

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Carlsbad Museum Advisory Board
Held in Carlsbad Museum
On January 18, 2023, at 1:30 PM**



Voting Members Present:

David Prell	Museum Board President
Francene Hoffman	Member
Desiree Kicker	Member
Tom Bemis	Member
Wren Prather-Stroud	Member
Lisa Simmons	Member

Voting Members Absent:

Dailey Jones	Member
Allison Hervol	Member
Sky Soto	Member

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Ex-Officio Members Absent:

Dale Janway	Mayor
John Lowe	City Administrator

Others Present:

Angie Barrios-Testa	Director of Municipal Services
Dave Morgan	Museum Director
Edward VanScotter	Museum Assistant Director

1. ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Edward VanScotter took roll call at 1:35. It was determined that a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF JANUARY 18, 2022

The motion was made by Desiree Kicker and seconded by Tom Bemis to approve this item.

The vote was as follows:

Yes – David Prell, Francene Hoffman, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Wren Prather-Stroud, Lisa Simmons

No – None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2022, REGULAR MEETING

The motion was made by Tom Bemis and seconded by Francene Hoffman to approve this item.

The vote was as follows:

Yes – David Prell, Francene Hoffman, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Wren Prather-Stroud, Lisa Simmons

No – None

4. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

- Dave Morgan stated that it is about 50% of the way through the fiscal year and that the museum is on track with the budget being about 50% spent.
- Statements from the museum's Carlsbad Foundation accounts were provided to the Board. The Amigos fund increased significantly, from about \$8,000 to \$28,000. This is primarily thanks to the fundraising efforts of Francene Hoffman and Desiree Kicker. Dave Morgan thanked them for their actions.
- David Prell asked if we know how much money from the museum budget has been used for the Hall of Fame extension. Edward VanScotter said that he could get that figure to the board. Dave said he thought it was near \$12,000.
- Francene Hoffman told the board that she was shown the Jeff Diamond building that could be used by the museum and historical society. The price of this building has come down substantially. She suggested the board look at the facilities for sale along the proposed "city square" surrounding Halagueno Arts Park.
- David Prell suggested to the board that acquiring a building to be used by the museum and historical society may not be a realistic goal and that the museum should consider other options. He brought up the idea of plaques for Hall of Fame inductees being placed in the Pecos River Conference Center.

- Angie Barrios-Testa stated that an obstacle to any buildings being purchased by the city for the historical society and museum is the cost of renovating the building and getting the HVAC usable. She further explained that the town is being conservative with funds currently and agreed with David that the museum should think of alternative solutions beyond acquiring a new building.

The motion was made by Lisa Simmons and seconded by Desiree Kicker to approve this item.

The vote was as follows:

Yes – David Prell, Francene Hoffman, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Wren Prather-Stroud, Lisa Simmons

No – None

5. APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Dave Morgan gave an update about museum activities over the past few months.
- The museum began to gather art and artifacts for the Gary Niblett exhibit in September, which included having art shipped and directly picking up artwork in Santa Fe and Phoenix. The exhibition opened on November 5 with a reception including live music and catering. The event was well attended and received.
- The New Mexico Arts Commission held a meeting at the museum on November 17. Carlsbad saddle maker Rosemary Wilkie was awarded the Governor's Arts Award, presented by Carlsbad mayor Dale Janway.
- Front desk attendant Quay Dominguez left the museum in November to take a job at city hall. In December, the museum hired Cassie Parks to fill the vacant position. Cassie has previously worked for the museum and will be a great addition.
- Hall of Fame inductions will be held for Gary Niblett and Dwight Pitcaithley on January 28.
- Glen Castleberry visited the museum in December to help staff identify and catalog objects from his donation of WWII artifacts belonging to his dad, a Bataan Death March survivor.
- The museum was awarded a \$2,000 Chevron grant in December to be used to pay for bus rides to bring students to the museum.
- The city's construction crew started on the hall of fame extension in what used to be the anthropology room. This project is on pause until after the hall of fame inductions on January 28.

