



**Agenda      Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe  
Public Library Board  
February 17, 2026 at 5:45 PM  
Santa Fe Public Library - La  
Farge Branch  
1730 Llano Street, Santa Fe**

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**Procedures for Santa Fe Public Library Board Meeting**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Tuesday, February 17, 2026.
4. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Minutes of the January 20, 2026, meeting of the Library Advisory Board.
5. Public Comment
6. Director's Report
  - a. Margaret Neill, Library Division Director, [mmneill@santafenm.gov](mailto:mmneill@santafenm.gov)
7. President's Report
  - a. Mark Lupinetti, President of the Library Advisory Board, [fmlupinetti@hotmail.com](mailto:fmlupinetti@hotmail.com).
8. New Business
  - a. Woven Architecture — Discussion and feedback request of the Library Advisory Board as stakeholders for the Interior Assessment of the Main Library.
  - b. Friends of the Library Report—William Karnoscak.
9. Old Business
  - a. Discussion of LAB candidates for the vacant, open, City resident, LAB member position.
  - b. Library Strategic Plan—Status Update.
  - c. Friends of the Library MOU/GOA—Status Update.
  - d. Library Budget Update.

10. Next Meeting:

- a. Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at the Southside Branch Library, at 5:45 PM.

11. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities in need of additional accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 505-955-6521, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.



# MINUTES

LIBRARY BOARD

January 20, 2026

5:45 PM

IN-PERSON

MEETING

- 
1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
Meeting called to Order at 5:45 PM
  
  2. **ROLL CALL**  
**Members Present:**  
Member Meghan McGarrity  
Member Aurora Hvidsten  
Member William Karnoscak  
Member Adele Oliveira  
Member Tamina Painter  
Library Director Margaret Neill  
  
**Members Excused:**  
Member Mark Lupinetti  
  
**Others Attending:**  
Therese Martinez, Project Manager, Clerk
  
  3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Member William Karnoscak made the motion to approve the Agenda.  
Member Tamina Painter seconded the motion.  
Unanimous approval.
  
  4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
    - a. Minutes of the December 16, 2025, meeting of the Library Advisory Board.  
Member William Karnoscak asked for a correction in the New Business section, page 6, before item 9, Matthew Contos' last name was misspelled.  
Member Aurora Hvidsten made the motion to approve the December Meeting Minutes as amended.  
Member William Karnoscak seconded the motion.  
Unanimous approval.
  
  5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
None.
  
  6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
    - a. Margaret Neill, Library Division Director, [mmneill@santafenm.gov](mailto:mmneill@santafenm.gov).
    - b. Comparison Charts for Statistics

LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

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# MINUTES

LIBRARY BOARD  
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Margaret Neill stated they were informed today that the mayor intends to reorganize the Community Health and Safety. Henri Hammond-Paul's position is being eliminated, and Community Services is being moved back to where it was pre-covid. It will be Community Services Department with Library, Senior Programs, Recreation, and Youth and Family (Divisions). Discussion on what this means for the Library. Margaret added that the head of the Seniors Program Division was asked to be the Interim of the Community Services Department, his name is Manuel Sanchez. Discussion on the impacts of the reorganization and the posting of open positions, the appointments the mayor is capable of making (City attorney, City clerk, and City manager). Margaret stated the Interim City Manager is Brian Moya, former Fire Chief, the Interim City Clerk is Geralyn Cardenas who was the former Deputy City Clerk, and the Interim City Attorney is Marcos Martinez, who was Assistant City Attorney. The Interim Finance Director is the current Deputy City Manager, Andrea Phillips. Discussion of other interim positions. Margaret stated Midtown (MRA-Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency) had gotten money for an archivist position for Fogelson. Carley Venditti sent her the job description for the contractor position. Margaret provided input. The position would also be for the Garson Theater archives. Discussion on the duties of the archivist for conducting an inventory and evaluation of the materials. Discussion on the RMKM Report. Margaret stated on the charts provided she included Quarters one and two. She did a comparison for fiscal 2025 to Quarters one and two of fiscal 2026. There were some dips, and these will probably be made up. There was a slight dip in physical circulation, but digital circulation went up a lot. There was an increase in (new) library cards. The adult and general interest programs (attendance) have gone down, but that was expected as they are doing less adult programs to focus on teens. The Children's Programs attendance and Young Adult attendance are both doing very well. Discussion on YA (Young Adult) programming. They also want to focus on tweens. Discussion on tweens. Discussion on a nine-year-old who proposed program for a tween book club. The public computer sessions had a little bit of a dip, they had some issues with the computer management system, so that's not surprising. She is hoping they will catch up on the numbers. She has challenged the Branch Managers to push the physical materials. Discussion on physical circulation issues, vendors, buying local, B&T going out of business, and patron requests. The interior assessment (of the Main Library) was funded through a state legislative appropriation. It kicks off next week with the assessment of the interior of the building; what they can do for upgrades for patron comfort, enjoyment, accessibility, etc. At the Legislative Breakfast she recently attended, the legislators made it clear there is a seven-billion-dollar allocation for capital projects that hasn't been spent. Any project proposal must be shovel ready (to get legislative funding). She received the Finance Department Memo with the budget priorities. There is a flat budget this (next fiscal) year. The operations budget has not been increased since she's been Director. She has asked all her departments to consider what a two percent (2%) reduction would look like.

