



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2015

Economic Development

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

Present:

Bruce Abrams
Roberto Alcantar
Emiliano Aragon
Deborah Flores

Present:

Rita Lim-Wilby
Mark Leo
Rebecca Morales
Bob Morris
Patricia Waller

Unexcused:

John Galt

Guests:

David Slack
David Edick, Jr
Juan A. Garcia
Emily Hill
Zach Flati
Samuel Tsoi

Mayoral Staff: Don Giaquinto

City Economic Development Staff: Adrienne Turner, Lydia Moreno

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**Call to Order:** Bruce Abrams, Chair @ 2:06 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** January 8, 2015 minutes were approved

**Guest Speaker** – Introduced by Rita Lim-Wilby, Vice Chair

**Ryan Ginard**, Manager, Center for Civic Engagement at the San Diego Foundation

**Topic: Civic Engagement Key to A Truly Connected City. How embracing our diverse population through a renewed focus on naturalization can help San Diego thrive as a more inclusive, resilient region.**

**Objective: Inform the IAB about the importance of civic engagement in the communities and changing demographics of San Diego:**

Mr. Ginard presented on the importance of civic engagement and our city’s ability to be a much more connected community. He argues that civic engagement is the path to integration. He presented on San Diego’s low ranking areas of civic engagement. For instance, San Diego is in the top 10 where communities have a trust no-one attitude in their neighborhoods. San Diego also ranks low as a community where neighbors do not talk with one another on issues. Mr. Ginard also presented how San Diego no longer is a transient city, but is more suburbanized. It is through these changes that the city must nurture the communities that they have and civic engagement is one avenue to do such work.

**Action Items:**

- a. Board approved final draft of IAB 2014 Annual Report
- b. Board approved final draft of Guidelines and Expectations for IAB Internship Program
- c. Board approved final drafts of Protocol for Presentations and Speaker Request form

- d. Board approved final draft of Statement regarding 43 missing students in Mexico. Roberto will follow up with next steps regarding presentation to city council during public comment.
- e. Board approved Letter of Support, with recommended amendments, for the House of Spain's initiative to erect a statue of Vasco Nunez de Balboa in Balboa Park.

**Discussion Items:**

- a. Mayor Faulconer's office – Don Giaquinto  
Don reported on international delegations that have visited San Diego in the last month:
  - i. Israeli student delegation came to discuss small business entrepreneurship in San Diego.
  - ii. Delegation from Myanmar to discuss energy
  - iii. French delegation to discuss the biotech industry in San Diego
- b. Review key points of Mayor Faulconer's State of the City address that relate to the mission and advisory role of IAB.  
Board members were given a copy of State of the City address. Will discuss at a later date.
- c. Update by Patricia & Roberto re: status of recruiting IAB interns  
Patricia Waller introduced the three candidates; Zachary Flati, Emily Hill and Juan Garcia, and provided their bio's to the board.
- d. Review member profiles/photos for IAB webpage  
Bruce confirmed that all IAB members bios have been received and will be submitted.
- e. Bob Morris gave a subcommittee progress report on the IAB involvement in the Balboa Park Centennial Celebration. He presented the board with the current schedule of events for the International Cottages. He stated the goal was to schedule meetings with the House of Pacific Relations (HPR) board members for the IAB to establish relationships and discuss future collaborations which could include:
  - i. Reception to celebrate United Nations Day with the Mayor of San Diego honoring members of the Consular Corps.
  - ii. IAB to help with an already planned activity
  - iii. IAB and HPR to develop an idea that would promote internationalism in San Diego and ask the Mayor of San Diego to create a day commemorating the concept and both groups would host a reception to honor said day.
- f. Subcommittee report on new 2015 projects (Roberto, Bob, Pat, Rita)  
Bruce asked subcommittee members to report on who they have contacted at the next meeting.
- g. Introduction to Center for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) in London.  
Bruce stated this was an information item only for the IAB.

**Board Chair Report:** City Council approved HPR initiative to build 5 new cottages in Balboa Park.

**Report of member activities:** Reports to be submitted to David Slack.

**Announcements:** Rita - Ilan-Lael Foundation and Pacific Rim Parks are planning Festival Pacific (October or November 2015) to celebrate communities all around the rim of the Pacific.

**Adjournment:** Bruce Abrams adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** March 12, 2015

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