

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

Minutes of the Meeting of July 15, 2014

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

Business Affiliation:

Frances Reaves = Excused

Chamber of Commerce liaison

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

Staff in Attendance:

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

Guest:

Laura Yanes, The Societa' Dante Alighieri

Dr. Enrique Monasterio, Coral Gables – Resident

Chairperson Ms. Rendeiro called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Mr. Edelstein to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 12, 2014. Ms. Sanabria seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:

Ms. Sanabria will reach out again to Robert Rosenberg at the Cinema to entertain the idea of a showing of La Camioneta film. She reminds the group that at the previous meeting it was agreed that it was very kind of the Museum to offer their space, but that the acoustics were likely more appropriate for the film at the Cinema. Ms. Sanabria says that perhaps something can be done in conjunction with the Museum in the Sister Cities Exhibit Ferrell Hall with regard to La Camioneta. She also speaks about *Reinventando la Ciudad Antigua*; she says that she's been exchanging emails and sending articles so that when the representatives for the development project do visit Coral Gables they would have already exchanged communications and have some ideas.

Ms. Sanabria says that there is something new. Lex Cargo, a friend of the Guatemalan Trade Commissioner, Ms. Dunia Miranda introduced her via email to Vida Amor de Paz, who is an author. She writes Extreme Adventures and studies climate change. She would like to do a book signing. Ms. Sanabria says that she is going to get in contact with Books & Books. Ms. Sanabria suggests that perhaps there should be special book presenters for the Coral Gables International Festival as well. Mr. DeNunzio said that he believes that perhaps Books & Books and the Museum can work together on the book signing.

PAVIA, ITALY:

Mr. DeNunzio says he does not have any updates.

AIX-EN-PROVENCE:

Mr. Edelstein describes how Aix-en-Provence works. He says they have a company that is largely funded by the City, but it is a separate organizations. The company and city are very much tied together. Mr. Edelstein says that the company's President of very many years has just retired. He says that the organization will be taken over by the assistant. Mr. Edelstein says that's the only real change taking place.

CARTAGENA COLOMBIA:

Ms. Cuzan says that Cartagena is at a standstill until she can meet with Paul Posnak and make that part of the International Arts Festival. She thinks that it will be a great combination since they are looking to do something for Cartagena soon. Ms. Cuzan says that she believes there will be sponsors on the Colombian side for this. Mr. Edelstein inquires whether it is necessary to have a special meeting about Cartagena's involvement. Ms. Rendeiro says that the meeting is necessary to solidify Cartagena's participation before bringing the subject before the Commission.

Announcement:

Ms. Rendeiro says that they are missing a few things with Curitiba, Brazil and Quebec, Canada. She says that the banner has been approved, and the website has been adjusted slightly to reflect pending status on the new cities. Ms. Rendeiro says that the Chamber will be hosting international business forums this year and the first one will be the fifteenth in Westin. She says the Trade Commissioners will be speaking on development plans. Ms. Rendeiro says that the flags are run by the Chamber of Commerce. Every year, the Chamber must purchase new flags. The group expresses that they are awaiting the City Attorney. The City Attorney arrives shortly thereafter. Mr. Leen comes in and he asks Mr. Edelstein what he thinks he ought to do given the Consul General's actions. Mr. Leen asks what the Consul would want. Ms. Cuzan says that they really need to be careful how they handle their relationships with international parties because the international parties are governments and they do not need to go through the Board at all as governments. Mr. Edelstein says that he disagrees. He says that the Board is not a group of servants for the Consulates, and that they are guests. Mr. Edelstein says that the Consuls should

bring matters before the Board and not side step. Mr. Leen asks how the Mission Statement is coming along, and he is told that his office was going to be devising it. Ms. Yanes says that she believes that she is there to mediate because it has become a problem of miscommunication. Mr. Leen says he is having the Assistant City Attorney join the meeting so that she might produce a mission statement. Mr. Leen says that there should be no comments passed directly, that if the Board members have something to say that they ought to send it to the Assistant City Attorney or Ms. Paz. Mr. Leen says that Mr. Edelstein does not need to apologize, but that the Board needs to devise a letter and send that to the Consul along with the Board's Mission Statement. The Board discusses having the meetings be open to the people and announce that. Mr. Leen suggests that Ms. Figueroa, the Assistant City Attorney, devise a mission statement from that one taken from the pieces Ms. Paz will be providing to her. Mr. Leen says that the mission statement must remind what the Board is, what the functions of it are. Mr. Edelstein suggests that the letter should be signed by the Mayor. Mr. Leen suggests that Ms. Rendeiro, and the Mayor sign the letter. Mr. Edelstein announces that he sent everyone an email with a correction to Evelyn, and asks whether that is a violation of the Sunshine Law. Mr. Leen says it was not, but it raises concerns because no one is permitted to respond.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2014.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council