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The only areas where they can make cuts are Books and Materials, Online Databases, Office Supplies, Operating Funds, and Security Contracts. Everything else is salaries and benefits. Discussion on outside of the building continuous facilities maintenance (landscaping) funding that was discussed with Henri Hammond-Paul and Maria Sanchez-Tucker. Margaret added that since the budget is going to be flat, they will not be adding anything new, which means no Sunday openings unless the mayor wants to prioritize that, because they need staff. Further discussion on cuts, voting on the new organizational Chart, and recruiting for a new Department Director after the Governing Body approves the new organizing. Margaret Neill stated she had talked to the person recommended on consulting on the Strategic Plan and the Community Assessment. Margaret stated the current vacancy rate is 2%, currently there is one opening and the list of eligibles has been obtained.

7. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- a. Mark Lupinetti, President of the Library Advisory Board, [fmllupinetti@hotmail.com](mailto:fmllupinetti@hotmail.com).

Mark Lupinetti sent in his report. He sent out notifications to all the legislators (on the pending Book Banning Bill) and received eight responses out of 104. Five responses were supportive, two were vague, one said, "do you live in my district?". Meghan McGarrity said she was curious how the Friends' campaign is going. Margaret Neill added she and Mark Lupinetti interviewed all the candidates for the vacant position on the Library Advisory Board. One candidate was actually out in the County so that person was not eligible. There was a mix of different perspectives/abilities/backgrounds. No decision has been made. The goal was to discuss all the candidates. A decision will be made by next month's meeting.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Budget Changes

This item was discussed in the Director's Report. A flat budget is anticipated. Margaret Neill stated the City is changing how they are going to be doing the budget. There was a community input budget meeting earlier in the month. She thinks the focus for budget priorities is public safety and infrastructure. The budget template has not been received yet.

- b. Friends of the Library Report-William Karnoscak

William stated that the Friends pushed out a Bookmark (newsletter) through various avenues on the book banning issue. There's no way to track reactions on the issue. The senior buyer at Collected Works is allowing the Friends to blast their 10,000-member mailing list with the links to legislators, the governor, etc. Discussion on the upcoming short 30-day session. Discussion on NMLA group involvement, lobbying issues, newspaper reporting, editorials, debating the issue. William stated that the Friends are trying to get an independent screening on the documentary, *The Librarians*. It focuses on states where librarians are been forced to remove materials from their collections without cause.

Discussion on Texas doing forced removals of materials. In addition, William stated that the Friends are trying to find a venue to co-sponsor the event (CCA, the New Mexico History Museum). William stated they are trying to put more volunteers into service. There is expressed interest by the volunteers. Discussion on the Friends' google drive information. William added that the year-end annual additional donations ask resulted in \$88,000.00 from 190 donors. Of the 190, 131 were first time donors. He will be asking the higher end donors what motivated them to contribute, why, and what can they do to get their continued support, etc. Bookstore sales (at Main and Southside) were incredibly robust in 2025. Story lab (storytelling hour-quarterly) will be at the former Violet Crown (now Sky Cinema) in the railyard. The Friends secured the theatre on March 11, 2026, at 6:30 PM. Discussion on the event. The Friends now feel a need for a Strategic Plan. Discussion on both strategic plans (Library and Friends), and information sharing. There has been tweaking of the color palette of the Friends' logo, and discussion on turning the book around also. Joan Marshall reported at the Friends' last Board meeting that there has not been progress made on the Friends' MOU/GOA.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

