



February 09, 2022 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting
Agenda

This meeting will be held virtually on Zoom Webinar [here](#).

- I. Call to Order | Approval of the November 10, 2021 Minutes
- November 10, 2021 minutes approved

II. Roll Call:

Board

Ms. Mary Abad	Present
Ms. Melissa Floca	Present
Mr. Andre Kwan	Present
Mr. Mark Leo	Absent
Ms. Chandler Martin	Absent
Ms. Hilda Mwangi	Present
Ms. Kenia Zamarripa	Present
Ms. Victoria Philips	Present
Mr. Brian D'Amico	Absent
Mr. William Roberston-Geibel	Absent
Mr. Nathan Williams	Present
Mr. Dennis-Michael Broussard	Present
Mr. Gustavo De La Fuente	Present
Mr. Richard Bainter	Present
Ms. Karen Higareda	Present

City Staff

Rita Fernandez, Executive Director	Present
Sarah Moga-Aleman, Binational Affairs	Present

- III. Non-Agenda Public Comment
- N/A

- IV. Update from Mayor's Office on COP26

- Randy Wilde, Senior Policy Advisor
- Mayor Gloria is a longtime leader on climate action, author of city's 2015 climate action plan and pushing update – net 0 by 2035
- Our Climate Our Future initiative roll out prior to COP26
- Wanted to attend COP26 to talk about the importance of local action, especially in cities
- Exchange with peer cities across country and globe to share experiences and best practices
- SD wants to scale up what we're doing in climate action by collaborating with other organizations, countries, and private corporations
- Extensive conversation with department of transportation – climate policy intersection with transportation and housing
- City of London and City of Edenborough (Sister City) – met with them
- EUIRC program – partnered with Madrid – exchanging best practices on mobility and sustainability and visits
- Benefits to the city of attending – reinforcement of shared challenges with peer cities and building those relationships is important to share best practices, higher profile for climate work which helps attracts private funders and contractors who want to help the city, sandiego.gov/climatefuture – this has the city's climate plan
- Buildings and transportation are the two big buckets where the city needs to make strides
- Incorporating climate into international engagement – especially since cities are driving this conversation. San Diego is now part of “Cities race to zero” – qualified to join the premier climate action group prior to COP26
- Conversations around the region about incorporating UN sustainability goals
- Inspiring cities from COP26 – city of London – they've had to deal with problems of air quality and congestion for longer than SD and have implemented a lot of initiatives
- Other cities of note: Paris, Honolulu
- San Diego is not at the very top of the pack, but is catching up – a general consensus among all cities is that implementation needs to be double downed on

- Question raised: what can IAB do? – highlighting inspirational stories from around the world, implications of cross border issues and global trade issues
- UN SDG initiative – 5 board members interested, Rita setting up follow-up for directives of how IAB can be involved. Invitation for others who are interested to reach out to Rita

V. Guest Speaker – The Afghan Evacuation

- Shawn VanDiver, Co-Founder of the San Diego Chapter of the Truman National Security Project
- Truman National Security Project – think tank/action tank based out of DC
- Founded in 2014
- Major population of wartime allies in San Diego
- Afghan Evac formed by various alliances of organizations trying to help Afghani's evacuate
- Coalition of 150+ private organizations involved in every facet of evacuation
- Predominantly US – based, human rights defenders, resettlement experts, veterans, frontline civilians [NGOs, etc.], private citizens, legislative, executive staff
- Built a secure, universal, case management system to have secure upload of documents – all organizations could access but could only see the families they were working with
- Data from the case management system is owned by Human Rights First
- Work with White House, State Department, Department of Defense, Veteran's Affairs, Hill, Department of Homeland Security – bring stories to decision makers
- Afghan Welcome Fund – 5,000 microgrants given to families to resettle
- Train tool – tools and resources for Afghan's in need
- Explainer infographics
- Placed 2 staff at the State Department to act as liaisons
- Resilience Duty Officer program – 24 hour watch – person available any time of day to answer any sort of questions folks may have, monitor chats, and help folks out who are in need
- Identifying third country immigration opportunities

- All organizations involved have to share data to the universal, do not use US gov't equipment or assets inappropriately, do not share contents of meetings, make sure that Afghani's have a legal pathway in front of them
- The coalition has 12 working groups
- ~7,000 Afghans resettled in San Diego – San Diego is a welcoming city which has helped the adjustment
- Afghan Adjustment Act – announcing in DC on Monday 2/14/22 – action to keep Afghans out of temporary status. Adjust status so that they are on a pathway to lawful permanent residents and U.S. citizens
- California will receive the most Afghan refugees in the country, and San Diego will receive the most in the state. After Houston and DC/Maryland/Virginia, San Diego will receive the most in the country
- IAB members can take a position on any resolutions
- Future of organization – 2,000 per month at camp in Afghanistan to be resettled in US, hoping that the government can get to 5,000 per month (130,000 total people need to be evacuated), Afghan Evac is not meant to be a durable organization, it is a project organization, hope for government and NGOs to step up
- Hope to see lasting and meaningful change in the immigration systems and foreign policy so that there are impacts on USCIS
- Resettlement process changed from 1-3 years to 100 days
- Hope that the work impacts how the US receives refugees
- Kenia Zamarripa makes a motion to support resolution and ask Mayor to support the resolution – Afghan Adjustment Act
- Motion passed
- Rita suggests a letter to follow up

Afghanevac.org

VI. IAB Retreat Date and Agenda Discussion

- Two dates: March 17th 4pm-7pm and March 23th 4pm-7pm
- Executive committee proposed that retreat take place of March board retreat

- Chamber Boardroom 402 W. Broadway 10th Floor
- March 17th seems to work best for most people

VII. Motion on March Meeting

- Motion made for March 17th and in lieu of regular board meeting
- Motion passed

VIII. Chair's Report

- Charoleen Williams she has stepped down in her role

IX. Board Member Updates and Announcements

- 2 Vacancies – interviews conducted
- 2 people selected and hoping to have everyone in place by March 17th so that new members can join

X. Adjourn

Next meeting March 17, 2022