



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2015

**Economic Development**

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

---

<b>Present:</b> Bruce Abrams Roberto Alcantar Emiliano Aragon Deborah Flores	<b>Present:</b> Rita Lim Bob Morris Patricia Waller	<b>Excused:</b> Mark Leo Rebecca Morales <b>Unexcused:</b> John Galt	<b>Guests:</b> Dr. Bayardo de Murguia David Edick, Jr Eduard Schmiede David Slack Reiss Willions
--	--	--	---

**Mayoral Staff:** Don Giaquinto

**City Economic Development Staff:** Adrienne Turner, Lydia Moreno

~~~~~

**Call to Order:** Bruce Abrams, Chair @ 2:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** November 13, 2014 minutes were approved

**Guest Speaker:**

**Jesus Benayas**, President of the Casa de España (House of Spain), Balboa Park, spoke on the history of the Spanish explorers, settlements and influence on the American southwest and particularly the San Diego region. He provided several visual images and historical facts that support and evidence the importance of Spain's relationship with the early development of the United States. In addition, he promoted the case for support of the initiative to erect a statue of Vasco Nunez de Balboa in the city's renowned park that bears his name. Mr. Benayas invited board members to a personalized tour of the 'Casa de Espana.'

**Action Items:**

- a. Request to support a statue of Vasco Nunez de Balboa in Balboa Park.

Don Giaquinto expressed Mayor Faulconer's support for the statue in Balboa Park. The board members discussed the positive impact and value of supporting the request and reviewed the process the initiative would need to go through to gain approval. Don advised that it would have to be approved by the City's Commission for Arts and Culture (CAC) which had turned down a proposal for a statue in 1991. Mr. Benayas informed the board that an effort was being made to have the King of Spain gift the statue to Balboa Park. Roberto motioned for the IAB to provide a Letter of Support for the statue, Bob seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

- b. San Diego Foundation for Innovation (SDFI) – advisory role and involvement for IAB. Rebecca Morales had notified the board that the SDFI was in the planning stage and needed to secure its own footing for the present and recommended that the IAB table the issue. The board agreement unanimously to table the subject.
- c. What project or role will the IAB play in the 2015 Balboa Park Centennial Celebration? The board discussed a supporting role with the House of Pacific Relations, as the board has a symbiotic relationship with them. Bob Morris volunteered to head a subcommittee, as long as an intern would be assigned to assist. Bob to report back on progress of developing a plan for IAB involvement. Incorporating the HPR calendar of events for the celebration. He will also check with San Diego Sister Cities Association (SanDISCA) on coordinating more joint involvement with events. No formal action taken.

**Discussion Items:**

- a. Mayor Faulconer's office – Don Giaquinto  
Don deferred his time in order to participate in other agenda discussions.
- b. Review, discuss and implement Annual Report to Mayor  
Adding dates, website addresses and links where appropriated was discussed. Members were asked to forward any omitted details to David Slack for inclusion. Bruce asked if proclamations and gifts presented to delegations by the board on behalf of the Mayor should be identified in the report. Don advised they should be included. An introduction to the report was discussed. Bruce indicated that a cover letter will be written and attached to the report. Pat asked Don if copies of the Annual Report would be circulated to members of the City Council. Don replied no, but strongly advised that it should be. He recommended that the board provide them with copies.
- c. Review 2014 pending proposals, action/discussion items. Select pending items that remain of interest and table indefinitely the pending items that are no longer relevant.  
The IAB intern program was the only item left on the table.
- d. Propose 2015 new projects which the IAB can create, organize, implement and sustain for future IAB activity  
An annual event or award that the IAB could partner in would be a good idea to pursue. Bruce mentioned that perhaps selecting one country annually to celebrate their special relationship with San Diego. Bob suggested contacting the International Community Foundation and developing a partner relationship with them. Bruce formed a subcommittee with Roberto, Bob, Rita and Pat to address the topic.
- e. Future speakers. Limit of one speaker per meeting with time allotment given.  
The Proposed Speaker Request form and the Protocol for Presentations to the Board drafts were discussed. Suggestions were made for changes including a time limit of 20 minutes including the presentation and question and answer period. Speakers should provide all contact information (including website and links) plus full details on the subject of their presentation. Information materials can be given out at the meeting. If the presentation includes showing slides they should bring a thumb drive for use with city equipment. No personal equipment can be used. Pat inquired if the board had access to Stationary for thank you letters. City staff can provide. Bruce referred to Annual Report section 2 which mentions that a Thank You Letter template had been created last year by Emiliano. Bruce also asked Don if thank you letters and outgoing documents needed to be sent to the Mayor's office for approval. Don stated they did not.

f. Guidelines and Expectations for Interns recommendations and revisions

The notes provided by Roxanne Nuhaily, UCSD, were reviewed. A weekly time requirement of 20 hours' for college credit was discussed. Bruce reminded the board that the interns would not be City interns, therefore, the city would not provide a work site, equipment or email address. Interns could use college facilities or provide their own. Attendance at the monthly IAB meeting would be mandatory with parking validation provided. Other out of pocket expenses were discussed; there is no budget to allow for reimbursement. Roberto was asked how State Senator Marty Block handles non-budgeted expenses for unpaid /volunteer interns. He stated that Senator Block gave a marginal allotment out of his own pocket to offset intern's expenses. Roberto also spoke to the time requirement issue stating the interns should have a project reporting sheet that tracks their work product as well as hours spent, which could be signed off by the members. An immediate intern activity would be tracking and creating the Monthly Activity Reports of the members to be turned in to Mark Leo, assisting in his responsibility as Secretary/Treasurer, to provide to city staff.

g. Recruiting Interns; the process and time line.

The timeline for recruiting interns was discussed with resolve that Pat and Roberto should proceed with the outreach and review of potential recruits. Bruce thanked Pat and Roberto for their excellent work on the Intern Program.

h. Roberto Alcantar – condemnation of actions in Mexico re: 43 missing students in Ayotzinapa

Roberto called for board action on the 43 missing students in Ayotzinapa Mexico, as was done with the public comment by the board regarding the kidnapped Nigerian girls. Bruce explained the process and purpose of the Statement on the Nigerian girls. The importance of the language in the Statement being sympathetically friendly and non-hostile while connecting its relevance to the San Diego community. Suggesting perhaps focusing on San Diego's large foreign student population. Bruce also addressed the need to coordinate the issue being raised with a Council Member who has the capacity to advocate the matter and give a platform for discussion and action after presentation of the Statement. Roberto to create a Statement to bring as an Action item next month.

**Board Chair Report:**

Bruce emphasized the responsibility of members to generate Activity Reports and submit a copy to the Secretary/Treasurer to comply with the Bylaws.

Bruce asked Don what the status was on open board positions. Don informed the board that only one open position was available and a nomination would be made in the near future.

**Report of member activities:**

Bruce reminded members to write Activity Reports and submit them to Mark Leo.

**Announcements:**

Rita invited members via flyer distributed, to attend the San Diego World Affairs Council – Global Security Series January 20<sup>th</sup>. Topic: Measuring Peace and Conflict in Mexico and Around the World.

Rita made mention of the Human Rights Watch Film Festival being held Jan 22-25, refer to promo card distributed for details.

Bob informed that every Wednesday at 8 a.m. there is a Town Hall meeting in Tijuana Chamber room. Bob to attend and will request a Proclamation from the Mayor to present.

**Adjournment:** Bruce Abrams adjourned the meeting at 3:28p.m.

**Next Meeting:** February 12, 2015