

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LODGERS' TAX ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF  
CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO, HELD IN THE PLANNING ROOM AT THE MUNICIPAL  
BUILDING, 101 N. HALAGUENO, CARLSBAD, NM  
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023 AT 7:30 A.M.**

**Voting Members Present:** Dr. S.S. Dara  
Milan Patel  
Dale Balzano  
Elizabeth Lickliter

**Voting Members Absent:** Amit Bhakta

**Also Present:**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Angie Barrios-Testa | Director of Municipal Services         |
| Andie Britt         | Executive Secretary                    |
| Carol Belski        | Friends of Living Desert               |
| Veronica Barnhart   | Friends of Living Desert               |
| Michele Robertson   | Milton's Brewing                       |
| Braden Ryan         | Drylands Student Conference            |
| Kat Davis           | Carlsbad MainStreet                    |
| Eyenid Manzo        | Carlsbad MainStreet                    |
| Tammy Neel          | Yucca Blossom Trade Days               |
| Jim Renfrow         | Carlsbad Art Association               |
| Marin Gregory       | Cavern City Renaissance Festival       |
| Diane Johnson       | Cavern City Renaissance Festival       |
| Karey Jeffress      | Carlsbad Community Concert Association |
| Chad Ingram         | Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce           |

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. S.S. Dara, acting Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Dr. Dara called roll and it was determined there was a Quorum of the Voting Members.

Present: Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara, Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Lickliter

Absent: Amit Bhakta

**3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 7, 2023 AGENDA**

The motion to approve the March 7, 2023 meeting Agenda was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Elizabeth Lickliter.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Lickliter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LODGERS TAX ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 7, 2023.**

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Elizabeth Lickliter to approve the February 7, 2023 meeting minutes.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Lickliter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM MILTON'S BREWING, SEPTEMBER FEST AT MILTON'S BREWING**

Michele Robertson was present on behalf of Milton's Brewing, for the September Fest at Milton's Brewing to present the \$6,200 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded Elizabeth Lickliter to approve the \$6,200 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Lickliter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM HOPE CENTER, JERICHOWALK AND BIKE RUN**

Angie Barrios-Testa presented on behalf of the Hope Center, for the Jericho Walk and Bike Run to present the \$23,500 request.

The motion was made by Elizabeth Lickliter and seconded by Dale Balzano to approve the \$23,500 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Elizabeth Lickliter, Dale Balzano, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE, MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION 2024**

Angie Barrios-Testa presented on behalf of the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Committee, for the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration 2024 to present the \$10,000 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Milan Patel to approve the \$10,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Milan Patel, Elizabeth Lickliter, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD MAINSTREET PROJECT, CARLSBAD MAINSTREET ARTS & CULTURE DISTRICT TOURISM CAMPAIGN**

Kat Davis and Eyenid Manzo were present on behalf of the Carlsbad MainStreet Project, for the Carlsbad MainStreet Arts & Culture District Tourism Campaign to present the \$85,200 request.

The motion was made by Elizabeth Lickliter and Dale Balzano seconded to approve the \$85,200 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Elizabeth Lickliter, Dale Balzano, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD MAINSTREET PROJECT, CARLSBAD MAINSTREET WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

Kat Davis and Eyenid Manzo were present on behalf of the Carlsbad MainStreet Project, for MainStreet Website and Social Media to present the \$20,000 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and Milan Patel seconded to approve the \$20,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Milan Patel, Elizabeth Lickliter, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD MAINSTREET PROJECT, CAVERN FEST 2023**

Kat Davis and Eyenid Manzo were present on behalf of the Carlsbad MainStreet Project, for CavernFest 2023 to present the \$100,000 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and Elizabeth Licklitter seconded to approve the \$100,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Licklitter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD AREA ART ASSOCIATION, CARLSBAD AREA ART ASSOCIATION (CAAA)**

Jim Renfrow was present on behalf of the Carlsbad Area Art Association, for the Carlsbad Area Art Association (CAAA) to present the \$35,000 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and Milan Patel seconded to approve the \$35,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Milan Patel, Elizabeth Licklitter, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**12. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM SHAY GREGORY, 2<sup>ND</sup> CAVERN CITY RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL**

Diane Johnson and Marin Gregory were present on behalf of the Shay Gregory, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavern City Renaissance Festival to present the \$40,000 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded Elizabeth Licklitter to approve the \$40,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Licklitter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**13. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM FRIENDS OF LIVING DESERT PARK, FRIENDS OF LIVING DESERT: TRAIL TO DISCOVERY**

Carol Belski and Veronica Barnhart were present on behalf of the Friends of Living Desert, for Friends of Living Desert: Trail to Discovery to present the \$30,200 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded Elizabeth Licklitter to approve the \$30,200 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Licklitter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**14. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM BRADEN RYAN, DRYLANDS STUDENT CONFERENCE**

Braden Ryan was present, for the Drylands Student Conference to present the \$50,000 request.

The motion was made by Milan Patel and Dale Balzano seconded to approve the \$50,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Milan Patel, Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Licklitter, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**15. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION (CCCA), CARLSBAD COMMUNITY CONVERT ASSOCIATION-CONTINUING OUTREACH AND 2024 SEASON PROMOTION**

Karey Jeffress was present on behalf of Carlsbad Community Concert Association, for Carlsbad Community Concert Association-Continuing Outreach and 2024 Season Promotion to present the \$50,600 request.

The motion was made by Elizabeth Licklitter and Dale Balzano seconded to approve the \$50,600 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Elizabeth Licklitter, Dale Balzano, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**16. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM TAMMY NEEL, YUCCA BLOSSOM TRADE DAYS**

Tammy Neal was present for Yucca Blossom Trade Days to present the \$10,000 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and Milan Patel seconded to approve the \$10,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Milan Patel, Elizabeth Licklitter, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**17. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM CARLSBAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CARLSBAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**

Chad Ingram was present on behalf of the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce, for Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce-Convention & Visitors Bureau to present the \$330,000 request.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and seconded Elizabeth Licklitter to approve the \$330,000 request.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Licklitter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara

No: Amit Bhakta

**18. PRESENTATION OF FY2022-2023 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT – PROMOTIONAL FUND**

Angie Barrios-Testa gave presented and reviewed the FY2022-2023 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter financial report with the Advisory Board.

**19. BOARD DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON NEW CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

The Board unanimously voted on Dr. S.S. Dara to become Chairperson and for Dale Balzano to become Vice-Chairperson.

The motion was made by Dale Balzano and Elizabeth Licklitter seconded to approve the new positions.

The vote for Dr. S.S. Dara as Chairperson and Dale Balzano as Vice-Chairperson were as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Licklitter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara,

No: Amit Bhakta

**20. ADJOURN**

Being no further business the motion to adjourn was made by Dale Balzano and seconded by Elizabeth Licklitter.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Dale Balzano, Elizabeth Licklitter, Milan Patel, Dr. S.S. Dara,

No: Amit Bhakta

  
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Chairman