

**LINKED MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BEAUTIFICATION
COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO, HELD IN THE
JANELL WHITLOCK MUNICIPAL COMPLEX BUILDING ON APRIL 9, 2026, AT
11:00 P.M.**

Present: Ashley Walterschied Chairman
Aaron Ruiz Board Member
Jean Prominski Board Member
Erika Palmer Board Member *arrived at 11:06*
Charles Betts Board Member

Absent:

Also Present: Mary Garwood Beautification Coordinator
Jalynn Dominguez Open Meetings Act Manager
Stephan Brown Compliance Clerk

Time Stamps and headings below correspond to recording of meeting and the recording is hereby made a part of the official record.

0:00:16 **1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Roll was called, determining the presence of a quorum.

0:00:30 **2. TRANSITIONAL OVERVIEW – JALYNN DOMINGUEZ,
OPEN MEETINGS ACT MANAGER**

Jalynn Dominguez explained that the new Chapter 2 Ordinance is intended to help resolve differences among boards, committees, and commissions. She noted that several updates have been made, including changes to meeting time, frequency, location, attendance requirements, and the maximum number of voting members. **Ms. Dominguez** emphasized that attendance will be strictly enforced moving forward. She also stated that boards will be limited to a maximum of five voting members; however, no current members will be removed and will instead be allowed to complete their terms.

0:08:01 **3. NOMINATION AND VOTE OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

0:11:05 **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mr. Betts and seconded by Ms. Prominski to nominate Mrs. Walterscheid as Chairman and Mrs. Palmer for Vice – Chairman

0:11:43 **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - Walterscheid, Ruiz, Prominski, Palmer, Betts; No - None; Absent - None; the motion carried

0:14:22 **4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

0:14:36 **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mrs. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Betts to approve the meeting minutes from February 16, 2023

0:14:51 **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes - Walterscheid, Ruiz, Palmer, Betts; No - None; Abstain - Prominski; Absent - None; the motion carried

0:15:24 **5. BEAUTIFICATION PLAN – MARY GARWOOD, BEAUTIFICATION COORDINATOR**

Mary Garwood provided an overview of the Beautification Plan, highlighting the department’s funding sources, key stakeholders, and the program’s mission related to waste disposal. She also reviewed ongoing initiatives, including Carlos the Coyote, the incorporation of litter-free language into all City event forms, a year-round household hazardous waste drop-off location, Adopt-a-Highway programs, and various partnerships. She noted an interest in expanding public art throughout Carlsbad and emphasized that she welcomes feedback from the Board regarding potential changes or new requests. **Ms. Prominski** asked whether the list presented represents the Board’s work plan. **Ms. Garwood** confirmed that it serves as the 2026 action list and will be addressed throughout the year, with a new list to be developed for 2027. **Ms. Garwood** also reported that the recycling feasibility study has been completed and is currently under review by the administration. She added that the study will be shared with the Board for them to review. **Ms. Prominski** asked whether the study included yard waste or food scraps. **Ms. Garwood** clarified that it did not. **Mrs. Walterscheid** asked Ms. Garwood to identify her top three priorities for 2026. **Ms. Garwood** responded that her goals are to expand the Carlos the Coyote curriculum and school outreach efforts, increase public art, and improve recycling programs. **Mrs. Walterscheid** asked board members to review the Beautification Plan and to prepare notes for discussion at the next meeting.

1:08:47 **6. KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL – NEW MEXICO CLEAN BEAUTIFUL GRANT**

Ms. Garwood stated that the City has been a Keep America Beautiful affiliate since 1993, noting that this information is outlined in the Beautification Plan. **Mrs. Walterscheid** asked whether the affiliation requires annual renewal. **Ms. Garwood** said yes.

1:09:52 **7. CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

1:09:55 **A. Mural at the Racquetball Courts – April 7, 2026**

Ms. Garwood stated that the artist, Audrey DeBleecker, will be working on the mural through Saturday, April 11, and encouraged members to stop by. **Mrs. Walterscheid** asked if there were specific hours the artist would be present. **Ms. Garwood** responded

that Audrey will be on site from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10, and from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 11.

1:11:44 **B. Electrical Boxes Mural Project – April 2026**

Ms. Garwood reported that Janice Diaz is currently working on the electrical box mural and has postponed the start date until the end of the month.

1:11:56 **8. PAST EVENTS**

1:11:58 **A. Riverblitz – March 7, 2026**

Ms. Garwood reported that 323 people attended this year’s River Blitz, during which just over six tons of material were collected. **Mrs. Walterscheid** inquired about the event’s preparation timeline. **Ms. Garwood** explained that planning for the 2027 River Blitz has already begun, with advertising set to start in the fall.

1:17:23 **Adjourned**

With no further business to discuss, Mrs. Walterscheid declared the meeting adjourned at 12:21 PM.

Ashley Walterscheid, Chairman

Date