

# MINUTES FROM THE HOS ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING 2025

## HOUSE OF SPAIN IN SAN DIEGO

General Assembly  
November 9th, 2025  
5:00 to 9:00 pm  
Balboa Park  
San Diego, CA 92101

Session starts at 5:36

I. Meeting comes to order.

Sergeant at Arms, Henry Herms, reported:

- Members in attendance 25
- Proxies 27
- Total 52
- Total members 75
- Amount needed for quorum 23
- Quorum met.

II. Approval of the Agenda.

Susi Lusti made a motion to approve the agenda. Ángeles Leira seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. General comments.

- Sergeant at Arms, Henry Herms, requests to make a comment. There are four people currently on the board of directors who are over 70, two of whom are over 80. We need more young people. If there are things you think could be done differently, or there are events you would like us to throw, join the board.

IV. Reading and approval of last year's minutes.

The Sergeant at Arms sent last year's minutes in a packet to all the members. The President asked if there were any changes or questions to last year's minutes, there were none. The President asked for a motion to approve the minutes as sent. A motion was made by Mary Hinshaw and a second by Angeles Leira. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Secretary's annual report.

The Secretary's report was also included in the Sergeant at Arms packet sent by email to all the members. The President asked if there were any questions. Members did not have any questions.

VI. Treasurer's report.

The Treasurer's report was also included in the Sergeant at Arms packet sent by email to all the members. María José Marmanillo went over the most expensive line items in the report, e.g. materials for events, followed by employees. Accountant Fernando Moscoso then summarized the Statement of Financial Position, highlighting the uses of our checking account—to pay expenses like materials for our profit earning events, payroll, taxes, etc—and the purpose of our Fidelity account—covering the cost of emergencies and FFE (furniture, fixtures and equipment).

They then asked if there were any questions. Members did not have any questions. President Jesús Benayas highlighted that the investment account was launched in 2016 with \$90,000 and now, in 2025 is at over \$300,000.

VII. Words from the President.

President Benayas thanked the audience for taking the time to come to the General Assembly meeting. He pointed out that while we need 25 members minimum to be part of the House of Pacific Relations, the House of Spain has always far exceeded that number while others have struggled to meet it. It is thanks to our membership that the house exists. President Benayas introduced and thanked all the members of the Board of Directors, providing each with a certificate recognizing their time and dedication. Certificates were also presented to non-BOD members Fernando Moscoso, Antonio de la Carrera, Nina Yguerabide, Joaquin Anguera, Henry Herms, and Bob Williams for their outstanding work and help during the year.

VIII. Opening of the 2025 elections, for the 2026 calendar year, presided by Ignacio Vazquez-Riesgo.

a) Election of President.

Bob Williams made a motion to declare Jesús Benayas President of HOS by acclamation. Susi Lusti seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Election of Vice President.

Maruja Williams made a motion to declare Pedro Romon-Diaz Vice President by acclamation. Becky Benayas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Election for Secretary.

Ana Ocampo Rebollar made a motion to declare Madison Dearie Secretary by acclamation. Becky Benayas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

d) Election of Treasurer.

Madison Dearie made a motion to declare María José Marmanillo Treasurer by acclamation. Regli Dee seconded the motion. The motion passed.

e) Election of three members of the Board of Directors.

Sergeant at Arms instructed members to tear off the portion of the ballot pertaining to directors, marking their choices for only three directors and place them in the boxes provided for collecting ballots. After the ballots were collected, Penelope Bledsowe, Joaquin Anguera and Angeles Leira counted the votes, and the following three candidates had the most votes: Maria Williams, Ignacio Vázquez-Riesgo, and David Buenaventura were elected members of the Board of Directors.

The Sergeant at Arms reminded attendees that while we are only required to have 10 directors, we are allowed up to 15 and will be electing additional directors at the next board meeting. The President thanked all guests present and adjourned the General Assembly meeting.

That concluded the Elections part of the General Assembly Meeting at 6:25 PM.

Maruja and Bob Williams prepared dinner, desserts, sangria, wine and other drinks for the attendees to mingle and enjoy the rest of the evening.

Minutes of the HOS General Assembly meeting were approved by the BOD on December 14th, 2025 meeting.

