

**Minutes of the First Official Meeting of the
INTERNATIONAL CUBAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

The first official meeting of the International Cuban Philatelic Society was held in Richmond, Virginia, the site of the 2010 A.P.S. StampShow, on the 13th day of August, 2010. Present were members Ernesto Cuesta, Robert Littrell, Laura Herrera, Jonathan Johnson, José Salvador, Don Peterson and Gary Weiss who joined the Society during StampShow. Absent because of the necessity of attending a booth at the show were Brian Moorehouse, Rudy Roy, Len McMaster, Douglas Lehman and Bill Matthews. Ernesto Cuesta was selected Chairman of the meeting and Robert Littrell was selected as Secretary to record and prepare the meeting minutes.

Ernesto Cuesta gave the welcome and summarized the achievements so far by the new Society, including the publication of the Journal's first issue and comments about the rapport and relationship with the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, the International Philippines Philatelic Society, the United States Possessions Philatelic Society, and the United Postal Stationery Society. He congratulated Robert Littrell on the publication of the study *Postal Cards of Spanish Colonial Cuba, Philippines and Puerto Rico* which experienced brisk sales at the show and won a Vermeil medal in the literature competition. The book was published under sponsorship of the UPSS and all proceeds are to benefit that Society.

Attending members were given the opportunity of introducing themselves. The election of interim Society officers ensued with the officers to hold their positions only until the fall elections. Nominations were made and votes cast for the following:

President:	Ernesto Cuesta
Vice-President:	Mark Tyx, subject to his acceptance
Secretary:	Daniel Chajj
Treasurer:	Not filled, except Ernesto Cuesta will continue in that capacity until elections.

Whereupon the Board made the following appointments:

Webmaster:	Robert Littrell
Journal Editor:	Ron Hill
Auction Manager:	Vacant

Mr. Littrell and Mr. Hill will serve on the Board of Directors, ex officio.

Nominations for Society Officers and Directors will be solicited together with distribution of these meeting minutes for a Fall election. Elected Officers and Directors will serve for three years in their elected positions starting on January 1, 2011. Any Society member is eligible for any of the Society Officer or Director positions.

Whereupon the matter of the bylaws were discussed, and those currently posted on the Society Website at <http://www.philat.com/ICPS/laws-eng.html> will serve as Bylaws, subject to further comment and final adoption. They will be circulated for review and comment by the Society membership at large, revised as necessary to reflect comments received, and finally adopted after ratification as part of the Fall elections.

A financial report was given by Ernesto Cuesta. It is available to the membership via the following URL: <http://www.philat.com/ICPS/finances/ICPS-Financial-Report.xls>. The Society will maintain a current financial report accessible to its members at the same address on a permanent basis.

Robert Littrell moved for the Society to purchase and host its own Website with the following domain name *cubanphilatelic.org*. This was proposed to avoid conflicts of interest with private ownership of the Society's Website. The motion for the Society to acquire its own Website passed, although the final selection of the Society domain name should be given further thought since the proposed Website domain name had not been previously discussed.

Robert Littrell moved for the Society to incorporate. The motion was discussed and passed. Mr. Littrell agreed to handle the incorporation process for the Society. That being the case, it was agreed that to facilitate the process the Not For Profit corporation will incorporate in Colorado, Mr. Littrell's state of residence. The status of non-profit will proceed thereafter, but it was agreed that there is no urgency to do so in the immediate future, so it will be done in due course as convenient.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Follow-up on the First Official ICPS Meeting Minutes

Mark Tyx accepted to serve as interim Society Vice-President until the Fall elections are held. He also accepted to be nominated for the position of Society Treasurer for the Fall elections. We are still seeking an Auction Manager. This position is not critical at the present time since we have the higher priority items on the table such as publishing the second issue of the Society journal before EXFILNA 2010 in mid-October and holding formal Society elections. We don't expect that the Society will be conducting an auction until sometime in the first half of 2011.

Any member that wishes to be considered for any of the Society elective positions (Officer or Director) should manifest his/her candidacy to the Society Secretary as soon as possible. The candidacy should be accompanied by a brief philatelic biography of the candidate and a current photo if one is not already available via the Society's membership list posted on the Society Website. These materials will be distributed to the Society membership in preparation for the Society elections to be held later this Fall. Nominations for the elective positions of other parties can also be accepted from any Society member provided the proposed candidate has accepted to be submitted for nomination.

After a lengthy and animated discussion, the Society acquired the domain name **www.cubafil.org** to host its Website. Arrangements will be made with an Internet service provider to host the new Society Website using the new domain name. When the Society Website is transferred to the new domain name we will inform the membership at large. The change will be transparent to all users. References to the old Society URL <http://www.philat.com/ICPS> will be automatically redirected to the much simpler new one: <http://www.cubafil.org>.

Robert Littrell has now incorporated the Society in the State of Colorado as the International Cuban Philatelic Society—we are now a legal corporation. The application for Non-Profit status will be submitted later.