

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of October 21, 2014**

<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>
Carolina Rendeiro	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P			Comm. Patricia Keon
Nancy Sanabria	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P			Comm. Vince Lago
Steve Edelstein	P	X	P	P	P	P	P	E	X	P			Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk
Lourdes Cuzan	P	X	E	P	P	E	P	P	X	E			Mayor Jim Cason
Israel Reyes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	X	E			Comm. Frank Quesada
Art DeNunzio	P	X	P	P	P	E	P	P	X	P			Patrick Salerno, City Manager
Paul Posnak	P	X	E	E	P	P	E	P	X	E			Council-at-Large Appointment

**Business Affiliation:**

Eric P. Gros-Dubois - Absent

Chamber of Commerce liaison

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

**Staff in Attendance:**

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC  
Yaneris Figueroa, Assistant City Attorney

**Guest:**

Edmund J. Mazzei, Mazzei Realty Services Inc.

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Chairperson Ms. Rendeiro called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A quorum was not present but an informational meeting was held.

**ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:**

Ms. Sanabria says that she wants to discuss the generous gifts from the City of Coral Gables, thru the International Affairs Foundation. Ms. Sanabria tells the group of the three trucks that will be donated to two of our Sister City being La Antigua, Guatemala and Cartagena, Colombia. Mr. Edelstein says the City cannot donate the trucks directly, rather the trucks must be donated first to the 501(c)(3), which may then donate the trucks. Mr. Edelstein says that Southern Command would be transporting the vehicles through a program called the Denton Program.

Ms. Sanabria then speaks of Ms. Vida Amor de Paz and says she will be coming to the City soon, and will be working with Books & Books to promote her book. Ms. Vida Amor de Paz will be launching a book in January 2015 called Extreme Adventures. Ms. Sanabria introduces her and tells Ms. De Paz about the IACC. Ms. Sanabria says Ms. De Paz has founded two environmental protection organizations. She says that Ms. De Paz has received several awards, and that she is a journalist and a media personality. Ms. De Paz speaks about her programs and

her upcoming book. She also speaks about her travels to different countries and her concerns for the environment.

#### PAVIA, ITALY:

No updates to report on Pavia. Mr. DeNunzio informs he will be traveling to Pavia in the Spring and Ms. Cuzan said she would be there in December.

#### AIX-EN-PROVENCE:

The Mayor was invited and plans to travel to Aix-en-Provence the beginning of December. Mr. Edmund Mazzei made a trip to Northern Italy, and Aix-en-Provence and he was invited to the meeting to speak about his trip.

#### CARTAGENA COLOMBIA:

Ms. Paz speaks and explains that there was an architectural exposition at the University of Miami, Exposition Graphical, and Conference on October 17<sup>th</sup> and she did forward all an email on this announcement. Ms. Paz says that the architects paid for all their expenses and did request for the Mayor's assistance for the professor Alberto Samudio and his wife the designer. Ms. Paz goes on to say that Mr. Contreras, Director of Corporación Desarrollo del Caribe spoke to the Mayor, and that the Mayor was able to pay through the 501(c)(3) for the hotel stay of 5 nights at the Courtyard Marriot in the Gables. Mr. Edelstein asks if any of the corporate donors were informed of this event. Ms. Paz was happy to advise that the donors know and Mayor Cason discussed the matters with them, as well as invited them. Mr. Edelstein insisted that the donors need to be kept very well informed. Mr. Edelstein reminds the group that Mr. Andy Gomez, Ms. Mary Young and himself are the officers and thereby the liaisons between the IACC and the donors.

#### IACC MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mayor's name is in the mission statement. Mr. DeNunzio believes the Mayor's Office and the City ought to be mentioned. Mr. Edelstein says he has another question on it. Ms. Sanabria says she would like to be as a diplomatic as possible. The mission statement should describe what the IACC does. Mr. Edelstein says everyone needs to have it.

#### Additional Information:

The group discusses whether they should have more members. Ms. Figueroa explains that when the group emails, the messages need to be sent to Evelyn, otherwise the group runs the risk of violating the sunshine law. Mr. Edelstein reveals that he disagrees. He says that once the message went to Evelyn it is public record; Ms. Figueroa says that the City prefers that the

messages are sent to Evelyn. Ms. Rendeiro speaks of the Curitiba trip in November where the Mayor will finalize the sister city relationship with Curitiba. Ms. Rendeiro says that the group has their ambassador's ball and gala in March 2015 in Washington, D.C. Mr. Edelstein wants a formal opinion from the City Attorney, he wants to know if Ms. Rendeiro requires something from the foundation if it is permissible to keep those communications out of public records. Mr. Mazzei speaks about his experiences.

Announcement:

The next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2014.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council