- A new roof will be installed on the museum and library building this summer.
- The smoke detectors in the museum are outdated and prone to false alarms. The museum has contracted with PVT to replace these detectors with new ones.
- Dave Morgan stated that the museum is still working on updating its city ordinance.
- Dave Morgan again thanked Francene Hoffman and Desiree Kicker for their fundraising activities, which raised over \$15,000 for purchasing a Gary Niblett painting.
- Morgan announced that Bank of America has decided to donate the large Gary Niblett painting "The Trail to Santa Fe" to the museum, which is currently part of the Gary Niblett exhibit. They were initially asking for over \$20,000 for the piece. It was agreed that the board needs to send a nice thank you letter to Bank of America for the gracious donation.
- The museum needs to build a wall across the temporary gallery for more storage space. The current temporary wall uses museum's exhibit quick wall system, those panels could be better utilized elsewhere.
- The museum is looking at options for moving the stagecoach and tractor out of the current pioneer gallery. The plan is to turn the space into a Carlsbad History gallery, and the stagecoach and tractor do not fit in with the plan. The stagecoach belongs to Guadalupe Mountains National Park, and Dave Morgan has tried to contact them about returning it.
- Dave Morgan suggested implementing a moratorium on accepting new donations until the museum acquires more storage space and staffing. The museum is out of collections storage space and lacks the proper staffing to process and store new acquisitions.

The motion was made by Francene Hoffman and seconded by Tom Bemis to approve this item.

The vote was as follows:

Yes – David Prell, Francene Hoffman, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Wren Prather-Stroud, Lisa Simmons

No – None

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A GARY NIBLETT PAINTING TO PURCHASE

- Dave Morgan stated that the museum has narrowed down which Gary Niblett painting the

museum wants to buy. "Apache Night Raiders" and "Flyover Country" are the staffs choice. An impromptu vote was held to help determine which one to purchase, Apache Night Raiders was selected. Dave stated that Gary Niblett might sell both paintings to the museum with the funds raised. Dave will look into this. The museum is also looking into working with the Matteucci Gallery in Santa Fe to develop a catalog of the Gary Niblett exhibit. Gary is excited at the prospect of a catalog of his work. The idea was brought up that some of the funds raised by Francene and Desiree could be used to produce this catalog.

The motion was made by Desiree Kicker and seconded by Wren Prather-Stroud to approve this item.

The vote was as follows:

Yes – David Prell, Francene Hoffman, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Wren Prather-Stroud, Lisa Simmons

No – None

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A \$300 HONORARIUM FOR GARY NIBLETT AND DWIGHT PITCAITHLEY TO HELP COVER THEIR COSTS TO ATTEND THE HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

The motion was made by Desiree Kicker and seconded by Tom Bemis to approve this item.

The vote was as follows:

Yes – David Prell, Francene Hoffman, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Wren Prather-Stroud, Lisa Simmons

No – None

8. DISCUSS BOARD PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE MUSEUM

- Dave Morgan asked Angie Barrios-Testa to talk about the strategic plan that she is having each department in Community Development create, including the museum. Angie stated that having these plans in place will be beneficial in guiding the departments on what they want to accomplish and could open the doors for grants and other funding. The finalized strategic plan will go before the city council. The board agreed that developing such a plan will be beneficial. The board and museum staff will start working on the plan. Dave Morgan agreed the effort will be good for the museum and suggested that one of the topics to be covered early in the process should be an update the museum's core documents. The board agreed.

9. DISCUSS CURRENT AND FUTURE EXHIBITS AND ACTIVITIES

- Museum staff is busy constructing Hall of Fame exhibits for Gary Niblett and Dwight Pitcaithley. Their inductions will be on January 28.
- The Zia Quilting Guild exhibit will go up in February after Gary Niblett's exhibit comes down.
- The museum will host the annual Carlsbad Municipal Schools exhibits in March and April. In April, the museum will also host an art exhibit from the Carlsbad Area Arts Association.
- The museum is working with Carlsbad Caverns National Park to develop and host an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the park. This will be at the museum from early May through October.
- The museum will be hosting the exhibit "America at the Crossroads: The GUITAR And a Changing Nation," an exhibition by the National Guitar Museum from November 2023 through January 2024.

10. ADJOURN

The motion was made by Desiree Kicker and seconded by Francene Hoffman to approve this item.

The vote was as follows:

Yes – David Prell, Francene Hoffman, Desiree Kicker, Tom Bemis, Wren Prather-Stroud, Lisa Simmons

No – None

David Prell, President



Date 3-15-23