



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2013

Economic Development

1200 Third Avenue, 14th Floor, Large Conference Room, San Diego, CA 92101 - 619.236.6364

Present: Emiliano Aragon Gloria Cazares Deborah Flores	Present: Alfonso Hernandez Bob Morris Patricia Reeve Pamela Thorsch	Excused: Donovan Geiger	Guests: Diego Duque Eric Hom
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City Economic Development Staff: Adrienne Turner, Lydia Moreno

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**Call to Order:** Chair, Pamela Thorsch @ 4:07 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes** – The October 18 minutes were approved (5-0-1), with Reeve abstaining.

**Action Items and Information Reports:**

- a. *Review and final approval updated draft of annual report:*  
An updated draft was distributed with the addition of a paragraph regarding a planned roundtable discussion with the Albert Einstein Middle School Academy.  
The draft was approved unanimously.
- b. *Identification and approval of future guest speakers for January and February:*  
Deborah Flores mentioned she knew an attorney that specialized in Human Rights. The board concluded it may be an interesting subject but not closely related enough to the IAB mission.  
Gloria Cazares suggested a speaker on international agriculture. There's a lot of import and export of seeds. Also, cross border trade with Mexico, such as a coffee franchise business.  
Pamela Thorsch suggested speakers from the Iraqi and the Iranian communities.
- c. *Review & Approve Draft letters to: San Diego Symphony-congratulations on their trip to China, and SD Commission of Arts & Culture-introduction and offer for IAB to assist with international events:*  
The draft letter to the San Diego Symphony was approved unanimously. It was discussed that such letters were a simple way to expose the IAB to the community. Board members could submit a draft letter for IAB approval. Emiliano Aragon offered to draft a template that could be easily adapted to a particular situation. He will have it ready for the January meeting.
- d. *Items for consideration to be submitted to the Mayor:*
  1. *Vetting process for Certificate of Recognition to be issued by the IAB*
  2. *Recognition award for Senor Jose Galicot – Tijuana Innovadora*A draft of a vetting process was distributed. Pamela Thorsch announced she had received approval from Molly Chase in the Mayor's office, to go ahead with an award to Senor Jose Galicot. Several board members stated they wanted to have input in the vetting process and especially as to how and who the candidates for the award are selected. It was agreed that board members would submit their input and another draft of the vetting process be issued at the next meeting.

## **Discussion Items:**

- a. Update and discussion on status of our 2013 Objectives/Goals that the Mayor approved in June. Proposed project/committee involvement, Review of Survey Responses, Community Outreach ideas/direction for 2014.

With time limitations to the meeting, Pamela Thorsch made a request that members of the board submit goals and objects they want to focus on in 2014 and forward their ideas to her prior to the January 9, 2014 meeting.

- b. Update and follow up to IAB letter to the Mayor and City Council

Follow up phone calls and emails have been made to each city council district, speaking with their chiefs of staff. A meeting to discuss the IAB objectives, gain interest and support of international affairs and discuss the need/value to our board development was held on November 14<sup>th</sup> with Councilmember Kersey, Pamela Thorsch and Deborah Flores. Councilman Kersey holds a great interest in international affairs and has requested that we keep his outreach staff member, Mayra Vazquez informed as we go forward. Additional efforts will be continued to be made to engage other city councilmembers. A request was made to the other directors for their involvement, especially if they have solid relations with any councilmember.

- c. Update and follow up to invite an Ex Officio member to the IAB appointment by the County Board of Supervisors.

Per a phone discussion with Molly Chase in the Mayor's office, in order to appoint an Ex Officio member a change to the municipal code would be required. It was something that could be done, however she felt it was a recommendation that should go forward to the incoming Mayor after the election.

- d. Outreach Event – Albert Einstein Academy, Thursday, December 4, 2013

An invitation to any director to participate was extended to the IAB and to advise Pamela Thorsch of their interest.

## **Board Chair Report:**

**Announcements:** Report of member activities

**Adjournment:** Pamela Thorsch adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** January 9, 2014

**RSVP or if unable to attend meeting call Adrienne Turner at 619.236.6364 or email at [aturner@sandiego.gov](mailto:aturner@sandiego.gov)**