



International Affairs Board

Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2016

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

Present:

Bruce Abrams
Kathleen Charla
Deborah Flores
George Novinger

Present:

Rebecca Morales
Bob Morris
Patricia Waller
Caroleen Williams

Excused:

Mark Leo
Jordan Marks
Roberto Alcantar

Guests:

Tiffany Wai Ying Beres
Dr. Allen W. Chan

Mayoral Staff: Don Giaquinto
Executive Director: Joel Day
City Attorney: Greg Halsey

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**Call to Order:** Bruce Abrams @ 2:01 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** September 8, 2016 minutes were approved

**Non-Agenda Public Comment:** None

**Speaker:** Tiffany Wai Ying Beres, Executive Director, San Diego Chinese Historical Museum outlined the growing mission and activities of the SD Chinese Historical Museum. She discussed the history of the community here in San Diego and acquainted the IAB with the work of the Museum. She also discussed her plans for the future of the Museum.

**Special Information Item:** Dr. Allen W. Chan, Founder of US-China Culture and Economic Collaborative gave a robust presentation on Huzhou, China in support of their the Friendship Cities application. The presentation included the economic, social, and cultural opportunities in Huzhou and he presented an impressive video detailing the achievements of Huzhou. Along with Dr. Chan were guests from the Sino-American Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Professional Association, who also spoke in favor of the Friendship City establishment.

**Action Item:** The Board discussed the Huzhou proposal to establish a Friendship Cities Program with San Diego. The motion of support was called by Vice Chair Kathleen Charla and seconded by Boardmember Deborah Flores. The motion passes unanimously.

**Action Item:** Rebecca Morales presented a discussion of the Ilan Lael Foundation proposal for IAB's support of the Gateway Conversations event in April of 2017 and vote on the proposal. Action moved to support the Ilan Lael Foundation as a Sponsor, with in-kind efforts. Pass of motion unanimously.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Introduction of Joel Day, new Executive Director. Conversation about San Diego's Global Identity and the IAB playing a role as a voice of that identity for the City. Joel indicated further discussion about the IAB's

mission would occur in November, December, and in second round of the retreat.

2. Rebecca Morales gave a detailed report on request of Palau for Friendship Cities. After considering pros and cons of granting the status to an entire country, the board members directed the ED to follow up with the consul general on alternative relationships. The board also noted the ability to grant commendations in this case. Further discussion was tabled.
3. Bob Morris gave a report on Communications and Events sub-committee. After meeting with ED, Boardmember Morris noted the new email address ([IAB@SanDiego.gov](mailto:IAB@SanDiego.gov)), business cards, Twitter, Facebook, and website refurbishment being executed by ED. Also a discussion about doing an awards ceremony of some nature. ED and Communications committee will meet to establish recommendations on awards and events.
4. Monthly Activity Reports

**Board Chair Report:** Chair Abrams talked about the Jewish Federation event with Mayor Schuster of Shar'ha Negev. Reported on events with Trans women from both Israel and India. Remarks by other boardmembers on how these events impacted them personally.

**Executive Director Report:** Joel Day introduced himself, vision, and mentioned excitement to work with the IAB.

**Announcements:**

**Report of member activities:**

**Adjournment:** 3:40 p.m.

**The Next Meeting Will Be** Thursday, November 10, 2016; 2 - 3:30 p.m  
North Terraces Room (above Golden Hall), San Diego Concourse, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

**For further information contact:  
Dr. Joel Day, Executive Director, International Affairs Board  
(619) 236-6420 or [dayj@sandiego.gov](mailto:dayj@sandiego.gov)**