MEETING MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, August 22, 2017
CALLED BY: Marv Sepe, Rima Nashashibi
LOCATION: 36 Executive Park, Ste. 100
Irvine, CA 92614
MEETING TIME: 12:00pm to 1:00pm

AGENDA ITEMS: RESPONSIBLE:

I. OPENING: Sepe, Nashashibi
- 12:05 PM, meeting called to order by Co-Chair Marv Sepe

II. INTRODUCTIONS: All
Marv Sepe, Rima Nashashibi, Jasmine Braswell, Kristin Houston, Karen Scuncio, Linda DiMario, Diana Le, Lynn Stewart, Johnny Witkin, Melissa Bui, Joe Alvarez, Yuichi Suda, David Karl, Kimberly Gateb, Volker Huther, Ginna Stanley, Audra Plageman, Sylvia Prata

III. KNOWLEDGE MULTIPLIER
Co-Chair Marv Sepe introduces this month’s topic of discussion: NAFTA Negotiations. Marv introduces NAFTA and how it was conceived by Reagan then negotiated by Bush which was then signed by Clinton. President Trump signed into executive order to have NAFTA negotiated in order to close in on the trade deficit. August 16th marked the first legal day the US, Mexico and Canada could begin the renegotiation process. became a recent controversial topic in the election opens up the committee with a one pager on NAFTA highlights, pros and cons chart of NAFTA, as well as a chart indicating what the goals the US, Mexico, and Canada would like to achieve in these negotiations and whether all three countries had the same goals or not. Sylvia talked about how NAFTA negatively impacted her business back when she was in Texas and factories had to close almost immediately as jobs were sent to Mexico. Johnny mentioned how the apparel industry would be negatively impacted should the US pull out of NAFTA driving up labor costs. The group proceeded to go back and forth on both sides of NAFTA and agreed to submit their comments for collection via email. Linda mentions the Mexico consulate trip she went on how the Chamber alongside with the Mexico Consulate and Hispanic Chamber will be hosting a NAFTA Today event on November 8th at Hotel Irvine.

IV. TASK FORCE REPORTS
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) – Lynn Stewart provided updates.
  Lynn gave an update on the reverse mission we are hosting around MTIF with OCTANE October 30th and 31st. We currently have 2 life science organizations (One Nucleaus and ABHI has confirmed that they will be attending. Linda mentioned that we are hopeful that two more companies will be joining us for the showcase. Linda also reported out that we had a conference call with OCO Global to help coordinate next year’s mission back to U.K. The dates are February 11th – 16th.

- World Trade Week - OCWTW2017 – Rima Nashashibi provided updates.
  Rima provided updates on OCWTW 2017 with sponsorship forms indicating UPS as the Founding Sponsor and HSBC as the Champion Sponsor. Diana mentioned that the sponsor packages have new added benefits such as stage time/video. Diana also provided a list of all the LA and Inland Empire WTW Sponsors and asks the committee to assist with reaching out to these companies to see if they would be interested in OCWTW sponsorship.
Global Resources
Global Microsite – Diana Le provided updates. The website is up and running and ready to be marketed! Diana explains the next phase of the microsite will be to spread the word and continuing populating the website for information and events.

VI. CHAIR’S COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION: Sepe, Nashashibi

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

• 1:15 p.m. meeting adjourned by co-Chair Marv Sepe

Minutes recorded by Diana Le

Next Meeting:
September 26th 2017
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Snacks and Refreshments Provided
Irvine Chamber of Commerce
36 Executive Park, Ste. 100, Irvine, CA 92614