

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of October 20th, 2009**

**MEMBERS:**

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

**S A J J M A M F J D N O**

P	P	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	A
E	P	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	A
P	P	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	P
P	P	X	X	P	P	P	P	X	E	E	P
E	P	X	X	P	P	P	P	X	P	P	P
P	P	X	X	P	P	P	P	X	-	-	P
P	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	P

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Comm. Maria Anderson  
Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.  
Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.  
Mayor Don Slesnick  
Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers  
Patrick Salerno, City Manager  
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, Business Development Specialist

**Guests:**

Valentino Macor – FACC Liaison  
Michael Eskra – Business owner in Coral Gables

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 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Motion was seconded by Steve Edelstein. The minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

### AIX-EN-PROVENCE MISSION:

Mr. Edelstein spoke about Aix-en-Provence mission, which took place October 13<sup>th</sup>, through October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Mr. Edelstein met with Michèle Couëtmeur, Muriel Pradon and Cosimo Giunta, President Association des Jumelages Relations International d Aix-en-Provence. Discussed were exchange efforts for various schools, and possible concerts to occur May for 2010 and approximately 25 visitors. Also addressed was a possible chef and art type of cultural exchange between both Sister Cities.

Ms. Rendeiro reported that Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce Chair Sarah Artecona will lead this mission to Aix-en-Provence in 2010. Ms. Rendeiro further mentioned that funding seems to be an issue. Overall discussion occurred regarding the 2010 mission to Aix-en-Provence.

### SISTER CITY DESIGNATION:

Ms. Rendeiro addressed that the selection for Sister City Liaison needed to be assigned. It was decided that the following Board members would be the primary individuals for the following Sister Cities.

- Aix-en-Provence, France – Steve Edelstein
- Cartagena, Colombia – Luba DeWitt
- The Province of Pisa, Italy – Art DeNunzio
- Granada, Spain – Carolina Rendeiro
- Quito, Ecuador – TBD, pending further relationship consideration

Ms. Rendeiro stated that the Office of the Mayor has, on numerous occasions, outreached to Quito, Ecuador but to date has not received adequate (to any) response. Ms. Rendeiro motioned for a vote on if the Council felt they wanted to continue reaching out to Quito in a Sister City manner. It was decided to postpone the motion until all Council members had the opportunity to hear of the motion presented. A vote will occur at the Council's November meeting. Discussion occurred regarding possible candidates for a Sister City replacement, should Quito cease to be one.

### ARCHITECTURE AND ART:

Mr. DeNunzio spoke about the Italian Trade Commission, work that it is conducting with groups from Pisa. The Chamber is looking for individuals to come to these events set for February 2010. We are currently working diligently on finalizing these opportunities. Mr. DeNunzio informed board members that more information was pending.

### 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 / Iberia Airlines. At this point, it is anticipated that Mayor Hurtado will visit the first week in December 2009. Ms. Rendeiro stated that once the Mayor's office receives additional information, further finalization plans will be taken.

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE SURVEY:

Ms. Rendeiro expressed her concerns on the returns of the questionnaire.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Rendeiro introduces Mr. Michael Eskra, a business owner interested in getting involved with International outreach.

The Board members present unanimously confirmed the next meeting date to be Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Posnak informed the Board on the Coral Gables Cinema, Steve Krams and about the importance on saving the arts.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council