### a. Strategic Plan Development-Status Update.

Discussion on KPI's (Key Performance Indicators) for the Library's Strategic Plan. Margaret Neill said she had submitted KPI's so they could benchmark different things which were revised by Henri Hammond Paul and Maria Sanchez-Tucker. One (of the metrics) had to do with facilities, which had to have a 90% completion rate and the Libraries will be held to that standard. The other KPI which was presented and accepted stated that 25% of all the books purchased this next year have to be Spanish language. That is an impossible reach because previously it was 3%. She cannot dedicate that big of a chunk of her already allocated book budget money specifically to Spanish language materials/books. Discussion on Spanish language material issues and allocated funding. Maintaining a vacancy rate that is 2% or under and staff Mandatory City Annual Trainings, are the KPI's that can be met. Discussion on the Library Advisory Board's role in strategic planning according to the City Attorney, key stakeholders, and contractual assistance with the Plan.

### b. Friends of the Library MOU/GOA-Status Update.

Covered in the Friends of the Library Report.

### c. Library Advisory Board open position for City Member-Status Update.

Covered in President's Report. Discussion on covering this subject at the next meeting and making a selection, the position being approved by the mayor before making an official announcement, on Friends' funding being used for the contractual consultant for the Strategic Plan(s), public comment on the Library's Strategic Plan, input from Library Staff, inviting the consultant to the next LAB meeting.

William Karnoscak commented that the application for requesting to be a storyteller for the Story Lab is on the Collected Works website.



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Margaret Neill commented that they are beginning the LENA Start Program. A recorder (talking pedometer) is put on a baby, funded through a grant obtained by Maria Sanchez-Tucker, it is basically talking to an infant helps develop their language skills, which helps develop their reading skills. The device tracks the interactions with people. The Library did not have the staff nor time to do the program, so the Friends are paying a contract person to run the program. They now have ten sign-ups for the English program and one for the Spanish program. Discussion on the program.

10. **NEXT MEETING:**

- a. Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at the La Farge Branch Library at 5:45 PM.

11. **ADJOURN:**

Tamina Painter made the Motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Aurora Hvidsten seconded the Motion.  
Unanimous approval  
The Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM.

*Therese Martinez*

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Liaison

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Chair



# MINUTES

**LIBRARY BOARD  
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LIBRARY BOARD MEETING  
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## Monthly Report

### *February 2026 Meeting Covering January Info*

#### Personnel

- Selected candidate for Main's FT technician position turned down HR's offer. Another candidate has been selected and paperwork turned into HR.
- An opening for a part-time Librarian at Southside was advertised, and interviews were conducted.
- A new full-time Technician, Chris Strauss, started at Southside Library on Jan 31.
- Kudos to Joe Paisley for continuing to run the popular International Authors Book Club at La Farge.
- Kudos to Callie Stockman for continuing to run Stumbling Through Shakespeare program at La Farge.
- Something Queer at the Library, Samuel Buelow's popular program at Southside, was mentioned in the State Library's blog. Ada Negraru, Continuing Education Coordinator at the New Mexico State Library, attended the program on January 13: "Queer Germany 1860s-1930s: The Foundation of a Modern Movement." Ada wrote the following about the program: "The Something Queer at the Library talk series has gained reputation as one of the best prepared and attended events on the Santa Fe cultural scene."
- Aaron Oesting partnered with the State Library to be the first library to host *Cartonería Exhibit: Piñatas!* A Mexican Art of Paper and Paste, a partnership between the State Library and the New Mexico Museum of International Folk Art.

#### Budget

- A flat or "maintenance" budget was submitted to Community Services Admin for FY27. After several years of "maintenance" budgets, the library must begin to work on service and material reductions to ensure funding can cover essential expenses.
- Community Services as a department will be meeting with Mayor Garcia and City Manager Moya to discuss FY27 priorities on February 20.

