



BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

12:30 PM

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

Attendance

Commissioners:

Present: Sarah Moga-Alemany, Scott Walter, Chris Ryall, Mark Tran, Pat Bevelyn

Absent: Sitara Sethi, Dr. Wendy Ranck-Buhr

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

Library Foundation: Jenny Mehlow, Natalie Ganz

Friends of the Library: Elida Chavez, Ann McDonald

e3 CivicHigh: Brett Taylor

Item 1: Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Moga-Alemany at 12:37 PM. Their last meeting was on June 3, 2026.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

The June 3, 2026 minutes was approved unanimously

Item 3: Requests for Continuance

Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment

Elida Chavez

Friends of Oak Park Library

Requesting for a Letter of Recommendation for Funding from the Commissioners which will be added to the September agenda.

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

The Friends held their Annual Meeting on June 13th. New Directors and Officers were elected, the Library and Library Foundation gave updates to the assembly, and our featured speaker, Dr Fabiola Bagula, Superintendent for the San Diego Unified School District, gave inspiring remarks. In addition, we were pleased to announce seven winners of the annual McAllister Scholarship, given to library staff to assist with costs of pursuing a library degree.

In response to the instability of the Match for the FY27 budget year and beyond, FSDPL has created a fund to facilitate sharing among chapters to help less well-resourced chapters with their branch programming and materials needs. Participation in the fund is purely voluntary, and several chapters (and at least one individual) have expressed interest in contributing. We hope that one benefit of this fund is to increase cross-chapter contacts.

Our book sales continue to be strong. We were well-represented at the North Park Book Fair last month and will have a booth at the KPBS San Diego Book Festival in August. These events further our mission of support, giving us a chance to spread the word about work of the Friends and the amazing resources the library has to offer. The monthly sale at University Heights will push back a week in July due to the Pride Festival and will be held on Saturday July 25th and Sunday July 26th.

The Board's annual planning session will be in August. Please let us know if there's anything you'd like us to contemplate.

Item 6: Library Foundation Report – Jenny Mehlow

Jenny distributed handouts to the commissioners on the Op-Ed and Where's ODI? Passport/ Advocacy: 15K postcards went into the Mayor's and City Council's office. The Foundation is continuing to move forward on the goal of 37/7, to have all 37 branches open 7 days a week.

Item 7: e3CivicHigh Update Report - Brett Taylor, CEO

Summer schools students cleaning and they have a partnership with the ballpark district and art walk. 3 of the E3 students were selected to paint some of the electrical boxes around the library. Working to on getting more school signage to be more visible to the community.

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.

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 in construction phase. The construction duration is estimated to be 8-10 months. Material has been ordered with 14–16-week lead time.

Ocean Beach Branch Library:

Since the last update, the Design-Build team of EC Constructors and Domus Architects has been selected and issued a Limited Notice to Proceed (LNTP). A project kickoff meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2026, with the Design-Build team and project stakeholders to formally initiate project activities and confirm next steps.

Upcoming efforts will focus on design coordination between Library staff and the Design-Build team to refine project requirements and advance the design. The project remains on schedule, with a groundbreaking event anticipated in November / 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. A groundbreaking ceremony in coordination with Council District 4 (CD4) occurred on May 14, 2026.

The scope of work for the Oak Park Library Project includes the design and construction of the new Oak Park Branch Library. The principal facility is a freestanding multi-story structure of 20,000 sf for the library and an additional 10,000 sf for a sorting facility.

The demo/grading subcontractor cleared and grubbed the site and began mass grading. They cut grade for the building pad, then over-excavated and filled/compacted the pad with approved imported fill material. The building pad was then certified. They also completed rough grading for the remainder of the site, including the parking lot, surrounding sidewalks, and bioretention

basin.

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 commenced on May 12, 2025. Since that time, the contractor has completed abatement activities, interior demolition, and roof replacement. In addition, the contractor has substantially completed the building's rough electrical work, as well as the installation of water, sewer, and associated plumbing infrastructure.

Current activities include coordination and completion of the SDG&E connection scope, ceiling finishes, and lighting installation. Due to roof framing delays associated with unforeseen field conditions, including non-standard material sizing and unexpected water and sewer conditions, project completion is now anticipated in Winter 2027.

Rancho Peñasquitos Library Rehabilitation:

The rehab project consists of repairing existing building and architectural features such as fiberglass, reinforced gypsum treatments, stucco walls, perimeter walls, steel cross beams, stair railings, and parapet wall caps. It will also replace approximately 24,000 square feet of parking and sidewalk and would remove and replace portions of existing ornamental landscaping.

