



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 2015

**Economic Development**

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

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<b>Present:</b>	<b>Excused:</b>	<b>Unexcused:</b>	<b>Guests:</b>
Kathleen Charla	Bruce Abrams	Bob Morris	Emily Hill
Emiliano Aragon	Roberto Alcantar		Michelle Persante
Rita Lim	Deborah Flores		Ed Sweed
Rebecca Morales	Mark Leo		David Edick, Jr.
Patricia Waller	Jordan Marks		

**City Economic Development Staff:** Adrienne Turner

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**Call to Order:** Kathleen Charla for Bruce Abrams @ 2:08 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** September 10, 2015 minutes not approved due to lack of a quorum

**Non-Agenda Public Comment:** None

**Speaker:** Ed Sweed of Jewish Voices for Peace spoke on the current refugee situation and the probable role San Diego may play in the resettlement of the 100,000 asylum-seekers headed to the United States.

San Diego has four U.S. State Department licensed organizations to assist with the resettlement of refugees and the transition to citizenship: International Rescue Committee; Jewish Family Services; Alliance for African Assistance; Catholic Charities.

Sweed suggested a possible supporting role for the IAB, in the effort to resettle the refugees coming to San Diego, could be to reach out to San Diego's vibrant civic society in order to facilitate a citywide support network for the above four organizations (establishing funds, hospitality, etc.).

**Action Items:**

- a. **Support of San Diego Babel & Sharazad culinary art event on November 5<sup>th</sup>**  
No action taken due to lack of a quorum

**Discussion Items:**

- a. **Mayor Faulconer's office – Don Giaquinto**  
Don discussed moving the IAB meeting space to the North Terrace meeting rooms.

- b. Friendship Cities Program (FCP) – activities and assignments per FCP procedures**  
A subcommittee was established with board members Patricia Waller, Rebecca Morales, Deborah Flores and Emiliano Aragon as chair. First steps: drafting bylaws and criteria. Patricia Waller offered her home as the first meeting place.
- c. Intern Program review: Board usage for board activities – Patricia Waller**  
Patricia reported reviewing several resumes with only two possible candidates that could meet the needed time commitment and had the necessary skills.
- d. International Relief Teams (IRT) Letter of Recognition – Michelle Persante**  
The letter is ready for signature by Bruce Abrams, Chair
- e. IAB Retreat recap**  
Discussion focused on Friendship Cities Program.

**Board Chair Report:** Chair Bruce Abrams out of town

**Announcements:** None

**Report of member activities:** Emiliano Aragon discussed the proposal to make a presentation to the House of Pacific Relations (HPR). Board members agreed that the role of the IAB and how it can assist the HPR should be more clearly defined prior to any presentation.

**Adjournment:** 3:28 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** November 12, 2015; 2- 3:30 p.m.

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