



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2015

Economic Development

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

Present: Emiliano Aragon Kathleen Charla Rita Lim-Wilby	Present: Rebecca Morales Bob Morris Patricia Waller	Excused: Bruce Abrams Roberto Alcantar Deborah Flores Mark Leo	Guests: Emily Hill David Edick Keshau Damoor
---	---	---	--

City Economic Development Staff: Adrienne Turner

~~~~~

**Call to Order:** Rita Lim-Wilby, Vice Chair @ 2:18 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** March 12, 2015 minutes were approved unanimously

**Introductions:** New board member Kathleen Charla was introduced and welcomed by the board. Reappointed members Bruce Abrams, Mark Leo, Rebecca Morales and Patricia Waller were also recognized.

**Guest Speaker:** Mr. James Clark, executive director of the San Diego-Tijuana Smart Border Coalition: the impact of border matters on the San Diego economy.

The San Diego-Tijuana region is the world's largest bi-national metropolitan area (one region; one people; one economy). The bi-national relationship makes San Diego unique in California. The coalition aims to bring together job creation, global competitiveness, and promote social interaction between business groups. The coalition's meetings move between San Diego and Tijuana to promote cross-border community building.

In 2007, the California Department of Transportation determined that there was \$8 billion in lost revenue, jobs and transportation time during extended crossing times at the bi-national border. The two sides of the border are linked: economically, culturally, and intrinsically. Finding ways to decrease the inefficiencies is of critical importance. Border efficiency began in 1995 with the SENTRI (Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection) program. Mark your calendar for the program's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

2015 SD-TJ Smart Border Coalition Goals: ten minute for Global Entry crossing, 30 minutes for pedestrians, cars and cargo, plus changing the railroad. Also, the coalition will soon focus on two-nation-vacation tourism. Other opportunities in Baja include biotech, agriculture and health care. "Envision the Border 2020" establishes goals to continue the innovation in the San Diego-Tijuana border area from all perspectives to benefit the region and its economy as a whole. The Working Committee meets May 8<sup>th</sup> at 9-11am, contact Mr. Clark if you would like to attend.

**Action Items:** None

**Discussion Items:**

- a. Mayor Faulconer's office – Don Giaquinto (not in attendance)
- b. Update regarding intern program (Patricia Waller). The internship program is moving along rapidly. A contact list has been developed for the universities and currently being pursuing is a new candidate who will likely be present at the next meeting.
- c. IAB Draft Recognition Letter (Emiliano Aragon). A final draft of a letter of recognition to thank individuals who support the mission of the board or who have opened the board's eyes to happenings in the city of San Diego will be available at next month's meeting in May.
- d. IAB Interaction with Chaldean Community (Emiliano Aragon). An initial contact has been made and further communication is being developed.  
Discussion: Does the mission of the IAB include the international communities in the surrounding San Diego areas? Conclusion: Yes, the bylaws allow for the jurisdiction of the IAB to include surrounding communities from within San Diego County as members may be residents of anywhere in San Diego County.
- e. IAB Annual Event Update (Event subcommittee). Alongside HPR, as suggested by the Mayor's office, a meeting between other subcommittees should take place in order to build a simple and inclusive event.
- f. Mailing List Update (Rita Lim-Wilby). An IAB mailchimp account has been built which requires an email address. The following email address has been created for the IAB: "iabofsandiego@gmail.com". This email is for inviting the members of the international communities in San Diego to join the IAB's mailing list and to allow the IAB to keep in touch with them.

**Board Chair Report:** None

**Report of member activities:** Continuing the practice of submitting reports is important because it demonstrates the activity of board members in the community. The information can then be used to compile the annual report.

**Announcements:** Reminder: Patricia out of town for May and June meetings; Kathleen Charla out of town for May meeting.

**Adjournment:** Rita Lim-Wilby adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** May 14, 2015

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