



MINUTES

LIBRARY BOARD

March 17, 2026

5:45 PM

IN-PERSON

MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Meeting called to Order at 5:51 PM
2. **ROLL CALL**
Members Present:
Member Meghan McGarrity
Member Aurora Hvidsten
Member Adele Oliveira
Member Tamina Painter
Library Director Margaret Neill
3. **Members Excused:**
Member William Karnoscak
Member Mark Lupinetti
4. **Others Attending:**
Lillian Letters, Friends of the Library Board
Raquel Martinez, Library Collections Manager
Therese Martinez, Project Manager, Clerk
Mary E. Schruben, Guest
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Member Tamina Painter made the motion to approve the Agenda.
Member Aurora Hvidsten seconded the motion.
Unanimous approval.
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Minutes of the February 17, 2026, meeting of the Library Advisory Board.
Member Tamina Painter Made the motion to approve the Minutes.
Member Adele Oliveira seconded the motion.
Unanimous approval.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
Mary Schruben had a question: On page 3 of the Minutes, the first sentence, what does it mean “funding from one of the estates”?
Margaret Neill stated they received a couple of bequests from former patrons, the City received one (the Friends the other); the Library has two estates that are basically (monetary) donations to the Library. Discussion on bequests.
8. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

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- a. Margaret Neill, Library Division Director, mmneill@santafenm.org
- b. Comparison Charts for Statistics
- Discussion on a recent Incident at the La Farge Branch Library which involved the police and fire departments.
- Margaret Neill stated they had a training, a mandatory Hiring Manager training. One of the part-time librarians from La Farge has been chosen to become a full-time librarian at Southside. Now a part-time librarian position is vacant. That position is being posted for application advertisement.
- Discussion on the library positions. A new Library Technician just started at the Main Library.
- Margaret stated they have not gotten information from the City on the next steps in the Budget cycle. The Library did their presentation and sent in their additional requests. The Mayor has asked for additional requests beyond their flat line budget. She requested three new staff members, restoration of the funding cut last year, and additional funds for library materials.
- Regarding Facilities, they are in the process of getting some parking lot work done at Southside and La Farge. Facilities is also in the process of doing some ADA work on the front brick work at Southside. Library Administration is working to identify funding for (security) cameras. The quotes came in high.
- They are in the process of having public comment (sessions) on the potential renovations at Main. They've had two meetings so far, and one meeting next week. Discussion on the turnout for the first two meetings (first=20, second=5). She has been asked to give an interview with the New Mexican's Conversations Different Podcast with Inez Russell Gomez. She is trying to set up a time with the two District 1 (one) City Councilors, (Patricia) Feghali and (Alma) Castro, and the mayor if he has time, to tour the building, and give their opinions about Main. What they are trying to do is have a study that is "shovel ready" so it will be easier to apply for various funding opportunities, grants, and legislative appropriations. Meghan McGarrity asked that the LAB Members be invited to participate in the tour for the Councilors and the Mayor. Margaret Neill said she would include them in the Invite. Discussion on the proposed tour.
- Margaret Neill stated they had some amazing programs for Black History Month. At La Farge they did a project around the work of Clementine Hunter, a black artist who is known for her peonies. So, everyone was painting flowers. Jack Whitten's art was celebrated at Main. It was a celebration of inventors, authors, scientists, etc.
- They have a partnership with the Santa Fe Boys and Girls Tech Club, mostly tweens that are coming to the Southside Branch Library. They're learning new technology. Last month they did photo editing software on iPads. In March they will learn how to Use Garage Band.
- The LENA Start orientations have been held and the programs have begun. The parents are very interested and excited about what's happening. They are doing a lot more outreach at Kaune Early Learning Center, the Georgia O'Keefe Museum, and the Santa Fe Community College Library,



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and different schools.

They had Something Queer at the Library program at Southside with excitement around “Heated Rivalry”. They talked about queer romance publishing. They had a program centered around a Margaret Randall poem related to the community which has formed around Something Queer.

They are also doing tree grafting and the Seed Library is opening up. They had Darryl Lorenzo Wellington recreating the life and times of Richard Wright as part of Black History Month.

Circulation dipped a little bit in February because of the short month and being closed one day. This is typical. 1,398 items were added to the collection.

Discussion on the Amigos’ conference on Accessibility. Margaret Neill explained that ADA laws are changing for governments (an initiative during the Biden administration), the rules have changed around accessibility for Government websites. So, when they redid the website last Fall, they followed the ADA rules that were coming, but they attended the training just to make sure they covered all their bases. A request was made to adjust the grey colors on the website that was brought up/requested at the last meeting. Discussion on the Main Security Alarm/Fire Alarm systems. Discussion on City Departments and Divisions having to cover the costs for Landscaping, Security, Fire, and Pest Control. Discussion on talking with the mayor and councilors during the proposed tour of the Main interior. Discussion on capital improvements. (Request quotes from ATI and AFPG for systems repairs.)

