



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2014

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:

Mark Leo
Rita Lim
Rebecca Morales
Patricia Waller

Excused:

John Galt

Guests:

Jane Starrett
David Edick, Jr.
Martin Kruming
David Slack
Reiss Willions

City Economic Development Staff: Adrienne Turner

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**Call to Order:** Bruce Abrams, Chair @ 2:08 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** October 9, 2014 minutes were approved

**Guest Speakers:**

**Roxanne Nuhaily**, Executive Director, International Programs, Assistant Dean for International Affairs, University of California, San Diego, UCSD Extension International Programs:

Discussed university program, and its ability to bring revenue (tourist dollars) to the city due to a constant stream of international students coming in yearly. The English Language Institute is one of the top draws in the country. Some students also choose to extend a year of their time through the Optional Practice Training program. Possible area of outreach for Centennial Innovation Prize.

**Rodolfo Fernandez**, Deloitte - Retired Audit Partner - Founding Partner, Tijuana Office:

Spoke on his life experiences and previous employment and political connections with the City of San Diego and Sacramento. He discussed the "Two Countries, One Region" proposal launched in the 1990's and his hopes to rekindle border business relations via the new IAB board

**Action Items:**

- a. Meeting Location – decide on location for future IAB meetings  
Bruce and Rita advocated for the committee room near council chambers because of its sound system, but the rest of board preferred to stay in current room. Board voted to remain in current room, as long as city provides a sound system to be used.

**Action Items** continued:

- b. Review draft guidelines and expectations of IAB intern  
The board went over the draft put together by Patricia and Roberto and voted to approve and finalize the document. Patricia also mentioned working with Roxanne Nuhaily to look into involvement with UCSD international students.
- c. Centennial Innovation Prize – sub-committee activities  
Roberto presented on Rebecca’s behalf. IAB will look to play an advisory role in providing support and recruitment. Rebecca is currently working on development of the new nonprofit but would like another member of the IAB on the board to create continuity for the future. Rebecca arrived following another meeting and reiterated that the new nonprofit will have its own board and operate independently of the IAB. They were still working on their mission and its implementation. It will not be connected to the centennial as first proposed. The board decided to table further discussion until the next meeting since more details still needed to be finalized.

**Discussion Items:**

- a. Follow up on Don Giaquinto’s recommendation for the IAB to contact Sean Barr of the San Diego Regional EDC.  
No board member had contacted the EDC.
- b. Emiliano Aragon – City to City Agreement/MOU – Economic Development  
Emiliano brought up discussion of having the IAB recommend that the City of San Diego get involved in a Global City Economic Partnership. Adrienne informed the board that the City plans on making an announcement relating to such a project, and the board decided to table further discussion until announcement is made. Emiliano agreed to take lead on project when the time comes.
- c. Future Speakers – purpose of speakers and how they meet the Mission of the IAB  
Staff requested that information regarding a speaker and the subject s/he will speak on be submitted in time for the public posting of the Agenda. Bruce indicated there was a form available that could be filled out.

**Report of member activities:**

Bruce asked if any member of the board had attended the Tijuana Innovadora held in October. No member had attended.

**Announcements:**

Bruce will send invites out in December for a social that will make up for not having a meeting in December. Social will also function as a canned food drive for the holidays.

**Adjournment:** Bruce Abrams adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** January 8, 2015