

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HALAGUENO ART PARK
ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO, HELD AT 101
N. HALAGUENO STREET, CARLSBAD, NM, ON FEBRUARY 5, 2026, 11:00A.M.**

Present: Julia Heaton- Board Chair - **Joined Via Phone**
Carla Dungan- Board Member
Therese Rodriguez- Board Member
Wren Prather Stroud- Board Member

Absent: Judy Murray- Board Member
Linda Pruit- Board Member
Cindy Elkins- Board Member

Also Present: Kat Davis- Deputy Director of Community Development
Edward VanScotter- Carlsbad Museum Director
Sarah Jones- Carlsbad Public Library Director
Jameson Lucas- Community Historian
Mary Garwood- Keep Carlsbad Beautiful Director
Denise Green- Carlsbad MainStreet
Frank Fierro- Facilities Administrator
Richard Lopez- Mayor
Valeria Bannister- Communication Specialist

Call Meeting to Order

1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Carla Dungan called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2026

Therese Rodriguez moved, and Wren Prather Stroud seconded the motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

VOTE

The vote was as follows:

Yes - Heaton, Dungan, Rodriguez, and Prather-Stroud

No - none

Absent - Murray, Pruit, and Elkins

**3. UPDATE ON THE GATE CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR
THE HISTORY GARDEN BY K.C. CASS**

Mr. Cass was unable to attend the meeting, and Frank Fierro from Facility Maintenance provided an update in his place. The material for the garden gates is

onsite, but hasn't been cut yet. Mr. Fierro asked if there was a deadline for when the gate was needed to be completed by, and the committee informed him that it would need to be by April, as they would like to make sure that it is completed prior to the history garden event. Mr. Fierro said he would send a picture of the gates at the Carlsbad Cemetery to the committee so they can envision the design they will mirror.

Mrs. Dungan stated that, due to recent weather, the area looks more like red dirt than the intended crusher fine appearance. Mrs. Dungan suggested removing the crusher fine and replacing it with red paver bricks. Mr. Fierro agreed and stated he had previously done a walk-through and had recognized the issues with the crusher fine. Mr. Fierro will work on having it replaced with red paver bricks. Mrs. Heaton expressed the need to apply herbicide before laying the pavers to prevent weeds or issues down the line. The Mayor expressed his support for this change and asked Mr. Fierro to keep on top of it to ensure its timely completion.

Mrs. Heaton also mentioned that the planter by the Glenda Goodacre statue by the museum entrance should also have all living material removed and replaced with additional red pavers.

4. UPDATE ON THE PLANS FOR THE OPENING OF THE HISTORY GARDEN EVENT

Mrs. Dungan gave a recap of the Mayor's committee meeting for the history garden and hall of fame re-naming event, which took place on Wednesday, February 4th. Mrs. Dungan and Mrs. Heaton suggested moving the time of the event from 10 am to 11 am, which the Mayor was in support of. The Mayor discussed that his office was working on collaborating with the schools for this event. If needed, they would transport the students from the school to the event, and feels that it will be important for them to be there, which the committee agreed with.

Mrs. Dungan asked Mr. VanScotter for an update on the Hall of Fame cases. Mr. VanScotter stated that the construction for these will take place at the museum to expedite the process. The Mayor has also spoken with the construction department and expressed the priority this requires. Mrs. Heaton thanked them for the update but reminded the committee that our focus is on the park and exterior portions, rather than the interior.

The event for the history garden and the Hall of Fame renaming will take place on May 8th. Mrs. Heaton and Mrs. Dungan will work on the invite list and ask Sarah Jones from the library for some assistance with this. They would like to find the invite list from the Gala that was held. There are many outstanding items that need to be completed before this date, and City departments are working diligently to complete them in time. All the deadlines have been set for April, so if there are any changes or outstanding items, there will still be time to complete them. The Mayor's next committee meeting for this event planning will take place on March 11th. The committee discussed having this advisory board hold another special meeting following the 11 am meeting.

5. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 p.m.

Julia Heaton
Julia Heaton, Chairperson

Mar. 11, 2026
Date