

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Carlsbad Museum Advisory Board
Held in the Carlsbad Museum & Art Center
On May 19, 2021 at 1:30 PM**

Voting Members Present:

David Prell	Museum Board President
Allison Hervol	Member
Larry Pardue	Member
Desiree Kicker	Member
Tom Bemis	Member
Mannie Bemis	Member
Larry Henderson	Member (in at 1:45)

Voting Members Absent:

Khushroo Ghadiali	Museum Board Vice President
Francene Hoffman	Member
Mike Medrano	Member
KC Sparks	Member

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Ex-Officio Members Absent:

Dale Janway	Mayor
John Lowe	City Administrator

Others Present:

Dave Morgan	Museum Director
Edward VanScotter	Museum Assistant Director
Jameson Lucas	

1. ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Roll call was taken by Edward VanScotter. It was determined that a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF MAY 19, 2021

The motion was made by Tom Bemis and seconded by Allison Hervol to approve the agenda of the May 19, 2021 meeting.

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Larry Henderson, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

The motion was made by Allison Hervol and seconded by Larry Pardue to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting.

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Larry Henderson, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

4. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

- Printouts from the foundation accounts were not available. Dave did learn that the Amigos Demand Fund has about \$13,000 in it. Store sales are starting to rebound since opening.
- The City interim budget is out and it looks like the museum will be flat-funded for FY21-22.

The Motion was made by Desiree Kicker and seconded by Allison Hervol to approve the financial report.

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Larry Henderson, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

5. APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Since the last meeting in January of 2020, the board has welcomed two new members: Larry Henderson and Francene Hoffman.
- In March of this year, the museum secured \$80,000 in lodger's tax for advertising. Larry Pardue asked where that money could be spent, Dave Morgan answered that it goes mostly towards print advertising, such as monthly ads in New Mexico Magazine. Desiree Kicker asked if the money can be used to print pole banners to go around town. Dave Morgan answered that is a possibility.
- The White Sands photography exhibit opened in November of 2020 and came down in March of this year. The annual Carlsbad Area Artists Association and Carlsbad Municipal Schools art exhibits that is usually in spring were cancelled in both 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.
- Museum staff took advantage of the COVID closures to restructure some of the museum's exhibit spaces. The "Little Carlsbad" train layout in the Atrium Gallery was removed and major pieces of it saved and stored in Pate Elementary. The wall and display case between the Atrium Gallery and lobby were removed as was the wall between the Temporary and Atrium Galleries. The concrete floor in the atrium gallery was leveled by the city

construction crew, and then PINA Construction was contracted to lay tile over it. A new wall was built between the atrium gallery and the tool storage room with a large door added that allows large items to be moved from the back loading area into the Atrium Gallery. New electrical outlets were added to the atrium gallery. A track lighting system is still needed in this space for future exhibits. The unanimous consensus among the Board was that the ongoing renovations are a big improvement to the museum and open up many new exhibit possibilities.

- In July of 2020, the City finalized the purchase of several Taos and other significant NM paintings that were on loan from the McAdoo family. These pieces are the foundation of the museum's art collection and David Prell reiterated how thankful he is to the City for securing the funds to make this art a permanent part of the museum collections.
- In October of 2020, Maya Pool donated 8 pieces of art by various artists to the museum.
- In February of 2021, Dwight and Sabbette Pitcaithley donated a pastel by NM artist Ann Huston. This piece along with one from Maya Pool are now hanging in the Feezer Gallery.
- In March and April of 2021, the museum acquired several paintings and prints from the Alice Gunter estate, including several Roderick Mead works.
- In April, the exhibit from the Guadalupe National Park Artist in Residence Program was taken down.
- Also in April, the *Icons and Symbols of the Borderlands* exhibit was installed.
- The museum is working with the Carlsbad Community Foundation and donors to purchase five Will Shuster paintings of Carlsbad Caverns completed in the 1920s.
- The museum continues to have issues with the new HVAC and humidifier system.

The motion was made by Larry Henderson and seconded by Tom Bemis to approve the Director's Report.

