

**LINKED MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF CARLSBAD
HALAGUENO ARTS PARK ADVISORY BOARD HELD IN THE CARLSBAD CITY
HALL PLANNING ROOM ON AUGUST 11, 2026, AT 11:00 A.M.**

Present:	Cindy Elkins Carla Dungan Wren Prather-Stroud	Chairman Vice Chairman Board Member
Absent:	Julia Heaton Therese Rodriguez	Board Member Board Member
Also Present:	Dina Navarrette Kat Davis Edward VanScotter Valeria Bannister Jameson Lucas Justin Ramos Jalynn Armendrez Mary Garwood	Director of Community Development Deputy Director of Community Development Museum Director Communication Specialist Community Historian Facilities Administrator Open Meetings Act Manager Beautification Coordinator

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

0:00:07 **1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Roll was called, confirming the presence of a quorum.

0:00:29 **2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – MAY 12, 2026**

0:00:34 **MOTION**

The motion was made by Mrs. Prather-Stroud and seconded by Mrs. Dungan to approve the meeting minutes from May 12, 2026

0:00:43 **VOTE**

The vote was as follows: Yes – Elkins, Dungan, Prather-Stroud; No - None; Absent - Heaton, Rodriguez; the motion carried.

0:00:50 **3. REVIEW OF CURRENT RENTAL PROCEDURES AND
POLICIES FOR THE HALAGUENO ARTS PARK**

Mrs. Elkins stated the Library recently hosted an event at Halagueno Arts Park during which a vendor caused damage to the park. **Ms. Davis** clarified that the event was hosted by an outside agency. **Mrs. Elkins** asked if a signed contract was in place for use of Halagueno Arts Park and if the vendor paid the required deposit. **Mrs.**

Bannister said the vendor signed the contract and paid the deposit. **Mrs. Elkins** asked what type of event was held. **Mrs. Bannister** said the event was a fundraiser in which various organizations create playhouses that families bid on, with all proceeds benefiting Eddy County CASA. **Mrs. Elkins** asked if there is oversight during events to ensure that no damage occurs. **Mrs. Bannister** stated Facility Maintenance regularly cleans the park and reports any damage observed to Administration. **Mrs. Dungan** said the damage was still visible at the park. **Justin Ramos** said the damage had been repaired, but he would verify the repairs. He said if any damage remained, he would ensure that it was addressed. **Mrs. Dungan** asked who approves events held at Halagueno Arts Park. **Mrs. Bannister** said Wendy Austin, City Manager, approves requests for use of the park.

0:08:01 **4. DISCUSSION AND REVIEW THE STATUS OF THE CARLSBAD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUND FOR THE HALAGUENO ARTS PARK**

Mrs. Elkins reviewed the financial report for the Carlsbad Community Foundation Fund established for Halagueno Arts Park and informed the board that a financial statement will be generated every three months and presented for review. **Mrs. Elkins** asked about the process for purchasing a sculpture if the board wished to acquire one and have the City cover the cost. **Ms. Navarrette** explained that the board would need to submit a proposal outlining the sculpture and its purpose. She said the proposal would then require board approval before being routed through Administration for further consideration. **Mrs. Elkins** asked if the Halagueno Arts Park could have its own budget. **Ms. Navarrette** said the board currently has a budget specifically designated for park maintenance, but there is not a separate budget designated for art.

0:15:14 **5. DISCUSSION OF MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS AT THE HALAGUENO ARTS PARK**

Mrs. Elkins stated that there had been previous discussion regarding the lighting for "Over the Moon Over the Pecos." **Ms. Navarrette** said no repairs or improvements have been made at Halagueno Arts Park due to an internal transition, as new personnel have recently assumed these responsibilities. **Mrs. Elkins** asked if the fountain was functioning properly. **Mr. Ramos** said the fountain was not functioning properly. He said the drainage project currently underway should help address some of the drainage issues the park has been experiencing.

0:24:55 **6. DISCUSSION OF THE COMMUNITY MURAL AT THE LIBRARY LED BY MIKE CAMPOS**

Mrs. Elkins said the mural was previously approved at an earlier meeting to be painted at the Library. She said she was informed that the current artist was unable to complete the mural and asked if another artist might be interested in completing it. **Ms. Navarrette** stated that Sarah Jones identified another artist who may be interested in the project and the artist would be brought before the board for consideration and approval.

0:26:55 **7. DISCUSSION OF DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE HALAGUENO ARTS PARK**

Mrs. Elkins said there was a discussion about developing an audio guide for Halagueno Arts Park. She asked if Mr. Jameson would be willing to take the lead in researching available options and working toward implementation of the guide. **Mr. Lucas** stated that a solution was being considered that would incorporate the audio guide through the Museum app. **Mr. VanScotter** said the Museum is currently implementing an app and plans to integrate the audio guide using the software already in place. **Mr. Lucas** said the app uses QR codes to guide visitors through the Museum and that the same technology could potentially be expanded to include Halagueno Arts Park. **Mr. VanScotter** asked if Halagueno Arts Park has a website. **Ms. Navarrette** said she did not know, but if the park does not currently have a website, one would need to be developed. **Ms. Garwood** asked if the park information was available through the Pearl of the Pecos website. **Mr. Lucas** said yes. **Mrs. Prather-Stroud** asked if someone would be designated to manage and maintain the website. **Ms. Navarrette** said someone within the Community Development Department would be responsible for monitoring the website.

0:34:34 **8. DISCUSSION OF STRATEGIES TO INCREASE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AT THE HALAGUENO ARTS PARK**

Mrs. Elkins asked how the board could increase community involvement and encourage more people to visit and utilize Halagueno Arts Park. **Ms. Navarrette** asked what type of community involvement she has in mind. **Mrs. Elkins** said she would like to see more activities for children at the park, including plays, concerts, and field trips. **Mr. Lucas** said the Museum hosts school field trips throughout the year. **Mrs. Elkins** asked if students are allowed to visit the park. **Mr. Lucas** said when time permits after the students complete their Museum tour, they are also taken through the park. **Mr. Lucas** said the Farmers Market has been successful and has increased Saturday visitation to the park. **Mr. Ramos** asked if movies were still being shown at the park. **Mr. VanScotter** said the movie events have been discontinued following the opening of the Cavern Theatre and because it required sponsors to cover movie licensing fees and staffing costs, making the program no longer feasible. **Ms. Navarrette** said one of the biggest obstacles is educating the public about Halagueno Arts Park. She suggested establishing park ambassadors who could educate the public about the park, its history, and available activities, as well as distribute informational pamphlets to visitors. **Mrs. Elkins** asked who would be responsible for creating and distributing a pamphlet if the board decided to develop one. **Ms. Navarrette** said the board could take on that responsibility and emphasized that City staff is available to assist the board as much as possible in its efforts to increase community engagement and promote the park. **Mr. VanScotter** asked if the board was satisfied with the existing logo and branding for the Halagueno Arts Park Board. **Ms. Garwood** stated that Julie Chester created the logo.

0:55:23 **Adjourn**

With no further business, Mrs. Elkins adjourned the meeting at 11:58 A.M

Cindy Elkins, Chairman

Date

DRAFT