

## MEETING MINUTES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, October 24, 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  
 • Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Co-Chair Marv Sepe

**II. INTRODUCTIONS:** All  
 Chairs welcome everyone to the meeting, and Marv Sepe reads the Mission Statement. Each attendee is acknowledged and introduced.

Marv welcomes Melinda Kim of PeopleSpace has brought two guests from a Korean start-up company working with her. The two gentlemen give brief descriptions of their businesses, involving advanced technology hand-held devices that can determine the content of items being tested by the device and an advanced 3D printer.

**III. KNOWLEDGE MULTIPLIER** Sepe  
 Co-Chair Marv Sepe continues the discussion on NAFTA Negotiations. This is the third month of the process.

**IV. TASK FORCE REPORTS**  
 • **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** – Linda DiMario provided updates.  
 Linda reported on the FDI Irvine Showcase happening at the end of October around the OCTANe MTIF. The Chamber will be bringing in 2 associations and 1 UK Company to enjoy Irvine and see all the industry clusters and opportunities.

The companies are Raremark – a company focused on rare diseases, hoping to open a Southern California location in the next 8 -- 12 months; One Nucleus, a membership organisation for international life science & healthcare companies; and the Association of British Healthcare, who will be bringing a delegation to the U.S. in Spring, 2018. Also, Geoff Fernie and Catherine Hancharek from the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute will join us.

Plans are developing for the UK FDI Trip the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in February. The Mayor, Don Wagner has committed to accompanying the group.

In addition, Linda reported that the Swiss Consul, Peter Hafner, is here on a temporary 6-month assignment. There is a Consulate office in San Francisco, focusing on economic issues and an office in Los Angeles, focusing on culture issues. The Consul feels that the Los Angeles office should also be focused on economic issues and is working to increase awareness and participation in those issues.

International Development Committee

October 24, 2017

Page 2

We had the opportunity to meet with the Consul and introduce him to a Swiss company here in Irvine, Spineart, which is a sciatica therapy facility and receive feedback from the company on their success.

- **World Trade Week - OCWTW2017** – Rima Nashashibi provided updates.

Rima reported that UPS has now committed to being our Founding Sponsor at \$5,000, with HSBC as the Champion Sponsor at \$4,000. William Wang, CEO of Vizio, is being courted as the Keynote Speaker for the event. If Mr. Wang is not available, Kenneth Lowe, V.P. and co-founder of Vizio may be available.

The Export Success Stories panel has not been set yet, we are looking for speakers to fill those positions.

**VI. CHAIR’S COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION:**

Sepe, Nashashibi

Co-chair Marv Sepe suggests that we move the Chair comments section up in the agenda so that it is not short-changed by time limitations.

Linda DiMario stated that we want to develop a “Gateway” to make it easier for foreign companies to come and develop a presence here in Irvine.

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

WITOC hosts a workshop: **DON'T LOSE MONEY - DECREASE TAX RISK**, Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at CBIZ MHM, LLC - 2301 Dupont Dr., Suite #135 Irvine, CA 92612, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

- 1:05 p.m. meeting adjourned by co-Chair Marv Sepe.

Minutes recorded by Pepper Russell

Next Meeting:

November 28, 2017

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Refreshments Provided

**Irvine Chamber of Commerce**

36 Executive Park, Ste. 100, Irvine, CA 92614

