

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

Minutes of the Meeting of June 15, 2010

MEMBERS:

	M	A	M	F	J	D	N	O	S	A	J	J	COMMISSIONERS:
Allan Rosenbaum	X	E	E	P	X	E	P	P	X	X	-	P	Comm. Maria Anderson
Nancy Sanabria	X	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	E	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Steve Edelstein	X	P	P	E	X	P	P	P	X	X	-	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Carolina Rendeiro	X	E	P	P	X	P	P	P	X	X	P	E	Mayor Don Slesnick
Luba DeWitt	X	P	P	P	X	P	E	P	X	X	P	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Art DeNunzio	X	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	X	X	P	P	Patrick Salerno, City Manager
Paul Posnak	X	P	P	P	X	-	P	-	X	X	-	P	Council-at-Large Appointment

Ex Officio:

Deirdre Nero, Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce / Vice Chair, Int'l. Division Committee

Valentino Macor, Member Board of Directors / French-American Chamber of Commerce, FL

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

Staff in Attendance:

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

Guests:

Caroline Parker, Director of Programs, The Coral Gables Museum

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. A quorum was present.

The Vice Chair opened the session by welcoming everyone and thanked all for attending.

Mr. Edelstein informed the Board of Carolina Rendeiro and Nancy Sanabria's email asking to be excused from the meeting because of prior commitments which could not be cancelled.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Luba DeWitt to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 29, 2010. Art DeNunzio seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously

CONSUL GENERALS RECEPTION:

Mr. Edelstein reported on the 9th Annual reception honoring the Consul Generals of South Florida. The reception was hosted by Mayor Slesnick and the City Commission and was

underwritten by 2020 Ponce and the Cisneros Corporation. It was a successful event and a great opportunity for the Consul Generals to become better acquainted with City Officials and each other.

CORAL GABLES MUSEUM:

Mr. Edelstein introduced Ms. Caroline Parker, the Director of Programming for the Coral Gables Museum located in the historic Police and Fire Station at 285 Aragon Avenue. Ms. Parker shared that the Museum has beautiful gallery spaces, community meeting room, courtyard and plaza which will serve as a cultural center for the City. Ms. Parker mentioned that the Museum is a non profit organization and discussed the great opportunities with the Sister Cities program and the Museum. Mr. Edelstein suggested that the IACC meeting scheduled in August be held at the Museum so the committee would be able to have a tour and discuss this matter further. Ms. Parker stated that would be an excellent idea and all members present agreed. Ms. Paz stated she would contact Ms. Christine Rupp, the Museum's Director of Operations, to schedule the August meeting at the Museum and would contact committee members with confirmation.

Mr. Posnak expressed his concerns and stated that the Merrick Festival would favor the Museum immensely and financial situations were discussed. Mr. Edelstein expressed the event should be directed by the IACC in conjunction with the Coral Gables Chamber's International Affairs Committee. General discussion occurred.

A motion was made by Mr. Rosenbaum to recommend that Mayor Slesnick explore a feasible way to recreate this event. He suggested there be a committee that the IACC would play a significant role in bringing together different elements of the community including the University of Miami. The motion was seconded by Paul Posnak, and passed unanimously.

SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR COMMITTEE MEETING:

Ms. Paz provided the Committee members with all scheduled IACC meeting dates. Ms. Paz stated that she would contact the Museum's Director to arrange the possibility of having August meeting at the Museum as requested by Committee members, otherwise it will be held at City Hall.

VISIT REQUEST BY MARIA VISSER:

Mr. Edelstein shared with the group the request made by Maria Visser, Director of International & Corporate Relocation, for Century 21, Premier Elite Realty, to meet with the IACC, to "share some ideas about attracting more multinationals and investors to locate in Coral Gables and help fill empty office and retail space and move homes and condos faster." The board discussed the request and stated the IACC was opened to the public with the intent to assist with the Sister Cities International aspect as to communication and education. The Committee advised to contact the Economic Sustainability Department and perhaps the Business Improved District.

CARTAGENA PLAZA SCULPTURE:

Mr Edelstein reported on the “Old Shoes” sculpture which is currently being handled by the City’s Risk Management Division and a representative from the Mayor’s office in Cartagena, the progress of rebuilding is moving forward. General discussion occurred.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Edelstein announced that Consul General Santiago Cabanas would be leaving office late this June 2010. He also stated that a copy of the Financial Disclosure forms have been provided for all board members to please take review and file no late the July 1st, 2010.

Mr. Macor announced on the Monaco Boys’ Choir performing in Coral Gables at St. Philips Church on July 23, 2010 at 7:00pm, and mentioned all performances were free and open to the public. Mr. Macor will be forwarding the announcement.

Mr. Edelstein announced the next IACC meeting would be on July 20, 2010

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:28am.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council