back to the City's legal department to draft the criteria since this is a legal issue. If City Attorney is not available, then the Board should ask for the assistance of the Assistant City Attorney. Ms. Rendeiro will make another attempt to work with the City Attorney's Office.

Ms. Moskowitz provided a publications update. She met with Belkys Perez from Public Affairs regarding timeframe for publicity. Information must be provided with at least two weeks notice to be placed on e-News. She also asked to contact Lourdes Cuzan for photos of past art exhibits that could be displayed on the web page. Ms. Moskowitz also reported that they would like the Granada statue to be part of the trolley tour in future Gallery Nights. Ms. Rendeiro reported that she will participate in upcoming Coral Gables Now television show to highlight the sister city programs.

Ms. Rendeiro provided an update on the trade mission to Italy saying that it was a very expensive but very good trip. The group went to Milan, Florence and Pisa in coordination with the Beacon Council. They had a phenomenal reception in Pisa and met with industry leaders. She informed members that she will provide a recap of the mission to the City Commission at a future meeting and will present to them a silver tray.

Ms. Garcia informed that they are still waiting to receive Vice Mayor Kerdyk's report from his recent La Antigua trip. Her office has met with contact Lex Cargo who is looking forward to organizing a trip next year.

Mr. Stephen McGaughey talked about existing sister city relationship with Quito. He suggested to consider establishing a new sister city with Santiago as this is a strong community with a great university and manufacturing center. Ms. Rendeiro replied that at this time they are not considering adding new sister cities. Mr. Stephen McGaughey also wanted to congratulate Ms. Garcia on the work she has done on behalf of the IACC.

Ms. DeWitt suggested contacting the Consulate of Uruguay about an event they are interested in doing with the City. Ms. Garcia replied that she will and that she is also visiting other consulates to reach out to them about international relations. She will report back at future meetings.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Olga M. Garcia
Mayors Office