



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2016

North Terraces Room, San Diego Concourse, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

Present: Bruce Abrams Roberto Alcantar Emiliano Aragon Kathleen Charla	Present: Rita Lim Rebecca Morales Bob Morris Patricia Waller	Excused: Deborah Flores Mark Leo Jordan Marks	Guests: Stephanie Aviles Michelle Persante Richard Bainter
---	---	---	--

City Economic Development Staff: Adrienne Turner

~~~~~

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

**Approval of Minutes:** December 10, 2015 minutes approved unanimously

**Non-Agenda Public Comment:** None

**Speaker: Jane Fantel**, Director of Israel Connections for the Jewish Federation of San Diego. The presentation covered the Federation’s partnership with the Sha’ar HaNegev Region which is located on the Gaza border. They helped open a rocket-proof high school, providing a quality education for students in a safe environment. Also covered were cultural programs and businesses including industrial parks, manufacturing and agriculture; plus the development of a NextGen Start-Up Incubator to promote economic growth and activity in the region. Immigration and infrastructure were also discussed.

**Action Items:** None

**Discussion Items:**

**a. Mayor Faulconer’s office – Don Giaquinto**

Don was not able to attend due to preparations for the Mayor’s State of the City Address.

**b. Friendship Cities Program (FCP)**

Staff relayed information received via email from Don regarding the Friendship Cities Program: The City Attorney’s office is reviewing the FCP documents. Feedback so far is that using the word “Agreement” implies some form of contractual obligation which is inconsistent with the intent of the program. Revised documents will be ready by the next IAB meeting.

**c. Intern Program review – Patricia Waller**

Patricia introduced Stephanie Aviles, a new intern, who was attending the meeting.

d. **IAB member resources:** countries/languages document.  
The document needs to be completed and a decision made on how best to distribute it.

e. **How best to promote the IAB.**  
Develop a set of contacts to inform relevant interested parties of speakers and activities.

Bruce asked Roberto to develop a set of questions for speakers. They should be constructed in such a way as if asking on behalf of others, such as visitors in the room.

Coordinate with a councilmember(s) to launch the FCP.

**Board Chair Report:** Chair Bruce Abrams: Discussed the new meeting area – try different set-up and more microphones next month.

**Announcements:** Appointment terms expiring March 1, 2016 for six board members. Members should indicate their interest in re-appointment or intention to resign.

**Report of member activities:** All board members should submit their 2015 activity reports. These are needed as soon as possible for the Annual Report that is being drafted.

**Adjournment:** 3:15 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** February 11, 2016; 2:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
North Terrace Room, San Diego Concourse, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

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