



MINUTES

LIBRARY BOARD
February 18, 2025
5:45 PM
IN-PERSON
MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Meeting called to Order at 5:45 PM

2. **ROLL CALL**
Members Present:
Member Mark Lupinetti
Member Tamina Painter
Member Aurora Hvidsten
Member Rose Cowan
Member Adele Oliveira
Library Director Margaret Neill

3. **Members Excused:**
Member Meghan McGarrity
Member William Karnoscak

4. **Others Attending:**
Therese Martinez, Project Administrator, Clerk
David Wagoner
Mike Harris

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
President Mark Lupinetti asked if anyone wished to make any changes to the Agenda or additions. He stated that Mr. (Daniel) Hernandez was not present, so that item would be removed from the Agenda.
Motion to approve the Agenda as amended made by Member Tamina Painter.
Seconded by Member Aurora Hvidsten.
Unanimous approval.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Approval of January 21, 2025, minutes. Mark Lupinetti asked for any corrections or changes. He asked if the Minutes got sent out to the Board members. Therese Martinez responded that they are posted in the Civic Clerk portal for Board members to access. Mark Lupinetti asked if anyone had a chance to read the minutes. Discussion on Minutes.
Therese Martinez suggested that the Minutes be tabled and voted on at the next meeting. The Members agreed.



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Therese Martinez offered to send out the Minutes to the Board Members. The Members agreed.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

David Wagner stated that he was the former (Library Advisory Board) President for a few years, he timed out about 2019 (2016-2019). He just came to check in and see how the Board is doing and speak about a few things that he was working on. One was County (contribution) to the Library.

Mark Lupinetti stated they had discussed the fact that the degree of financial support from the county is rather disproportionately small compared to the number of county residents who use the library services.

David Wagner responded that it was an issue. Previously, he'd talked about other ways to get the county involved, like library district and so forth. He asked if it was a token \$20,000 payment.

Mark Lupinetti responded it was \$25,000.

David Wagner said there was a planning study that he spent a lot of time working on. It was issued in 2019, and were they familiar with that.

Margaret Neill said it was on the Library's Website.

David Wagner said that Mike Harris introduced it to the City Council.

Mike Harris replied he was on City Council at the time, and met the individuals (involved).

David Wagner stated study had been the first one done in 10 or 15 or 20 years, and the group came in from from Dallas to look around. They managed to get the city to put together a call for funding, and the city did pay for half of it. The friends paid for half. He offered to send the document over to the Board.

Mark Lupinetti said that would be great, and asked if there were any particular aspects of the report he thought were worth discussing.

David Wagner replied that they looked at the three libraries and they weren't too impressed with La Farge, but they have very high numbers. They thought downtown was a disaster, with the parking and everything else, it's old building. South Side, of course, was great. Their suggestion was that Midtown would be a perfect place for the main library. And Midtown was at that time going through its latest evolution of struggles as what they're going to do with it. The third thing he wanted to ask about was, Fogelson Library. Was the Board familiar with this (issue). It's the biggest library in town. They thought was a disaster too. It was actually in use when it was a school there.

There are only two little pockets where the where the Wi Fi works. It's too big to be the library for Santa Fe but the Midtown campus is exactly the right place for an anchor tenant, really, which could be a new library.

And that's what they suggested.

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They felt it would cost more to try to restore that library than it would cost to build a new one. So is the city still leaning toward trying to convert that into a library?

Mark Lupinetti responded, yes, they'd had a couple tours of the library and talked with some of the people involved. They spoke about what it was going to take to make it accessible, other kinds of infrastructure issues that need to be dealt with, but in terms of the location and the capacity, it really seems promising. They all want to see that come to pass. He said that would be something that would answer a lot of the problems with the downtown library, and help with the La Farge constituency, which uses it and are rightly concerned that they're going to lose their library, and they don't want that to happen.

David Wagner added one of the suggestions of the study was downtown could be closed down, and a small branch opened up. That property is worth a lot of money, the parking is awful. Compared to parking at Midtown, which would be great. He asked Margret Neill if she had a copy of the study.

Margaret replied she did have a physical copy. Discussion.

Mike Harris spoke. He said he was formerly a City Councilor from 2016-2020 from District Four. The Midtown campus is still in District Four. He spent a lot of time thinking about it when it became clear that the the city was going to lose its tenant. He spent a lot of time working on the resolution, trying to think through what could happen there. There was a whole Midtown overlay that applies pretty much all of Saint Francis drive, which, which allows, a more expansive solution to any number of situations. He was thrilled when he saw Daniel Hernandez' name, because Daniel was part of a group that was invited to brainstorm and come up with some ideas. The wheels grind exceedingly slow in the City of Santa Fe and they have for a long time. He's very aware of the study. He's going to give his email address, he'd love to see the study. Any master plan or any resolution that was ever in place for the Midtown campus anticipated a strong public element, that didn't necessarily get defined, but certainly a library.

They were using the phrase 21st century library to talk about a broader scope of services and things. He felt Midtown campus was in many ways ideal and, yeah, there's certainly issues, but it could be made to work based on his own experience.

He was hoping to hear that there had been forward movement in Midtown, and perhaps the work associated with the greater infrastructure work that needs to be done will really get more people on campus, which may help provide some momentum to the library, because it seems like it has very little momentum.