Margaret Neill mentioned the repair of the main doors at La Farge. The Lawton estate will cover the cost. There are ADA requirements for the door functioning properly. Discussion on deferred maintenance and the new mayor taking care of City administrative priorities.

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. Mark Lupinetti, President of the Library Advisory Board,
fmlupinetti@hotmail.com
None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and scheduling of Special Library Advisory Board (LAB) Sessions with Santa Fe City Leadership, including the Mayor.

Discussion on a quarterly meeting, following the Open Meetings Act and publishing an agenda, public posting and number of people who might attend. Discussion of keeping tour attendance to three Board Members (Adele Oliveira, Meghan McGarrity, Tamina Painter for tour-no quorum), reaching out to CM's/mayor's executive assistant for tour, after discussion/arrangement with Peter (City PR person).

Discussion on approach for Special Session-to write an email requesting the meeting and selection of dates available to meet. When response is received, send invite to all involved.



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Member Megan McGarrity made the motion that she would send out the email communication requesting the Special Session first Quarterly meeting. Member Tamina Painter seconded the motion.

Unanimous Approval.

Discussion of whom to invite (Mayor, CM, Deputy CM) (give Meghan all the email addresses).

- b. Friends of the Library (FOL) report-William Karnoscak.

William was excused.

Lillian Letters reported they had a very good retreat last weekend. The entire executive team is retiring and they need a new executive team by July first. (Three-year term.) Discussion on present FOL Board members. Book author of Abundance will be hosted by FOL at Design Warehouse June 20th. The Annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 14, 2026. Discussion on arrangements for annual meeting, recruitment for new Board members, financial matters, and new online book sales (e-bay) via the FOL website (pending) (37:03).

11. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and Selection of LAB candidates for the vacant, open, City resident, LAB member positions.

Margaret Neill stated that the two top candidates' letters of interest and resumes were provided to the Board. (Information on candidates not selected give to Joan Mashall). Discussion on candidates selected by Mark Lupinetti and Margaret Neill.

Member Adele Oliveira made the motion to accept the two candidates.

Member Tamina Painter seconded the motion.

Unanimous approval.

Discussion on when candidates will be on board. (send information to clerk's office for Mayor approval on all candidates.) Aurora Hvidsten offered to remain until the new members are present. (Barn cats)

- b. Library Strategic Plan-Status update.

Margaret Neill stated she has a meeting next Monday and they will set the dates for public comment. The Plan is due in June to the State. There are three parts required. One part is the Collection Development Policy which they have, the other the Community Assessment with updates numbers, and lastly the Strategic Plan.

- c. Friends of the Library General Operating Agreement (GOA)-Status update.

Margaret Neill said it is still with legal. Joan Marshall from the FOL is planning on following up on status. Discussion on the GOA.



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- d. Review and Discussion of Library Collection Development Policy-Raquel Martinez.

Raquel Martinez stated the Collection Development Policy was two years in the making. The original mission is in the updated policy along a statement that recognizes essential roles that libraries play in upholding intellectual freedom. This is throughout the policy as a reminder, especially in the face of of censorship, and book challenges in the current climate. Some of the language was tightened up. The selection criteria and the scope of the collection were slightly changed for better flow. The material selection criteria was broken down into smaller sections. This includes language specific items, Spanish language, other languages, availability from local or regional publishers, the quality of the translations. Other sections, such as reference materials, electronic resources, and media materials were updated from 2017. In the scope the different areas were broken down, such as the Children's collection, Large Type, World Languages, Reference Collection, and Southwest Materials. In patron requests for purchase, it reminds patrons that not everything can be purchased, and they follow strict criteria. She also added that another method of accessing materials was through the Interlibrary Loan Department and the rules around that. Gifts and Donations was written to remind people that the donations are appreciated but it is not guaranteed that the item will make it into the collection. The Collection Maintenance section was written to be more transparent with the public as to how the collection is maintained. Book removal is not based on personal, political, or religious beliefs of employees or the patrons. They reserve the right to diverse perspectives and ideas. In the Request for Reconsideration, there were updates and additions. The form itself was updated and cleaned up, and incomplete forms are not accepted. The items will remain in circulation during the reconsideration process. The Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read statement are also included.

Meghan McGarrity stated that the Board created new Mission, Vision, and Values statements and would like them in the policy. ("Approve as amended" in the future.) The request was made to make this an action item on April's Agenda. Discussion on replacing items in the collection. Discussion on the metrics for challenges. Margaret Neill said they've used reviews and other methods for supporting materials that are challenged.

12. **NEXT MEETING:**

- a. Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at the Main Library at 5:45 PM.



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13. **ADJOURN:**

Vice President Meghan McGarrity made a privileged motion to adjourn.
Meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Liaison

Chair