

MINUTES

Cross Party Group on Cuba 28th June 2017 12.30 CR5

1. Convenors Welcome

Elaine Smith MSP opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting and noted that it was a pleasure to be joined by Cuban visitor Dr Carlos Alzugaray Treto and

2. Attendance

Elaine Smith MSP, Neil Findlay MSP, Sandra White MSP, Dr Carlos Alzugaray Treto, Kath Campbell, Graham Dey, Freida Park, Ronnie Moran, Ian Parsons, Jenni Gunn, Alison Fergusson, Joan Cutting, Richard Shillock, Graham Campbell, Wilson McLeod, Vince Mills Mills, Pauline Bryan, Claire Le Blanc, Samantha Byrne, Lesley Dobbin

Apologies

Liz Elkind, Matthew Crighton, Murdo Fraser MSP, John Finnie MSP, Ambassador Teresita Vicente Sotolongo, Pauline Boyle, Neil Anderson, Dougie Kerr, Marlyn Glen, Margaret McGregor, Ann Henderson, Cllr Gordon Munro, Arthur West, Stuart Hyslop, Kevin Carroll, Margaret Campbell, Rev Graeme McGeoch, Kath Bateman

3. Minutes of the last meeting (1st March 2017)

Minutes were approved and seconded by Dr Joan Cutting and Neil Finlay MSP

4. Update of Cuba Solidarity Campaign – Kath Campbell

Kath updated the group on current affairs and noted the disappointing commending being made by Donald Trump regarding reversing the policies put in place by Barack Obama. She also invited all to the Scottish Cuba Solidarity AGM taking place on 27th August in STUC, at 1pm.

5. Update from the Venezuela Solidarity Campaign on matters of interest in the region.

Freida Park gave an update on the current affairs and answered questions from Members.

6. Speaker Dr Carlos Alzugaray Treto

Dr Alzugaray gave an interesting insight into the current political and industrial situation in Cuba. He spoke of the challenges in Cuba with regard to the embargo and how some changes are likely with regard to increased introduction of foreign investment, particularly in the Tourism industry

Dr Alzuraray then answered questions from Members.

7. A.O.C.B.

It was noted that the Ambassador is currently on holiday, however, hopes to attend a meeting in the future.