



# MINUTES

LIBRARY BOARD  
December 17,  
2024  
5:45 PM  
IN-PERSON  
MEETING

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to Order at 6:00 PM

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Member Mark Lupinetti

Member Meghan McGarrity

Member Adele Oliveira

Member William Karnoscak

Member Tamina Painter

Member Aurora Hvidsten

Member Rose Cowen

Library Director Margaret Neill

3. **Members Excused:**

None

4. **Others Attending:**

Therese Martinez, Project Administrator, Clerk

Georgina McKee, Friends of the Library Executive Director

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to Approve by Member Mark Lupinetti.

Seconded by Member Tamina Painter.

Unanimous approval.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approval of October 15, 2024, Minutes.  
Motion to approve by Member Meghan McGarrity.  
Seconded by Member William Karnoscak.  
Unanimous approval.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

8. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- a. Margaret Neill, Library Director [mmneill@santafenm.gov](mailto:mmneill@santafenm.gov)  
505-955-6788



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Margaret Neill stated that Main has one employee retiring. She hopes to amend the Librarian job description and create an Archivist position. They need one not only for Fogelson but also for the Library's Collection. Human Resources has a moratorium for any changes till January. She has already sent the updated job description for review to Administration. She is hopeful that the position will be accepted. The Libraries are currently looking to hire a new Contracts Administrator. The advertisement for the position closes on the second of January. She is also working on projections for Fogelson on the number of staff needed, the number of hours, the size of the collection, etc. She has put the information together and sent it to the Architects who are doing the evaluation. She created a mock schedule for a seven day operation, for meeting rooms and staff to run the rooms. Discussion about Fogelson's role in the neighborhood. When the Midtown Guest Speakers come next month, maybe they can talk about the overall goals. Discussion about plans for Midtown and how Fogelson fits into that project. Public comment will hopefully start at the beginning of January. When the City starts scheduling those, she will share that information so the Board Members can attend. She'd also like the Friends of the Library to attend meetings. Discussion on La Farge Library input. There are plans for putting out notifications on social media, e-mail blasts, etc. Discussion on whether Southside Branch Library is considered a Community Center or a Library or a hybrid after the Teen Center's construction. Further discussion on Fogelson staffing.

## 9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mark Lupinetti, President, [fmlupinetti@hotmail.com](mailto:fmlupinetti@hotmail.com)

Mark Lupinetti reported on the tele-conference that Jamie La Rue gave a couple of weeks previously (book banning). Jamie is a Director of a Library in Colorado. Colorado has had difficulties with people who want books removed from the Library. People were able to generate enough political agitation to threaten a lot of the existing books and the director also. A copy of the one-hour presentation is to be sent out. (Meghan McGarrity will send the recording out to the group.) Some of the goals as an institution are creating community awareness of what the Library does, grow the Library's network and its allies, with other local entities and individuals, and to have conversations that lead to mutual support with other institutions. Some of the specific policies need to be looked at. A few months back the Board discussed what the procedure is for reconsideration of materials in the collection.(Request for copy from Margaret Neill.) This is important so it is understood what it takes to challenge a book. With fixed policies in place, the more likely they can deal with it in an appropriate



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fashion. He was also not aware of the Library Bill of Rights from the American Library Association. The Freedom to Read (also ALA) is undergoing revision. Having defined policies in place such as the policy for removal of materials is also important. Another issue raised was how to handle Public Comment. Colorado was having people show up at their meetings and making negative comments. With procedures in place, this is handled much more effectively. Also, how Appeals are handled is important. The only issue then becomes-were policies followed, as a basis for the appeal. Jamie closed the discussion regarding the Colorado law, SB 216, and now what is required for all libraries: to have policies in place, and what the standards are for challenging. What he didn't hear was that the law would limit challenges based on specific criteria. Often the people who are challenging these books are challenging them because the books have LGBTQ material, discussions of racism, because it has a political perspective the person disagrees with. Just because you have policies in place, this law may not prevent that kind of thing from happening.

Margaret Neill stated that the one case in New Mexico that did not pass HB123 stated in the policies that books could not be banned for ideological reasons.

Mark Lupinetti stated, that-that may come up again in the next Legislative session. He reached out to his Senator and Representative about discussing that. The Vermont Law, he stated, is very comprehensive. You cannot ban books because of politics, sexual identity, etc. It has a very thorough buffer. It might be something we want to tell our representatives about as a way to encourage something that will provide more protection for libraries, library staff, and library patrons. One of the good things the Colorado Law has is that it states you can't prosecute library staff, which other states can. Discussion on policies in other states. Discussion on banning activities in Albuquerque and Rio Rancho. Discussion on policies to have in place. Meghan McGarrity brought up the subject of having a summit at the Santa Fe Community College on anti-discriminatory policy. Discussion on contacting other libraries/librarians. (Library List Serve).

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

Communication Strategy

Meghan McGarrity commented that this was particularly tricky. If the Board communicates by group e-mail it is a rolling quorum and violates the NM Open Meetings Act. The inquiry was made that wasn't it only a violation if the group was making decisions, or Library policy? Regular communication is not violation? Meghan McGarrity stated that to her it was just the numbers. No more than two communicating is alright. The whole group included in any communication counts as a quorum.



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Discussion on how to approach communicating without violation. Mark Lupinetti made the suggestion what if the communication is labeled as informational only. Meghan McGarrity suggested putting Information only in the Subject Heading. Discussion of the definition of meeting, communicating, information sharing, and not decision making. Therese Martinez suggested making a motion on how communication will happen going forward.

Meghan McGarrity made the motion: "That when we are doing public communication to the Board, or group communication to the Board, we state in the Heading 'Informational Only' and that we all agree that as long as the e-mails do not require action from any of the members, it would not constitute a meeting." Mark Lupinetti amended the motion with: "This would be in compliance with the Open Meetings Statutes."

Mark Lupinetti Seconded the Motion. The Motion was Unanimous. Discussion about putting this issue through the legal channels.

Margaret Neill stated she sent the Collection Development Policy to the group from the Website.

## b. Friends of the Library Report.

Tamina Painter reported that they have a new Executive Director, Georgina McKee. They had a book sale December 7th and they broke records of over \$6,000.00 in sales. They had donations of some fabulous books. They are having a retreat in February to formalize their plans for moving forward for the next year. Discussion with Georgina McKee. Therese Martinez asked if the Friends of the Library Executive Committee discussed the Agreement; the MOU at their last meeting, and the Printers' status. Tamina Painter responded that neither of those issues were covered. Discussion on the MOU, the public printing issues, and donations. Tamina Painter said she would get the issues on the next Agenda for the FOL Executive Committee meeting.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

### a. Mission Statement Next Steps

Discussion of new and existing Mission Statement. Margaret Neill stated that she'd like the old Mission statement replaced. She also stated the Core Values are very old and are the Community Services Core Values. Mission and Values usually go together. Discussion of Values. Margaret Neill suggested the Values be outward versus inward (public related versus staff related). Discussion of how to proceed forward. Meghan McGarrity asked to put the Values on the next Agenda for the next meeting in January. Margaret Neill will provide the current version of the Mission Statement.



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Discussion on Guest Speakers on discussion of Midtown Activity for the next meeting. Discussion on the various types of development proposed for Midtown. Discussion on the role of the Fogelson Library Complex, Mission creep, and public input. Smart Board request for Midtown Presentation(s) next month. Rainbow Tunnel discussion (La Farge).

10. **NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 5:45 PM at Main

11. **ADJOURN:**

Motion to Adjourn made by Meghan McGarrity.

Motion Seconded by Rose Cowan.

Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

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Liaison

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Chair