



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2014

Economic Development

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

Present:	Present:	Excused:	Guests:
Bruce Abrams	Mark Leo	John Galt	None
Roberto Alcantar	Rebecca Morales	Alfonso Hernandez	
Deborah Flores	Pamela Thorsch	Unexcused:	
Donovan Geiger	Patricia Waller	Bob Morris	

Mayoral Staff: Don Giaquinto

City Economic Development Staff: Adrienne Turner

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**Call to Order:** Pamela Thorsch, Chair @ 2:05 p.m.

**Introductions:** Two new board members were attending their first meeting. All board members introduced themselves to each other.

**Approval of Minutes:** The April 10, 2014 minutes were approved

**Action Items:**

- a. Nominations and approval of Chair  
Bruce Abrams volunteered and the board approved him unanimously as Chair.
- b. Nominations of Executive Committee by Chair: Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer  
Bruce Abrams asked for volunteers for the two positions. It was suggested that Bob Morris might serve as Vice Chair. He was not at the meeting but had expressed an interest in participating at the April meeting. Mark Leo volunteered for the Secretary/Treasurer position.

**Discussion Items:**

- a. Update on new appointees to the board by Mayor's office – Don Giaquinto  
Don informed the board that a memo for reappointments and new appointments to the board had been issued and the recommendations should go before council sometime in June. He would send the board a copy of the memo later in the day.
- b. Direction of IAB to assist Mayor Faulconer's administration – Don Giaquinto  
Don suggested setting up a meeting for the board to meet with the Mayor, possibly a breakfast meeting. He asked the board for ideas on how they could assist and advise the mayor. The 2014 Tijuana Innovadora in October and the 2015 Balboa Park centennial were mentioned. A question was asked regarding the list of requests for new cottages to add to the existing International Cottages in Balboa Park. Is there a plan/ timeframe for any to be built?

Co-hosting events with other organizations was suggested. The Natural History museum may be willing to partner with the IAB for events. Some events require a registration fee to attend: the question was asked about a budget or available funds to cover such costs.

Bruce Abrams proposed the board draft a statement regarding the kidnapping of Nigerian schools girls, recommending the city support the “Bring Back Our Girls” movement. Language is key – Roberto Alcantar offered to draft a statement and send it out to the board for comment. It was suggested to connect with the local Nigerian community to see what action they may be taking. A special meeting was considered to discuss the proposal further.

Using the IAB website more effectively was discussed. A carousel of photos on the home page was mentioned. Staff commented that there has been an ongoing request to board members to submit photos to enhance the website. All photos must include a statement and/or authorization regarding the source and the rights to use the photograph.

- c. Review of IAB Bylaws  
Staff distributed the Bylaws to new board members and noted the Bylaws are on the IAB website.
- d. Review of Brown Act requirements  
Each of the new board members had a copy of a PowerPoint, issued by the City Attorney’s office, covering the key points of the Brown Act. The quorum rules were discussed in regards to meetings attended by board members other than the regular monthly meeting. Board members requested a city attorney attend a future meeting to go over the presentation and answer questions.
- e. Review of Robert’s Rules of Order  
Procedures for the public to address the board were discussed. The time for public comment is listed on the agenda. **Request to Speak** forms are available on the entry table for **Non-Agenda** items, also **In Favor** or **Opposed** forms for Agenda items.
- f. Future Speakers  
Bruce Abrams suggested Elena Salsitz, former honorary consul for Great Britain

**Board Chair Report:**

**Announcements:**

**Adjournment:** Bruce Abrams adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** June 12, 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)**