

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of August 18, 2015**

<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	E	P	E	X	X	P	P	X	E	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Israel Reyes	E	E	P	E	X	X	-	E	X	E	P	P	Vice-Mayor Frank Quesada
Carolina Rendeiro	E	E	P	P	X	X	P	P	X	P	E	E	Comm. Patricia Keon
Nancy Sanabria	P	P	E	P	X	X	P	P	X	P	P	P	Comm. Vince Lago
Volker Anding	-	-	-	-	X	X	P	P	-	-	-	-	Comm. Jeannett Slesnick
Steve Edelstein	P	P	P	P	X	X	P	P	X	P	P	P	Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark, City Manager
Enrique Monasterio	-	-	-	-	X	X	P	P	-	-	-	-	Council-at-Large Appointment

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

**Staff in Attendance:**  
Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mrs. Cuzán made a motion to approve the minutes of the IACC meeting on July 21, 2015 and Mr. Monasterio seconded the motion. All in favor, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:**

Ms. Sanabria says that she and Mr. Edelstein have submitted all paperwork necessary for the fire trucks & life saving equipment donation to date and are awaiting the final documents due from Antigua in order to complete the Denton Transportation application. The Guatemalan elections are taking place, which has impacted the expediency of the paperwork process on their end. A significant gift such as this to our Sister City would be received as a positive and certainly the incoming elected officials would be eager to provide a major platform for the presentation. Ms. Sanabria is awaiting confirmation from Antigua to provide a figure on the customs amount for our donation of the 2 fire trucks and the life-saving equipment, as well as the Humanitarian Questionnaire. Mr. Edelstein & Ms. Sanabria discuss that composing an estimate of customs based upon the estimate of value and the figures that have been provided to Ms. Sanabria from Antigua. Ms. Sanabria estimates that the duty will be at most \$1000, based upon the estimate of value from Coral Gables and the verbally declared customs fee from Antigua and Mr. Edelstein offers to write a letter to send with that information.

Mr. Edelstein ads we have been very fortunate that the Denton program removed the 30-day deadline.

PAVIA, ITALY:

Mr. Monasterio had nothing to report.

AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE:

There was nothing to report.

CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA:

Ms. Cuzan said that there is nothing to report from Cartagena because it is still election season there. As far as the Farmer's Market participation is concerned, Ms. Cuzan leaves it up to the board to decide how to work out the board's participation in it, but that she asked around costs and necessary set-up. Mr. Anding suggests that the Farmer's Market will require a lot of sounding out and that the different countries will react differently to the offer. Ms. Rendeiro says they should put together a guideline for the Sister Cities to know what to present.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Mr. Edelstein says the Mayor sent an introductory letter to the Canadian Consul General advising that he was the appointed liaison between the City of Coral Gables and Quebec, Canada the newly added Sister City and that he checked to make sure they had received the letter. Ms. Rendeiro says that the Deputy Consul General and her have begun talks with three councilmen, and she is working on one more individual. The Sister Cities International State Leadership meeting is arriving, and Ms. Rendeiro informs everyone that it is going to be in Miami Beach on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The Cuba trip with the State Department will be in March 2016 right after the Sister Cities International State Leadership meeting. Mr. Edelstein suggests maybe having a friendship city with a city in Cuba. The group discusses the idea.

Announcement:

The next meeting is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council