



BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

12:30 PM

330 Park Blvd. Central Library, Mary Hollis Clark, Ground Floor

Attendance

Commissioners:

Present: Sarah Moga-Aleman, Dr. Wendy Ranck-Buhr, Pat Bevelyn, Sitara Sethi, Mark Tran, Scott Walter, Chris Ryall

Absent:

Staff: Misty Jones, Tricia Nool, Vic Slater, Raul Gudino, Jennifer Jenkins, Oscar Gittemeier, Curtis Williams

Library Foundation: Patrick Stewart, Jenny Mehlow, Natalie Ganz, Lindsay Cooper Martin

Friends of the Library: Pat Wilson, Ann McDonald

e3 CivicHigh: Brett Taylor

Item 1: Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Moga-Aleman at 12:32 PM. Their last meeting was on March 7, 2026.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

The March 7, 2026 minutes was approved unanimously

Item 3: Requests for Continuance

Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment

Item 5: Friends of the Library Report – Pat Wilson, President

The Friends were appalled at the magnitude and scope of budget cuts required of the Library

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Department for FY27. We have increased our advocacy efforts in response, printing 20,000 No Library Cuts! cards that chapters are encouraging library patrons to complete. Completed cards will be hand-delivered to the Council members by District. Friends are also sending in written comment to Council budget hearings and showing up in person and online. The suggestion that any branch be closed permanently is not one that we will allow. Every community relies on its local library!

We are quite concerned about the elimination of the Matching Fund Program in the FY27 budget; the Match is a boon to our chapters as 150% of funds sent to the Match by a chapter are returned to the branch, and it is unclear what the point of “paying in advance” would be should the money not be matched – it might make more sense for the chapters to pay for programs, materials, and other branch needs directly. There is also the substantial negative effect of losing the Matching Pool Distribution (the other 50% of matched money). As the Distribution is done through an equitable lens, the under-resourced branches which normally receive the larger distributions would be the most impacted.

The Friends will continue our advocacy efforts in the hope of reducing the cuts. We hope that the Commission will join us.

The Friends are sponsoring a table at the upcoming Serving with a Purpose conference, which brings Friends groups, Library Foundations, and library workers from across California together for a day of presentations and workshops. This year we were pleased to be able to offer seats to 3 library staff as well. We look forward to an enjoyable and enriching event.

Book sales continue to do well. Our monthly sale at University Heights will be May 16th (9am – 2pm) and 17th (noon – 3pm). We will also have a stall at the North Park Mini Book Fair on Saturday June 6th (10am – 5pm). There’s no such thing as too many books!

Commissioners are cordially invited to the Friends’ Annual Meeting to be held on June 13th from 10am – noon in the Shiley Special Events Suite here at Central. Our featured speaker will be SDUSD Superintendent Dr. Fabiola Bagula, and we will also honor our “superstar” volunteers from each chapter. It’s a lovely way to meet more of the folks who make our organization strong.

Item 6: Library Foundation Report – Patrick Stewart, CEO

Patrick gave postcards that are pre-addressed to the Mayor and the Councilmembers and invited the Commissioners to attend the May 18th May Revise hearing and the June 9th Final Budget hearing.

Three multi-year grants that came in to support programs at the library, Mellon Foundation, Carnegie Corporation and Prebys. Our team has been putting together reports and we're about halfway through finished on how those programs are going and they're going really great. We're supporting the development of a new memory lab in the Old Logan library branch.

Last night was the Online high school graduation funded through Carnegie Corporation. This funding is also supporting the expansion of the media arts program which is youth development and its economic development. The kids go through the media arts program, and they end up being interns being paid by the city. They end up developing those skills and then they can be either employed by the city or take their skills into the private sector. This is just another example of how your library supports economic development.

Currently talking to Misty and her team about support for next year while it doesn't look as though the programming budget will decline, it's not where it needs to be to begin with. None of the budgets are where they need to be to begin with.

Item 7: e3CivicHigh Update Report - Brett Taylor, CEO

I did want to share something really exciting regarding our library partnership. We have young people preparing for graduation and entering either college or the job market. We're really thinking about how we prepare them. We have a whole program to help them develop what we call a life plan where they have a real sense of the skills they're developing and where they want to go with. So, one of the things that we're starting to think about how do we help our kids understand what's available and what skills they need to develop. We're preparing next year to take our kids to organizations and helping them see all the jobs that exist. Because we have a strong partnership, Emily Derry who is the Supervising Librarian for Youth and Family Services led this coordination. ON workforce development week, we took our teachers through a tour of the library. 7 different departments met with our team and shared what they do in their jobs, what their skill sets are, how that career pathway worked and it was really amazing. We talked about all these skills but after they went through the library and talked to all of the different jobs here all of a sudden it started to make sense, and we've started to make some progress with them so we're excited to do that same tour with our scholars next year. Kudos to the library for throwing that together, it was better than anticipated. And again, one of the perks about being in the library is we were able to take a field trip without leaving the building so that's always awesome.

