

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of July 18, 2017**

<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	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	X	P	Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Israel Reyes	P	P	E	P	P		P	P	P	E	X	P	Comm. Frank Quesada
Alma Kadragic	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	X	P	Vice Mayor Patricia Keon
Claudio Pastor	E	P	P	P	E		P	P	P	E	X	E	Comm. Vince Lago
Volker Anding	P	P	E	P	P		P	P	P	P	X	P	Comm. Michael Mena
Enrique Monasterio	P	P	P	E	E		P	P	P	P	X	E	Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, City Manager
Rafael Gavarette	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	X	P	Council-at-Large Appointment

**Country Appointed Liaisons:**

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

**A = Absent**

**P = Present**

**E = Excused**

**UA = Unexcused Absence**

**Staff in Attendance:**

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

Ms. Paz called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Cuzan made a motion to approve the minutes of the IACC meeting on April 28, 2017 and Mr. Anding seconded the motion. All in favor, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Claudio Pastor was welcomed to the Board as a new member, joining Ms. Kadragic.

ELECTIONS

Ms. Cuzan was nominated by Enrique Monasterio for Chairperson and seconded by Israel Reyes. She was elected unanimously.

Mr. Anding was nominated by Ms. Cuzán for Vice Chair and seconded by Mr. Monasterio. He was elected unanimously.

ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL-AT- LARGE APPOINTMENT:

Nancy Sanabria has submitted a letter recommending Rafael Gavarette based especially on his work to facilitate assistance in sending the donated city’s fire truck and an EMT truck to La Antigua. Israel Reyes nominated Rafael Fernandez. Mr. Gavarette was elected with only one vote in opposition.

### CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA:

Ms. Cuzan said she received an email from Alejandra Sanchez the assistant to the Cartagena Mayor. Ms. Cuzan informed they are making arrangements to have ten firefighters travel to Coral Gables for the Fire Department Vehicular Extrication training. They will be paying their own airfare, but will need assistance with housing for five days.

### AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE

Mr. Anding said Professor Allan Rosenbaum delivered a letter from Mayor Valdés-Fauli to the Mayor of Aix-en-Provence. However, the sister-city-relationship did not seem to have a high priority for the Mayor of Aix-en-Provence. Mr. Anding suggested that Mayor Valdes-Fauli try to attend one of our next meetings to discuss police, fire, and online city administration programs as well as internet contacts between schools.

### ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:

Mr. Gavarette said La Antigua will be building a hospital and will need donations, specifically medical equipment. Mr. Gavarette mentioned he had spoken with UM Hospital and they will be working together on donations. Mr. Gavarette will be reaching out to the Denton Program for assistance with delivery. Ms. Kadragic added that Coral Gables has two other hospitals, Coral Gables Hospital and Doctors Hospital (part of the Baptist family) and it should be possible to get more donations.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Ms. Kadragic referred to the Sister Cities meeting organized by Miami-Dade County in February that she attended along with Ms. Cuzan and Mr. Anding. Various cities in Miami-Dade reported on their sister cities, each one had more than Coral Gables. However, the people attending except for us were all officials of their city government. She suggested that we get more cooperation from Coral Gables city government to be able to speed up the Sister Cities process here and also involve companies in the area that come from the country/city we are trying to recruit.

Mr. Anding suggested that Javier Betancourt's Economic Development Council become involved. The Board will ask the Mayor about this at the next meeting.

Mr. Monasterio asked Ms. Paz send the board the City's Multinational listing as a first step toward finding companies from the cities we are looking at.

Mr. Reyes asked Ms. Paz setup a meeting with Mayor Valdés-Fauli, the Consul General of Spain, and the IACC board members to discuss our Sister Cities relations with Granada, Spain. Mr. Pastor said he would reach out to his internal contacts in Granada and try to find information on the Mayor and City Commission status.

In discussing possible future Sister Cities, Ms. Kadragic asked that Turkey be considered and that we contact the new Turkish Consul in Miami. Mr. Anding said he would forward Ms. Kadragic the contact information for the Consul who is due to start August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Kadragic also said that Eastern European cities should be considered and offered to follow up with Poland and Croatia, among others.

Mr. Pastor kindly asked Ms. Paz for a letter from Commissioner Lago to be addressed to Consul General Gloria Bellelli to inform that he has appointed him on the International Affairs Coordination Council Board.

Mr. Anding asked if anyone had information on the Ethics Training for Board Members and when it would happen. Ms. Paz stated no information has been received but would keep everyone informed.

Announcement:

The next meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2017.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz  
Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council