The project final design completed and ready for DSD permitting. Currently, the project cost is approximately \$3.08M. Notice To Proceed (NTP) is tentative for 9/8/26 to start and construction completion is expected to be in the Fall of 2027.

City Heights Performance Annex Expansion:

This is a fast-track project. Project design and construction is complete. The Library has walked the site with Engineering & Capital Projects and the contractor to accept the work and the Library has requested occupancy of the building. Ribbon-cutting ceremony for the City Heights Library Performance Annex is tentatively scheduled for September 16, 2026.

Item 9: Library Director Report – Misty Jones, Director

Budget - There were some restorations in the final budget for the Library Department. The following are included in the final FY27 budget.

1. Allied Gardens/Benjamin and University Heights will move to a Tuesday-Saturday schedule.
2. Point Loma, Rancho Bernardo and Central will be open partial days on Saturday from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

3. Rancho Peñasquitos will close for approximately one year for repairs and improvements. This closure will take place around September 1, 2026.
4. Ocean Beach will close for approximately 18-24 months for expansion and renovation. This closure will also take place around September 1, 2026.
5. All other locations will maintain their current hours.
6. The Library Donation match was reduced from \$1 million to \$250k.
7. The Art Gallery and Special Collections will have reduced public hours.
8. Security will be reduced by \$500k. We are still working through what this looks like.
9. The Office of Child and Youth Success was partially restored with one Program Coordinator position that will move to the Mayor's office.
10. The training budget was reduced.

Staffing - Because of the large number of employees that will be impacted by schedule changes due to budget reductions and rebalancing, the Labor Management Committee and Library management have agreed that a shift bid is the most equitable way to handle these changes. We will be finalizing new schedules and aim to have selections in mid-July for an August 29 start date.

The Library Department has identified enough vacancies so that there will be no layoffs of Library staff though two members of Office of Child and Youth Success staff will be subject to the Reduction in Force process.

Media Coverage - There was recently an article in the Times of San Diego that incorrectly stated the City had sold the adjacent lot at San Carlos for \$5 million and used this money to close the general fund gap. We have not sold the lot, nor do we intend to. There was \$5 million in DIF that was partially reallocated to a drainage project in CD7 so this may have been the confusion. The San Carlos project is indefinitely on hold as there is a \$36 million funding gap that has yet to be identified. The reporter was contacted and has corrected the article.

<https://timesofsandiego.com/community/2026/06/22/san-carlos-new-library/>

Emily Derry, Supervising Librarian for Youth and Family Services, was interviewed for a news story regarding the partnership between SDPL and United Way to address the summer slide through the Summer Reading Program and other summer activities.

<https://www.nbcsandiego.com/video/videos/san-diego-libraries-helping-students-stay-on-track-with-their-reading/4041006/>

Rancho Bernardo's 30th Anniversary was featured in the San Diego Union Tribune.

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2026/06/17/rancho-bernardo-library-celebrates-30-years-in-third-location/>

Other - We have entered into a letter of agreement with a production company to film a movie at the Central Library over 5 days in July. This is the first endeavor of the magnitude we have embarked on so we will see how it works. Filming will take place partially during open hours so we will be working diligently to mitigate any interruption to public service.

Item 10: Agenda Items

- a. Upcoming Library Operational Changes – Misty Jones, Library Director
Library met with LMC and will go through a shift bid so there will be staff changes in branches.
- b. Adult Programing Updates – Oscar Gittemeier, Program Manager
Oscar presented on programming updates: Ballot Drop Boxes, Bike Month & Bike Anywhere, Annual Patron Satisfaction Survey, I Can! Equipment Training for Staff, Outside the Len onview through June 30, 2027, Occupy: Art and Culture Exhibitions closes on July 25th, One Book, One San Diego: Winners will be announced at the Book Festival on Aug. 22nd., City Heights Performance Annex Reopening in Fall of 2026, City Heights Annex Idea Lab Prebys Grant, Comic-Con at the Library.
- c. Youth Services Updates – Ady Huertas, Interim Deputy Director
Summer Reading Program flyer was distributed to commissioners.
Jazzmine Reyes presented on the Princess Project: The Princess Project is a great example of how libraries support their communities beyond books and technology.

Item 11: Commissioner Comment

Commissioner Bevlyn proposed to create a concept paper regarding funding models.

Item 12: Other Business

Next meeting is on September 2, 2026, 12:30 PM 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

For September: Letter of Recommendation for Funding (Elida Chavez, Friends of Oak Park)
For October: Funding Models Concept Paper (Commissioner Pat Bevlyn)

Item 14: Adjournment

Commissioner Sarah Moga-Alemany adjourned the meeting at 1:45 PM.