

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of February 17, 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>
Carolina Rendeiro	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	E	E	Comm. Patricia Keon
Nancy Sanabria	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	P	P	Comm. Vince Lago
Steve Edelstein	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	X	P	P	P	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk
Lourdes Cuzan	P	E	E	P	P	E	P	P	X	E	P	P	Mayor Jim Cason
Israel Reyes	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	P	X	E	P	P	Comm. Frank Quesada
Art DeNunzio	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	X	P	P	P	Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Paul Posnak	P	P	E	E	P	P	E	P	X	E	P	E	City Manager
													Council-at-Large Appointment

**Business Affiliation:**

Eric P. Gros-Dubois = A

Chamber of Commerce liaison

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

**Staff in Attendance:**

Evelyn Paz, Secretary, IACC

**Guest:**

Mayor Jim Cason  
 Enrique Monasterio

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In the absence of Chairperson, Ms. Rendeiro, Vice-Chairman Mr. Edelstein called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Ms. Sanabria to approve the minutes of January 20, 2015. Mr. Posnak seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA:**

Ms. Sanabria says the fire and water truck donation is moving along; Antigua is working diligently to house the trucks. Mr. Edelstein says that he has not received any further communication through the Foundation. Ms. Paz advises that the matter is being handled in-house between the City Manager's Office and the Mayor's Office.

### PAVIA, ITALY:

The Mayor clarifies that there were documents signed that made Pavia, Italy a sister city. The Italian government recognizes it as such. Sister Cities International may not have the information yet, but that does not mean that Coral Gables is not a Sister City with Pavia. Ms. Paz says that we have not received the official sister cities certificate from Sister Cities International. Mayor Cason asks Ms. Paz to find the documents for Pavia that he signed.

### AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE:

Mr. Edelstein has nothing to report about Aix en Provence. Mr. Edelstein says that the Mayor will be coming in and talking about his trip to Aix en Provence. Mr. Edelstein asks if it may be better for the Mayor to come to the next meeting, and Ms. Paz advises that Ms. Swanson-Rivenbark will be attending the next meeting. Mr. Edelstein says that Ms. Rendeiro is termed out as chairperson of the council. Mr. Edelstein says that next meeting will be her last meeting.

### INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL:

Mr. Posnak has not heard back about being a sister city with Quebec. Ms. Rendeiro has not solidified the relationship. Mr. Posnak is concerned that the relationship may fall apart. Mr. Edelstein says that Ms. Paz ought to contact Ms. Rendeiro and let her know that there has been no information about the status of the new sister cities. Ms. Paz informs the group that Ms. Rendeiro did provide information about the new sister cities at the last meeting via letter.

Mr. Posnak says he has been in contact with the dancers in Cartagena. Mr. Posnak says that everything is taken care of for the festival on the performer's end, but airfare. Mr. Edelstein wants to know if the \$5000 for the performers would come from the city or from the foundation. Mr. Posnak informs that Ms. Swanson-Rivenbark is interested in supporting everything that the IACC is involved in. He says that Ms. Swanson-Rivenbark has been extremely helpful in the past with the IACC, but that the main issue is airfare. Mr. Edelstein says that no one is going to pay anything until they arrive. Mr. Edelstein says that there is no formal request procedure set up through the foundation, but that first the IACC would have to approve and then the office of the Mayor. Ms. Sanabria suggests that the IACC attempt to get information on the international festival on the City agenda for March 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Posnak says that he needs to wait to hear back from the performers.

Mr. Edelstein says that Mr. Posnak should have a plan for the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Ms. Sanabria says that it is important to have the commission agree to the event; Mr. Posnak does not want to change dates after approval because the approval would be moot. He indicates that he needs to speak to Ms. Rupp at the Coral Gables Museum to make sure the dates in October are correct. Mr. Edelstein says that as long as there is a quorum, the following special meeting will result in the item being added to the agenda for March 10<sup>th</sup> or the 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. DeNunzio points out that the year-end calendar is always full of events. Mayor suggested that the group wait until after the

election to present the final international festival documents in the agenda. Mr. Posnak suggests that the group present it as a consent item anyhow.

Additional Information:

Mr. Posnak and Mr. Edelstein discussed terms. Mr. Edelstein said that Ms. Rendeiro had not been to the meetings for four months. Mr. Posnak asks Mr. Edelstein if he as vice-chair can become the contact person for the new sister cities. Ms. Sanabria says that the council should have a meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to settle the issues with the new sister cities. Mr. Edelstein says that they should notify Ms. Rendeiro that she has missed four meetings, and ask her what direction they need to go. Mr. Edelstein says that the special meeting is for the purpose of addressing the International Festival, Ms. Rendeiro's plans, and the newest sister cities.

Mayor Cason attended the meeting. Mr. Edelstein gives the Mayor a run-through of what happened in the meeting up to the time he arrived. The Mayor says he met many city representatives; he said that all of the cities had crafts, but that Coral Gables does not create any handicrafts. Mayor Cason says that there were students interested in creating a business relationship with the University of Miami and he put them in touch with Mary Young. Mayor Cason says it may be interesting to have pavilions for each of the sister cities where representatives can sell things. Mr. Posnak says that the idea behind the International Festival is something to that effect, but with one city as opposed to all of them. Mayor Cason suggests that maybe the pavilions could be done with the Museum. Mayor Cason says that Pavia invited him to go there; he said that perhaps toward the end of April. He tells the group that the Chamber of Commerce is planning a trip to Quebec, and that he has a commitment to go to Cartagena with Emilio Calleja. Mayor Cason says that all the trucks for La Antigua have been given formally to the foundation for donation. Mayor Cason says that Julio Del Rey will be restoring the trucks and making them work together more efficiently. Mayor Cason says that Curitiba is looking for a project to work on.

Mayor Cason would like to see what the City of Coral Gables can market abroad; he suggests some of the arts and crafts produced in the City. Ms. Posnak suggests that the City provide music.

Announcement:

The next meeting is scheduled for March 17th, 2015.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Paz

Secretary, International Affairs Coordinating Council