

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

Minutes of the Meeting of April 17, 2018

Members:	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Commissioners
Lourdes Cuzán	P	P	E	P	P	X	P	P	X	P	P	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Israel Reyes	E	E	P	E	P	X	P	P	X	P	E	E	Comm. Frank Quesada
Alma Kadragic	P	P	E	E	-	X	P	P	X	P	E	P	Vice Mayor Patricia Keon
Claudio Pastor	P	P	P	P	-	X	P	P	X	E	P	E	Comm. Vince Lago
Volker Anding	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	E	X	P	P	P	Comm. Michael Mena
Enrique Monasterio	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	P	X	P	P	P	Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, City Manager
Rafael Gavarrete	P	P	P	P	-	X	P	P	X	P	P	P	Council-at-Large Appointment

Country Appointed Liaisons:

Cartagena, Colombia – Ms. Cuzan
Aix-en-Provence, France – Mr. Anding
Antigua, Guatemala – Mr. Gavarrete

A = Absent

P = Present

E = Excused

UA = Unexcused Absence

Staff in Attendance:

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

Guests:

Leticia Perez, Coral Gables Economic Development Department/International Business Development

Ms. Cuzan called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Anding made a motion to approve the minutes of the IACC meeting on March 29, 2018 and Mr. Monasterio seconded the motion. All in favor, the minutes were approved unanimously.

AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE

Ms. Perez spoke about the delegation that visited from Aix in November. Economic Development gave a presentation to the delegation which seemed to be very successful. After the visit, Ms. Perez followed up with the members of the delegation. The Aix companies are interested in partnering with the City. One company, Qista, works on mosquito control solutions and is interested in conducting an experiment in Coral Gables. The City is working with the co-founder, Mr. Simon Lillamand. The City's Parks and Recreation department is working with Mr. Lillamand on a pilot project at the Venetian Pool. Ms. Perez forwarded the contact

information to Mr. Couceyro and Ms. Vester who are in direct communication and trying to bring this project to fruition.

Ms. Perez forwarded a letter from Mayor Raúl Valdés-Fauli to the Mayor of Aix. Mr. Anding said there was an initial response from the Mayor of Aix but there has been no further communication. The communication has taken place with Aix's business community. Mr. Monasterio asked what kind of device would be used to treat the mosquito. Ms. Perez said they sent technical pictures of the machine which has a tank system and sprays a chemical that is supposed to be safe. Mr. Anding asked if safety approvals are required. Ms. Perez stated that Mr. Couceyro is now working on the project and would take all the appropriate measures.

Mr. Anding said Qista gave the impression they were coming up with a new technology. However, after Mayor Valdés-Fauli spoke to Mayor Stoddard from South Miami said this technology is most probably being used already in the United States and is FDA approved. Mr. Anding said they should double check Qista's development if this technology already is used in the United States. Mr. Monasterio urged for the City to make sure the technology is FDA approved to avoid legal ramifications. Ms. Perez said Mr. Lillamand spoke to the University of Miami in December about the mosquito project and they were referred back to the City of Coral Gables. Mr. Anding said the international contact person at UM is Ms. Alejandra Collarte. Ms. Perez said she did not refer that contact to Mr. Lillamand. However, Ms. Cuzan said she is working on setting up a meeting with Ms. Collarte for this project and other topics regarding the IACC.

Ms. Cuzan asked if there had been any development on the Kellogg School of Management initiative with Aix. Mr. Anding said he heard from the Coral Gables Museum that they were planning a visit to Aix in October 2018. However, the trip has been postponed to October of 2019. Mr. Anding said he has not heard anything further on the Kellogg initiative. Ms. Cuzan said she would like to meet with the Director of the Kellogg school achieve a project sooner than the mosquito initiative with Qista. Ms. Cuzan said she would also like to reach out to the University of Miami for an exchange as well

Ms. Perez has not received any further information from the other companies that visited Coral Gables. Mr. Anding asked if after a certain period she would be following up with those companies. Ms. Perez said she could send a second follow up email.

LA ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:

Mr. Gavarrere said he contacted the University of Miami's School of Medicine. However the University has closed their Strategic Initiative department. They were working with the department on a list of supplies for the hospital in La Antigua. Ms. Perez suggested reaching out to the University's international department.

Mr. Gavarrete said he contacted Baptist Hospital last week and is waiting to hear back from them. Mr. Anding said he had contacted Ms. Gimena Basauri from the International Outreach program of Baptist Health South Florida. Mr. Anding received an email from Ms. Basauri which stated she would get in contact with Mr. Gavarrete. Ms. Perez suggested contacting Mr. Mario Mendes who is the Vice President for Baptist Health International. Mr. Anding said he had been advised to contact Ms. Kozloski who was part of the department. Mr. Anding said he spoke to Mr. Alex Fuentes who is the Director of International Business Development at Baptist. Mr. Gavarrete said he tried to contact Ms. Basauri and is still waiting to hear back.

CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

Ms. Cuzan said the firefighters from Cartagena visited the City of Coral Gables and met with the Coral Gables Fire Department and Mayor Valdés-Fauli with regards to the extrication training. A date for this training will be determine soon. The firefighters will provide their own housing and about seven firefighters will attend the training.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pastor said he has no new developments with Como. Mayor Valdés-Fauli sent a letter to the Mayor of Como to form a friendship city. Mr. Pastor is waiting for a response on the communication. Ms. Cuzan asked if Mr. Pastor would like to meet with the restaurant owner they had previously discussed the potential relationship. Mr. Pastor would be happy to meet with the gentleman.

Mr. Anding said the Consul General of Italy of suggested the City of Latina. Latina is about 60 kilometers south east of Rome. The population is around 60-70 thousand people. The city was founded by Mussolini. After further research, Mr. Anding advised it would not be a viable sister city relationship. Mr. Pastor agreed. Mr. Pastor suggested the City continue trying to form a relationship with Como.

Mr. Pastor said he spoke to Mr. Tony Cardenali who is a Coral Gables resident. Mr. Cardenali has bought a property in Como and is developing a mansion into a bed and breakfast. Mr. Pastor asked Mr. Cardenali to be the contact person in Como for the City.

Mr. Monasterio met with Mayor Valdés-Fauli and Ms. Rendeiro. They discussed the status of Aveiro. The Mayor would like to invite a delegation to the City or visit Aveiro in the Fall. Salamanca has showed interest in becoming a Sister City that needs to be explored. Salamanca has the one of oldest universities in Europe. It is located between Madrid and the border of Portugal. It is a bigger city than Coral Gables. Mayor Valdés-Fauli has expressed interest in this relationship. Mr. Pastor said a relationship with Salamanca would have a lot of potential from a university exchange standpoint. Mr. Anding said Coral Gables is prepared from an education standpoint for that sort of relationship. Ms. Rendeiro was putting together information on the future of education and academic research.

Ms. Cuzan asked whether a letter would be sent to Aveiro as an invitation. Mr. Monasterio said he needed to speak to Ms. Rendeiro. Ms. Cuzan asked if there was a letter from Salamanca. Mr. Monasterio said there was a letter from the Mayor of Salamanca but it came through Sister Cities International.

Ms. Cuzan said she spoke with Mayor Valdés-Fauli and he would like something in writing from Aveiro showing their interest and commitment to a relationship with the City.

Mr. Anding asked if there was any update on San Isidro. Ms. Cuzan said the Mayor had postponed his trip and is looking to visit the city in May. If the Mayor's schedule does not permit they would invite the Mayor of San Isidro to visit.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Announcement:

The next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2018.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz
Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council