

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

Minutes of the Meeting of August 19, 2014

Members:	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Commissioners
Carolina Rendeiro	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P					Comm. Patricia Keon
Nancy Sanabria	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P					Comm. Vince Lago
Steve Edelstein	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	E					Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk
Lourdes Cuzan	P	-	E	P	P	E	P	P					Mayor Jim Cason
Israel Reyes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P					Comm. Frank Quesada
Art DeNunzio	P	-	P	P	P	E	P	P					Patrick Salerno, City Manager
Paul Posnak	P	-	E	E	P	P	E	P					Council-at-Large Appointment

Business Affiliation:

Frances Reaves = P

Chamber of Commerce liaison

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

Staff in Attendance:

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

Guest:

Christine Rupp, Director of the Coral Gables Museum

Chairperson Ms. Rendeiro called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

SELF-INTRODUCTION:

Ms. Rendeiro says they will all introduce themselves. Ms. Cuzan introduces herself as the liaison for Cartagena, Colombia and says she works at Rodriguez Fowley and has been with the Board for a number of years. Mr. DeNunzio introduces himself as the liaison for Pavia and says he has been with the Council for 4-5 years. Mr. Posnak introduces himself as a concert pianist and a professor at the University of Miami, and he says he is the liaison for Quebec. Mr. Reyes introduces himself as an attorney and former circuit court judge, as well as a former police officer for Miami-Dade County; he does not presently have a City. Ms. Sanabria says that she has been on the board for 3 years, and says she is a businesswoman and a real estate agent; she is the liaison for La Antigua, Guatemala. Ms. Figueroa is present as well and she is the Assistant City Attorney. Ms. Paz introduces herself and says she represents every City and is always available to help the other members. Ms. Rendeiro introduces herself as the Chairperson and says she is the liaison for Granada, Spain.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Ms. Sanabria to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 15, 2014. Mr. DeNunzio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:

Ms. Sanabria says that she reached out to the Coral Gables cinema regarding the showing of La Camioneta and she said it would have to be a private showing. She says that she will speak to Dunia Miranda-Mauri, Trade Commissioner of Guatemala, about that, but she believes it would be great to have at the Museum as a running show. Ms. Sanabria tells Mr. Posnak about the film because he was not present when she had explained at the prior meeting. She informs that when she went to Guatemala she saw that the buses had become a thriving business, but that in the beginning, thugs and looters would steal from the drivers and murder the drivers as well. Ms. Sanabria says she'll be going back to the Coral Gables Museum to see if it can happen. She also talks about Ms. Vida Amor de Paz, from our sister city of La Antigua and was in town to make plans for book launch. She met with Vida at Books & Books, along with Cristina Nosti to discuss Vida's plans for her upcoming "Extreme Adventures" new book launch & signing. She says Vida is going to work with Books & Books, and that in January they will have a book signing. In October, Ms. De Paz will be back for about ten days. The Sister Cities program is involved to the extent of making introductions of our "sister city" friend to those in Coral Gables in an effort to enhance business and relationships between Antigua and Coral Gables.

CARTAGENA COLOMBIA:

Ms. Cuzan says that they want to include Cartagena in the International Festival. She says that she met with Mayor Cason and that he agreed that they needed to present a budget. She says that they have a 501(c)(3). She says they need to work on an itemized budget. She says that the individuals that will be part of the festival must pay their own airfare. She also says that lodging will likely be assistance from the hotels themselves. She says that it will turn out to be a very nice event; she is working with the Coral Gables Museum to determine their availability dates.

Mr. Posnak adds that they are almost at the point of presenting the budget proposal for reinstituting the Merrick Festival, and that it would be excellent to get the Sister Cities involved.

IACC MISSION STATEMENT:

Ms. Figueroa explains that she has prepared a mission statement for the Board, as well as the letter; she asks that the Board review both and let her know if they have anything to add to the documents. Mr. DeNunzio says that the Board has had several issues with different entities, and he says the mission statement should attempt to rectify those issues and make known that the Board is in charge of all Sister Cities related work. Ms. Rendeiro says the letter needs to be fine-tuned to show that the Sister Cities role has to be more explicit in the letter Ms. Figueroa has drawn up. Ms. Figueroa asks that the Board specify what they believe needs to be in the letter. Mr. DeNunzio says that specificity is what they wanted from the City Attorney. Mr. Posnak says

that the issue of events related to Sister Cities must be coordinated through the Board and that the letter should say so. Ms. Sanabria says that information should not require more than a paragraph. Ms. Cuzan wanted to add something about the founding of the Sister Cities program. The group says that Ms. Figueroa should look to see how long ago the City started the Board. Ms. Figueroa says she will add in the information the Board requested. Ms. Rendeiro tells her to send the paragraph to Evelyn who will send it out to everyone for approval.

CORAL GABLES INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL:

Mr. Posnak says that he has provided the budget to the council members. He says that there have been revisions given the council's discussions. The budget is a mock-up. Mr. Posnak said that he was going to see the Mayor the following day. He says that the budget is a minor "gig" for a maximum impact. The budget is roughly \$38,000. Mr. Posnak says the important thing is to put the idea on the ground to attract business. He says the artist fee is about \$5,000. Ms. Cuzan asks about musicians. Mr. Posnak says that he is planning to bring only one City at a time to make it simple and high quality. Ms. Rendeiro believes that \$8,000 for marketing and banners is too high and the Commission is unlikely to go for it. She tells Mr. Posnak that she could think of two sponsors who would assist with printing. Ms. Cuzan says that he should double-asterisks the figure and write that half would be underwritten. Mr. Posnak has not included air-fare. Ms. Rendeiro says that they need to show the real figures and show how much would be underwritten. Mr. DeNunzio said that the budget could be based on potentially having two cities. Mr. DeNunzio asks if they should approach it as if they were having two cities. The group all agrees that one city at a time should be the approach with the festival so that they can really highlight that city. Ms. Sanabria says it is very important that the Museum can commit to a day. Mr. Posnak says they are working on it. Ms. Rendeiro also points out that the airfare total is very high and that they can probably get a 30% discount or something to the effect since there are twenty people coming. Ms. Rendeiro says it should not be more than \$500 per person from Cartagena. Ms. Cuzan says she thinks they should tell the Mayor that they are still working on the numbers. Ms. Rendeiro says that \$10,000 should be the total airfare. Mr. Posnak says that they should put forward \$12,000.

Additional Information:

Ms. Rendeiro speaks about getting new liaisons for the IACC. She says she spoke to a Mayor from the City and that the doors are open for business. With Quebec and Curitiba, the IACC is ready to take the trips there. She says she will be in Quebec in three weeks. Ms. Rendeiro says that there can be a decision as to who will be the liaisons in the following meeting. Mr. Reyes says he has family in Spain so he could be the liaison for Granada.

Ms. Rupp arrived toward the end of the meeting.

Ms. Rendeiro says that the IACC will be 60 years old in 2016. Ms. Rupp says that she would estimate on the high side. She believes that the chair rental will be approximately \$600. The Museum can provide chairs inside, but not outside. The City has chairs, but they don't know how many. Mr. Posnak is told by the group that he should estimate \$600.

Announcement:

The next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2014.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council