Item 8: Report on Library Construction Projects - Raul Gudino, Deputy Director

The Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Parking Lot Expansion:

The library's new south-east side parking "Phase I" construction was opened for public use. During site work for the northwest parking area ("Phase II"), the team encountered unexpected soil conditions at the bottom of the canyon, which required more extensive excavation and support than originally planned. City conducted additional soil testing to locate more stable ground (bedrock), and the result will be evaluated by the designer for resolution. The traffic signal portion of the project will be removed from the current scope and deferred to a future Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project. The traffic control improvements were not found to be triggered by our contract work; however, they can be added as a subsequent phase in the future.

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The contractor will be directed to proceed under dispute, and E&CP will coordinate with contractor for remobilization. Libraries will be informed when construction picks up again.

The parking expansion project is coordinating with (3) CIP projects:

The Miramar Valve Replacement's valve vault, this project was completed.

The Library Fire Sprinkler system upgrade project work is complete. However, permit sign-off is pending fire alarm panel delivery/installation. Currently scoping an upgraded Fire Alarm Panel (FACP) due to the age and condition of the existing system to address both the Trouble Codes and get final permit sign-off for the sprinkler system.

The Library Mechanical system and Roof upgrade is expected to start in Mid-May 2026, and the construction duration is estimated to be 8-10 months. Material has been ordered with 14–16-week lead time.

Ocean Beach Branch Library:

Shortlisted Design-Build firms have been interviewed, and contract award is anticipated in May. The project remains on schedule, with contract execution and groundbreaking anticipated in December 2026.

Oak Park Library:

This project has been awarded using a Design-Build Community Based Competitive Design competition with the submission by Barnhart Reese Construction in partnership with RNT Architects being the successful proposal. The award of the first phase (the design phase) was approved by City Council on October 29, 2024. The Kick-Off Meeting between the contractor's team, project stakeholders and City Staff took place on December 19, 2024, and Notice to Proceed (NTP) was issued on December 24, 2024. The design phase has officially started; design is anticipated to be completed by Spring 2026 with potential early start packages for site grading and Right-Of-Way work. Phase 2 (the construction phase) was awarded. Design is progressing per schedule, 90% building design and grading submittals were received and reviewed per Citywide plan check process as well as DSD for building construction approval. The design-build team is now working on the 100% submittal expected by mid-April 2026. 90% right of way submittal was received, and it is under review through Citywide plan check. Construction on the early packages is anticipated to begin in Spring 2026. A groundbreaking ceremony with CD4 is currently being coordinated and anticipated by May 14, 2026.

Old Logan Heights Library:

The building rehabilitation design was completed and approved with the DSD the permit was issued on February 25, 2025. The Kick-Off Meeting between the contractor's team, project stakeholders and City Staff took place on April 9, 2025, and Notice to Proceed (NTP) was issued on April 11, 2025. Mobilization took place on May 12, 2025; Contractor performed abatement and interior demolition; roof replacement was completed. Currently working on electrical upgrades as well as plumbing infrastructure installation and wall finishes. Due to roof framing delays resulting from unforeseen conditions, including non-standard material sizing and

unexpected water and sewer conditions, the construction completion is now anticipated in Winter 2027.

Rancho Peñasquitos Library Rehabilitation:

The project final design completed and ready for DSD permitting. The request for the addition of a community patio to the scope of work was re-evaluated due to significant stormwater compliance requirements and will be pursued as a stand-alone project in the future. Currently, the project is underfunded by approximately \$2.5M. Will reach out to Public Libraries Department and evaluate if the project will be funded in FY27. The project solicitation for bid in FY26 was delayed due to funding and is currently on track for award in FY27, pending resolution funding shortfall.

City Heights Performance Annex Expansion:

This is a fast-track project. Project design is complete and permitted. Construction is ongoing. Project completion and opening by early summer 2026.

Item 9: Library Director Report – Misty Jones, Director

Item 10: Agenda Items

- a. Budget – Misty Jones, Library Director
Misty presented the FY27 Draft Budget that was presented at the Budget Review Committee to the Commissioners. Misty requested that the Commissioners get in touch with their council office and to talk through what the options are with the council member or the council office staff and make their thoughts on what they really need to consider and what they feel like is going to be the most impactful to their community and what needs to be preserved.
May Revise – May 18 and Final Budget – June 9
- b. Suspension Guidelines (action item)
Motion to approve: Chair Sarah Moga-Alemany
Second the motion: Commissioner Mark Tran
Passed Unanimously
- c. Code of Conduct revision (action item)
Add #14 second version
Motion to approve: Chair Sarah Moga-Alemany
Second the motion: Dr. Wendy Ranck-Buhr
Passed unanimously

Item 11: Commissioner Comment

Item 12: Other Business

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Next meeting is on June 3, 2026, 10:00 AM at the Mary Hollis Clark Conference Center, San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, 330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101

Item 13: Agenda Building

- a. Misty to draft a letter to the Mayor from the Commissioners

Item 14: Adjournment

Commissioner Sarah Moga-Alemanly adjourned the meeting at 1:38 PM