

**Meeting Minutes**  
 February 11, 2016

North Terraces Room, San Diego Concourse, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

<b>Present:</b> Bruce Abrams Roberto Alcantar Kathleen Charla Deborah Flores	<b>Present:</b> Rita Lim Jordan Marks Rebecca Morales Patricia Waller	<b>Excused:</b> Emiliano Aragon Mark Leo Bob Morris	<b>Guests:</b> Stephanie Aviles Emily Hill Michelle Persante Richard Bainter Dennis-Michael Broussard Henri Migala George Novinger Gladys Novinger Fabienne Perlov
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**Mayoral Staff:** Don Giaquinto  
**City Economic Development Staff:** Adrienne Turner

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**Call to Order:** Bruce Abrams @ 2:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** January 14, 2016 minutes approved unanimously

**Non-Agenda Public Comment:** None

**Speaker:** Frederic Fournier, Consul and Trade Commissioner, Consulate of Canada, spoke on the “Renewed Canada – U.S. Relationship.” He discussed the trade statistics between Canada and California and the United States. The change in the Prime Minister of Canada has brought promising result to the Canadian government. Since assuming his position Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has promised to work on gender equality, work more closely with provincial governments, procure innovation of sciences, and shift Canada to fight against the Islamic State (non-combat mission). He has delivered on most of these promises, and has helped 11,000 Syrian Refugees transition into Canada in 400 communities as permanent residents. Canada is also making climate change a priority with a large delegation with strict commitments to tackle climate change. The Consulate of Canada is interested in working on more tri-national projects with California and Mexico. Canada will be lifting the requirement for a Mexican visa to visit in the next 8-10 months. IAB member Jordan Marks will be the liaison to the Canadian Consulate.

**Action Items:**

- a. **Friendship Cities Program (FCP) – approve final revised documents: FCP Policy, FCP Application, FCP Designation, FCP Annual Report.**  
 Details of the documents were discussed. Rebecca suggested corrections to the Friendship Cities Policy and Application documents.  
 Kathleen moved to approve the FCP final documents with proposed changes, seconded by Patricia. Vote: approved unanimously.
- b. **Approve adding new “button” to IAB website: Friendship Cities Program – add documents to page.**

Adrienne went over the proposed option to add in a button on the IAB's website that will take visitors to the FCP documents.

Jordan moved to approve the button, seconded by Rebecca. Vote: approved unanimously

**c. Propose and Approve Process for first "Friendship City"**

The Board discussed possible Friendship Cities to add to the list: Sha'ar NaNegev (along with the Jewish Federation), Vancouver, BC, and the Island of Bora Bora.

The subcommittee for the FCP will meet before the next meeting to decide protocols on management of friendship cities. Kathleen will help with the press release with Don and Adrienne. Bruce and Jordan Marks will be the ones to accept the applications that are sent in. Jordan moved to propose and approve the process for friendship city applications

Vote: approved unanimously

**Discussion Items:**

**a. Mayor Faulconer's office – Don Giaquinto**

Don introduced Fabienne Perlov, the new Executive Director of the San Diego Diplomacy Council. Fabienne invited the board to the council's event: The Collingsworth Global Social Hour. The event will take place on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the City Heights Center (4305 University Ave, Suite 640). Don mentioned that he is now involved with the United Nations Association. Contact him if you are interested in getting involved.

**b. Speaker Series: board member assignment, new procedures: Thank You notes, etc. – Bruce**

Kathleen volunteered to be the point person and follow up with the emails and thank you cards for the speaker series. Stephanie will be working on scheduling the guest speakers.

**c. Intern Program review – Patricia Waller**

Patricia updated the board on the current interns. Stephanie will be finishing her internship in May, so Patricia is looking for interns for the board that can start in May or June.

**d. Invite intern coordinators from educational institutions to a meeting or special event – Patricia**

Patricia proposed inviting the intern coordinators from educational institutions to an IAB meeting. It will allow them to see what the committee is all about in order to help them attract more students to apply to intern for the board. Patricia will invite the coordinators for March and/or April.

**e. IAB member resources: countries/languages document completion and distribution – Bruce**

The countries/languages document which includes any country that the board members have visited or lived in and what languages they are conversant or fluent in needs to be completed. All board members should review and submit new information.

**f. Monthly Activity Reports/Annual Report: need bios and photos, submission deadline – Emily**

Emily asked the board to send her each a short biography to include in the annual report. Although there may not be room for board member individual photos in the report, the photos will be added to the website along with the biography. Emily asked that if there is something listed on any board member's report that they want to make sure is included in the report, to please contact her. If you are interested in seeing the informal document of the report, contact Stephanie.

**Board Chair Report:** Chair Bruce Abrams went over expectations for the board, including being respectful to all members of the board. He asked that you bring your time and talent to the table and be available and engaged. Everyone needs to be contributing. If you are having problems with your assigned project, contact Bruce and Kathleen. Lastly, Bruce announced that Emiliano and Rita would not be pursuing reappointment to serve on the Board at the end of their term: March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Announcements:** No Speaker planned for May. The meeting will be devoted to the Friendship Cities Program. April will be the anniversary of the 2015 Nepal Earthquake disaster. Jordan announced that the consul representative of the Philippines will be holding an international seminar sometime in September of this year.

**Report of member activities:** None

**Adjournment:** 3:35 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** March 10, 2016; 2:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
North Terrace Room, San Diego Concourse, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

**Questions or comments contact: Adrienne Turner at 619.236.6364 or email at [aturner@sandiego.gov](mailto:aturner@sandiego.gov)**