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The library system overall is working very well. He uses it a lot, actually, including this new international book club that the Joe runs. It needs new capital, it needs money, But why can't this library get cleaned up? He was here today, he picked up a book, and those were the same pile of leaves that have been there forever. And he thinks it's inexcusable. He doesn't know who handles Library maintenance. If that's internal to the library, if that's public works.

The response was that it's facilities.

He stated he would call them too. He knew the young guy who supposedly runs facilities now. He just he was a new hire when he was in a counselor, Sam Burnett. He'll contact him directly. Good job to the library. Good job to the library board. He wishes the Board a lot of luck, and will provide some pressure where it seems appropriate to see what can be done. He saw a piece in the paper that the mayor's got his Meet and Greet on the 27th. He didn't know if that will do any good or not, but he may throw in his two cents there.

The Public Comment participants were thanked for their attendance.

Discussion on staying active, Fogelson Library, the cost of the renovation, City audits, public comment for Midtown and its advertisement. RMKM Architectural firm working on Fogelson.

9- DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Margaret Neill stated she forgot to put something in her report, the one time appropriation of funding that the city has for capital projects.

The Libraries are getting the parking lot for here at La Farge, and also at Southside, security cameras at Southside, and at Main. Then Southside has some ADA work that it needs to have done in the front. She believe it is on the Agenda (next week). As far as she knows, they have the support for that to (pass). She has not been given a timeline and doesn't know when the work will start.

They are going to be doing a partnership with Site Santa Fe as part of their 12th International. So every location is going to have installation through January.

Discussion of facilities projects and issues, including windows and door at Tino Griego Pool, maintenance of Main Library ductwork, and ongoing issues with alarms at all three locations.

Discussion on the Contracts Admin. position being moved back to Community Health and Safety, and the tasks that must be done now by Library Administration that had previously done by the Library's Contract Administrator. Discussion on complexity of that work.

Margaret Neill said they received laptops from Economic Development (from ARPA expenditures) and she is trying to get them ready to be checked out by the public. They've been hosting the same amount of really good programs. They are also in the process of upgrading their public technology. They are getting new public computers, WiFi, and network infrastructure, public computer management systems, so it's less of a headache for the public and staff. The Friends pay for the printing. They are pretty well staffed up with one vacancy in Technical Services. Discussion on the Contract Administrator position and duties.

10. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mark Lupinetti reported on HB 27, a bill on the Librarian Protection Act that actually protects libraries. It would ban State funding for any library that doesn't have a policy of protecting books against challenges based on identity and ideology. It applies only to Public Libraries. They must adhere to their library policies or funding is jeopardized. He and Aurora Hvidsten attended the Legislative hearing. Over forty attended in person or more via Zoom. Discussion on Mothers for Liberty group that attended via Zoom. The sponsoring representative Cates, did well in the question and answer session. The Bill passed the House with a seven (7) to four (4) vote. It will advance to the Floor. Discussion on the next steps of contacting representatives and the Bill.

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Guest Speaker: Daniel Hernandez- did not show up.

b. Discussion of Weeding Policy

Margaret Neill said the Collections Manager added context to the Weeding Policy. She explained the history of the process. Discussion on Weeding. Discussion on updating the current policy.

c. Friends of the Library Report

Tamina Painter reported the Friends had a Retreat for half a day. The focus was on their primary Mission of raising funds for the Library by enhancing their visibility in the community. They attempted to formulate committees with commitment. It was a productive meeting. The goal is more participation from the F.O.L. Board. Discussion of the retreat.

Tamina Painter also spoke on the Phase-I Infrastructure Project presentation on Midtown by a development group. They discussed streets, landscaping and drainage, and a park. Fogelson was not discussed much. Discussion on the presentation and public transportation and access. Discussion on Fogelson, parking, barriers, affordable housing, and public comment.

12. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Collaboration continued on Vision and Values Statements

Margaret Neil said she sent out the Denver Public Library's Collection Development Policy to view.

She restated the Mission Statement: "Fostering Equity and Community through Information Resources and Programs".



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She stated the next steps are to come up with the Core Values and Vision. They have previously received the existing Core Values. Discussion on deadline to complete these items. Discussion of a timeline. Mark Lupinetti suggested three months. Discussion on the tasks involved. Discussion of what the Board stands for in the Community and providing a safe environment.

Direction:

Send to Therese:

1. Vision Statement (project your Vision into the future)
2. Library Core Values (what we stand for in this Community) (Current Core Values are on the Library Website <https://santafelibrary.org/library-administration/our-core-values/>)

These will be collated by Therese, then circulated before the meeting.

Plan to discuss 3-4 of the Visions or Values.

A three (3) month timeline is projected (by May 2025) to complete and vote on these items.

b. General Operating Agreement with the Friends of the Library

Margaret Neill sent it to the Friends. Legal had approved the language. She sent it back to the Friends. There was a request to add plans of Main and Southside where the Friends are currently occupying space. Discussion on the Agreement.

c. Updates on the Printer Contract

Tamina Painter said she needs to know what she needs to do regarding the Contract.

Margaret Neill said the Friends have the Contract with Southwest Copy.

Crumbacher is supposed to be less expensive. Discussion of like for like swap. Discussion on printers and printer system.

13. NEXT MEETING: March 18, 2025, at Southside Branch Library.

14. ADJOURN: 7:03 PM

Liaison

Chair