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Henderson, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

6. MOTION: CONSIDER APPROVAL TO DEACCESSION FRANK SCHOONOVER PAINTING "ESCAPE OF COLONEL BIGSTAFF"

- The museum is in possession of the oil painting titled "Escape of Colonel Bigstaff" by illustration artist Frank Schoonover, it was published in the novel "Marmaduke of Tennessee" by David Edward Cummings in 1914. The museum received the painting from an anonymous donor in the early 1980s.
- The Board agrees that the painting does not meet the criteria that it must further the mission of the museum, and so should be deaccessioned.

The motion was made by Larry Pardue and seconded by Larry Henderson to approve the deaccession of the Frank Schoonover painting.

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Henderson, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

7. MOTION: CONSIDER APPROVAL TO SELL THE FRANK SCHOONOVER PAINTING

- In 2015, an appraisal of the museum’s art collection was completed by Michael Ettema. He pointed out that the painting did not have anything to do with New Mexico or the museum mission, but was a valuable piece that the museum should consider it for deaccessioning.
- Dave Morgan stated that all funds procured through its sale can only to be used for one or more of the following purposes: to acquire art and/or artifacts that satisfy the museum mission or to actively conserve damaged existing art and/or artifacts in the museum collection.

The motion was made by Larry Henderson and seconded by Larry Pardue to approve the selling of the Frank Schoonover painting

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Henderson, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

8. MOTION: CONSIDER APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A COLLECTION OF WILL SCHUSTER CAVERN PAINTINGS FROM OWINGS GALLERY

- A few months ago, Dwight Pitcaithley informed Dave Morgan of a collection of five Will Schuster oil paintings of the Carlsbad Caverns that were coming up for sell in Santa Fe, and that he thought it would be a good fit for the museum. Dave agreed, and passed along pictures and information of the paintings to the board through email.
- Dave Morgan also started looking for funding sources to purchase these pieces, namely through the Carlsbad Foundation and through city funds. This also led to the museum to start looking at deaccessioning and selling the Frank Schoonover piece mentioned above.
- Larry Henderson asked the amount of funding the museum has received for these pieces. Dave Morgan replied that he hasn’t received a final number yet from either the foundation or the city, but that they are both working on it. Larry then asked what the final purchasing cost. Dave answered the asking price is \$35,000, with an added cost of about \$1,500 for framing 3 of the paintings.

- Mannie Bemis provided a little more context to the Board about Frank Schoonover being an important New Mexico artist, and the paintings are the earliest known of the caverns.
- The board decision was unanimous that these paintings would be an important addition to the museum's art collection.

The motion was made by Mannie Bemis and seconded by Larry Henderson to approve the purchase of the Will Schuster cave paintings.

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Henderson, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

9. MOTION: CONSIDER APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE MUSEUM AND ACCOMPANYING NEW LOGO

- The museum has been working with Jameson Lucas of The OMA Agency on a rebranding project for the museum. Jameson was present at the meeting to talk about the new logo he came up with for the museum and the process behind it.

The motion was made by Allison Hervol and seconded by Larry Henderson to approve the name change of the museum and the accompanying new logo

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Henderson, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

10. DISCUSS CURRENT AND FUTURE EXHIBITIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- The exhibit "Icons & Symbols of the Borderland" opened on May 1st, and will be on display at the museum through September. The museum is planning to host an "exhibit fiesta" event on July 17th, with live music by "Frontera Bugalu".
- There will be Carlsbad Hall of Fame induction ceremonies on July 3rd for Anna Jane Hays and John Andrews
- The next exhibit will be an art quilt exhibit from the Studio Art Quilt Associates, a national quilt group. This exhibit will be on display from November through February of 2022.
- The annual Carlsbad Area Artists Association and CMS art exhibits will hopefully be held in 2022. They were both cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID pandemic.
- Dave Morgan presented the idea to have a locally-generated custom/restored car and motorcycle exhibit in the renovated galleries in Winter 22-23.

11. ADJOURN

The motion was made by Larry Henderson and seconded by Larry Pardue to adjourn at 3:10.

The vote was as follows:

Yes –David Prell, Allison Hervol, Larry Henderson, Larry Pardue, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Mannie Bemis

No – None

Absent – Khushroo Ghadiali, Francene Hoffman, Mike Medrano, KC Sparks

David Prell, President

Date

DRAFT