

**FINAL MINUTES
House of Spain,
Casa de España,
in San Diego
Meeting
Board of Directors
July 13th, 2025**



Officers		Members of the Board			
President	Jesús Benayas	X	Maruja Williams	X	
Vice President	Pedro Romón Díaz		Ana Ocampo Rebollar	X	
Secretary	Ignacio de Castro Pérez		Ignacio Vázquez Riesgo	X	
Treasurer	María José Marmanillo		David Buenaventura Madi Dearie	X	
			Patricia Barry	X	Sergeant-at-Arms Henry Herms X

1. The President called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

2. Approval of today's agenda.

Maruja Williams made a motion to approve the agenda.

Ana Ocampo Rebollar seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

3. Proxies

Pedro Romón Díaz his proxy to the President

Ignacio de Castro Perez his proxy to the President

Maria José Marmanillo her proxy to the President

Madi Dearie her proxy to the President

4. Approval of 6/08/2025 BOD meeting minutes:

**David Buenaventura made a motion to approve the June 8th, 2025 minutes as presented.
Maruja Williams seconded the motion.
Ana Ocampo Rebollar abstained.
The motion passed.**

5. President's Report: The President reported the following:

- The leaky faucet is now fixed.
- The 90th anniversary celebration will take place from September 5th to 7th and will include a parade. It was suggested that the Queen or Knight could participate in the parade carrying a Spanish flag.
- The new OSHA regulations affecting live event vendors were reviewed. These regulations, effective July 1, 2025, require vendors at city-owned facilities and parks to certify that all employees involved in the setup, operation, or teardown of live events have completed the appropriate OSHA safety training courses—specifically, a 10-hour OSHA course for workers and a 30-hour OSHA course plus Entertainment Technician Certification Program (ETCP) certification for supervisors. This law aims to improve safety standards for complex live events and applies to venues such as city parks and public facilities.
- There was discussion on how these regulations might impact the Casita’s ability to generate income. It will be necessary to determine the specific permits required under the new rules and clarify whether permits are issued per event or on an annual basis. Understanding the frequency and type of permits allowed will be crucial for planning future events and compliance.

6. Vice president’s report. No report. Pedro Romón Díaz is out on vacation.

7. Secretary’s report. No report. Ignacio de Castro Perez is out on vacation.

8. Treasurer's Report: Jesus provided summary as Maria José Marmanillo is out on vacation. No questions regarding the Treasurer’s report.

9.a. General Report

Checking account \$8,714.48
High Yield Savings \$ 12,128.16
Fidelity Investments \$ 295,804.87
Total \$ 316,647.61

9. HPR report. The report was sent to the Board by email. Henry mentioned that Queens and Knights elected new officers. Coronation to be held in El Prado in November. Same day as the House of Spain General Meeting and elections!

10. Committee Reports.

10.1 Employee Manager - Ana Ocampo. Nothing to report. Ana will be out on vacation at the end of the week. Ana will be able to complete approval on July 15th but asked Jesus to complete approval for August 1st. Jesus agreed.

10.2 Safety and EEO Manager - Ignacio Vázquez. Jesus did mention the leak was fixed. Per Ignacio Vasquez we still need to fix the tile by the "laurel" tree.

10.3 Events Manager - Pedro Romón is out on vacation. Jesus mentioned a student at SDSU will be screening Globalization and Hispanidad "movie night" with popcorn at the Casita.

10.4 Calendar of events for 2025 (Thank you Nina):

- a. April 12th Feria de Abril. Ana in charge.
- b. April 26th, Battle of San Diego Bay. Jesús in charge
- c. May 3rd EFF. Jesús in charge.
- d. June 11th, paella at Hall of Nations for HPR Auxiliary. Jesús in charge. The President informed the Board that a homeless person broke into electric panel and if the panel is not fixed, the event cannot take place
- e. 4th of July event. Jesús in charge
- f. September 20th, Latino Festival. Jesús in charge
- g. October 11th, Día de la Hispanidad. Jesús in charge
- h. November 9th, General Assembly and HoS Elections
- i. Saturday 29, November 5:00 PM- Wreath Making Event. Ana in charge. Ana may change the date to 15th/16th November.
- j. December 5-6th, ICF
- k. January 4th, 2026 Día de Reyes

11. Scholarship – Henry. Submission received from Kayla and distributed to the board.

Ana Ocampo made a motion to approve the Scholarship award to Kayla.

Ignacio Vasquez seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

12. Calendar – Nina. Thank you Nina for sending the 2024 calendar of events for filling purposes.

13. Queens/Knights - Henry

Ana Ocampo made a motion to accept Lyndsay as Queen of Spain for the year 2025-2026.

David Buenaventura seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

14. Others

- a. Jesus provided a summary stating that the Fidelity S&P 500 and Total Market funds have historically delivered annual returns in the range of 10% to 15%. Currently, we have \$22,000 in cash. Given the various ongoing market issues and the fact that the market is presently high, Jesus is considering selling 50 to 100 shares of each fund to increase our cash holdings around \$50,000 to \$60,000.00 into a government fund with approximately 3% rate of return. This increase in cash would serve as a safety buffer to cover costs for the upcoming year. The BOD gave Jesus the go ahead to sell some shares from each fund.
- b. Jesus opened the floor for anyone to provide feedback on what other ways we can improve the running of the Casita.

15. New Business

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Barry for Ignacio de Castro Pérez
Secretary, House of Spain

Minutes approved by the Board of Directors on August 10th, 2025.

Motions for HoS Board meeting on July 13th, 2025:

1. **Maruja Williams made a motion to approve the agenda.**
Ana Ocampo Rebollar seconded the motion.
The motion passed.
2. **David Buenaventura made a motion to approve the June 8th, 2025 minutes as presented.**
Maruja Williams seconded the motion.
Ana Ocampo Rebollar abstained.
The motion passed.
3. **Ana Ocampo made a motion to approve Scholarship award to Kayla.**
Ignacio Vasquez seconded the motion.
The motion passed.
4. **Ana Ocampo made a motion to accept Lyndsay as Queen of Spain for the year 2025-2026.**
David Buenaventura seconded the motion.
The motion passed.