

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

Minutes of the Meeting of February 16th, 2010

MEMBERS:	J	D	N	O	S	A	J	J	M	A	M	F	COMMISSIONERS:
Allan Rosenbaum	X	A	P	P	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Sylvester Lukis	X	A	E	P	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	A	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Steve Edelstein	X	P	P	P	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	A	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Carolina Rendeiro	X	P	P	P	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	Mayor Don Slesnick
Luba DeWitt	X	P	E	P	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Art DeNunzio	X	P	P	P	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	Patrick Salerno, City Manager
Paul Posnak	X	P	P	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	P	Council-at-Large Appointment

Ex Officio:

Deirdre Nero, Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce / Vice Chair, Int'l. Division Committee

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

Staff in Attendance:

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

Guests:

Mayor Don Slesnick

Tomas Abreu, Vice Consul General of Monaco

Valentino Macor, French American Chamber of Commerce of Florida

Meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was present.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

There being no changes to the minutes of the December 15th, 2009 meeting, Mr. DeNunzio made a motion to approve them, seconded by Mr. Posnak.

Ms. Rendeiro announced that Mr. Sylvester Lukis could no longer serve as a member of the Board due to his judicial appointment.

VISIT BY MAYOR JOSE TORRES HURTADO:

Ms. Rendeiro confirmed on the complimentary business class ticket for two on Air Europe from Madrid to Miami. Mayor Hurtado's office has accepted this offer and informed that they would follow through with possible dates. Ms. Rendeiro informs that her office as well as the office of

the Mayor has yet to receive information on possible dates. Ms. Rendeiro advises that another communication attempt will be made.

AIX-EN-PROVENCE MISSION:

Ms. Rendeiro reported on the Chamber of Commerce upcoming mission to France. Formal information on the trip scheduled for April 17th, 2010, information will be available in two weeks. Ms. Rendeiro further mentioned they have meetings planned for Paris, Lyon, Nice and Ax-en-Provence. Ms. Rendeiro stated the group always welcomes people willing to participate in this mission.

ARCHITECTURE AND ARTS:

Mr. DeNunzio reported on the Pisa AD 1064 exhibit at the University of Miami. The event has been hosted by the University of Miami and The Italian Chamber of Commerce in Pisa. Mr. DeNunzio mentions that the exhibit would be located at the University of Miami, School of Architecture and will be in exhibition February 12th through February 26th, 2010. He stated that The Italian Chamber of Commerce in Pisa presented the donated statue to its Sister City Coral Gables, "Madonna and Child", which will be placed some where in The Coral Gables Museum, once it opens their doors to the public. The event is educational and open to the public at no charge.

QUITO, ECUADOR SISTER CITY:

Ms. Rendeiro informed the group that the removal of Quito, Ecuador from our Sister Cities program had been tabled by the Mayor and the City Commission. Ms. Rendeiro stated some correspondence was received by Mayor's intern, which stated Quito was going through an internal restructuring process, which had caused communication problems. Overall discussion occurred regarding reconsideration of Quito, Ecuador and rekindling our Sister Cities relationship. Ms. Rendeiro and Ms. Paz agreed that together they would work on a response letter.

VISIT FROM GRANADA, NICARAGUA:

Ms. Paz reported on the visit from Mayor Eulogio Mejia of Granada, Nicaragua. The delegation which consisted of his assistant (International Affairs), the Police Chief / Commissioner of Granada, and one more representative, thus achieving a delegation of four. The delegation was presented with an agenda which touched upon the following topics. The Architecture and History of the City of Coral Gables, a visit to the University of Miami to cover Exchanges, Scholarships, and School of Business. The final item of the agenda was to visit our Police Department where they had a discussion on possible collaboration and immersion to better train the Police Department of Granada, Nicaragua.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Rendeiro introduces Vice-Consul General of Monaco, Mr. Tomas Abreu. Vice-Consul Tomas Abreu expressed his interest in sharing cultural exchange with not only Coral Gables but with our Sister Cities. He shared information regarding the “Boys Choir of Monaco”. Board member Allan Rosenbaum stated he would like to pursue through the Florida International University channels. Overall discussion occurred regarding this news.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Posnak updated the Board on the Coral Gables Cinemateque, and the importance on saving the arts and how our community could play a strong role of support.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:20am.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council