

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of May 15, 2018**

<b>Members:</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Commissioners</b>
Lourdes Cuzán	P	P	E	P	E	X	P	P	X	P	P	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Israel Reyes	E	E	P	E	E	X	P	P	X	P	E	E	Comm. Frank Quesada
Alma Kadragic	P	P	E	E	P	X	P	P	X	P	E	P	Vice Mayor Patricia Keon
Claudio Pastor	P	P	P	P	E	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	E	X	P	P	X	P	P	P	Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, City Manager
Rafael Gavarrete	P	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:**

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli, Coral Gables Economic Sustainability  
Efrain Sora, Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce Representative

Mr. Anding called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. A quorum was not present.

**AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE:**

Ms. Perez said she sent the second follow-up email to all the businesses in Aix that visited Coral Gables in November. Ms. Perez has not received any replies. Mr. Anding asked about Qista Urban mosquito control. Ms. Perez said she has not heard from them but they are working with Ms. Vester and Mr. Couceyro at the Venetian Pool.

Mr. Anding said his counterpart in Aix informed him of an event Aix organizes every year. Aix puts together an international market in December that lasts for five days. There are about forty representatives from all over the world. Aix has invited Coral Gables to be part of the event and suggested that Coral Gables showcase the city as well as Florida in agricultural, tourism, and art initiatives. Ms. Paz said a couple of years ago Mr. Edelstein went to the market. Ms. Paz said Aix is looking to have actual items be sold and have profits donated to Aix. Mr. Anding said the City does not have any products to sell. Mr. Anding thought it would be a great opportunity to show case the City even if there are no products sold. Ms. Kadragic suggested having Coral

Gables companies sponsor the event and showcases their products in Aix. Mr. Anding agreed with the idea. Ms. Paz asked for further details to present to the Mayor for his approval. A city representative would be needed. Ms. Perez asked if the tent had any cost. Mr. Anding said he would have to speak to his counterpart for further details.

#### LA ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:

Mr. Gavarrete thanked Mr. Anding and Ms. Perez for their contacts at Baptist Hospital. Mr. Gavarrete has a phone call with them later this week to discuss the donations to the hospital in Guatemala. He said Baptist Hospital has all the items on the list. He spoke with Mr. Alex Fuentes and Mr. Raul Lopez at Baptist Hospital. Mr. Anding asked how the items would be delivered to Guatemala. Mr. Gavarrete has been in contact with the Guatemala Rotary Club which has the franchise to introduce the items in Guatemala. Ms. Paz provided the contact for the President of the Rotary Club in Coral Gables. The items would be stored in Mr. Gavarrete's warehouse until they are shipped. Mr. Gavarrete said he is still investigating how to get the shipping costs waived. Ms. Kadragic asked about shipping it with from the Air Force Base in Homestead like with the firetruck. Mr. Gavarrete said if it were big things they would be able to use the Air Force. However, if it is smaller items it would be easier to pay the freight charges. Mr. Gavarrete is looking for a donor to cover the shipping charges.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Kadragic said she had nothing to report from Turkey. She is still waiting to hear from the Consul General of Turkey.

Ms. Kadragic asked for an update on Portugal. Mr. Sora said Ms. Rendeiro had a meeting with Mayor Valdés-Fauli. Mr. Sora mentioned Ms. Rendeiro is still planning a trade mission to Portugal for September or October.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Mr. Gavarrete mentioned he received a letter from the Mayor of Santa Ana, El Salvador wishing to start a relationship with the City of Coral Gables. The Mayor visits Coral Gables very frequently. Mr. Gavarrete thought it would be a good idea to welcome her to an IACC meeting. Santa Ana is a compatible city to Coral Gables.

#### Announcement:

The next meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2018.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz  
Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council