#### Facilities

- Main's fire and burglar alarm fiasco continues with little progress from Facilities and no response from ATI Security.
- A trashcan fire was successfully dealt with by Main staff and the security guard on 1/10/26.
- The front doors at La Farge are still problematic to lock/unlock
- The weeds at La Farge have been cut and the outside of the building looks much tidier.
- The January food distribution at Southside Library went better than the December distribution. Food Depot volunteers directed traffic to reduce confusion, and Library staff parked at the Teen Center to free up the staff parking area for the public instead.

- On Jan 29-31, Meet with Mike: The Mayor’s One-on-One Meetings took place at Southside Library. Constituents were able to meet with the new Mayor, by appointment, to discuss their concerns. Originally intended to be a two-day event, the available time slots filled so quickly that a third day was added.

**Programs** (New or Interesting Programs, Partnerships, Changes)

**January Youth Program Highlights**

LENA Start is off to a great start! The English class is currently full, with a waitlist. And the Spanish class has four registrants. Orientation for the ten-week program will happen at the end of February.

Main Library hosted the inaugural “Tween Book Club,” for ages 9-12. This program was created by a ten-year-old, who submitted an online program proposal form and is helping to lead the club. We were thrilled to have seven kids attend and look forward to the next book club where they will vote on the club’s name.

Tierra Encantada Charter School eighth graders and three eleventh grade Spanish classes from Capital High School toured the Southside Library in January. Approximately fifty students received library cards.

Seven youth outreaches and outside programs occurred, with 106 connections made at Chaparral Elementary, Many Mothers, Kaune Early Learning Center, and Amy Biehl Community School. At Amy Biehl, students from the gifted program were taught how to use library databases for history research.

Partners from the Randall Davey Audubon Center hosted a storytime at each location. We are also excited to have a new city volunteer, Megan Kite, a former school librarian, provide bilingual options for Pajama Storytime twice a month. And, Melissa Price, a former Children’s Museum educator, is volunteering through the Friends as a program assistant during Southside storytimes and monthly craft programs. Fifty-seven folks attended the Valentine’s craft program at the end of the month, and Melissa’s help was needed and welcomed. Southside also hosted a special altered books workshop for kids led by Will Karp, whose Book Art exhibit was on display at Southside.

**January Adult/Teen Program Highlights**

**Something Queer at the Library**

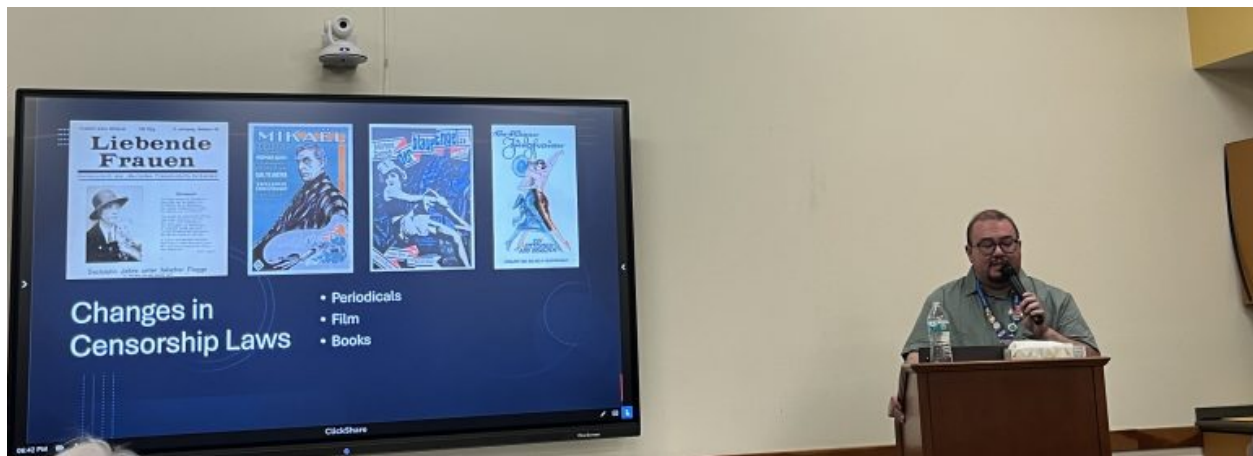
Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Southside Library

*Queer Germany 1860s-1930s: The Foundation of a Modern Movement*

While in the United States, LGBTQ+ politics are largely thought of as originating in the latter half of the 20th Century, much of the framework for the way LGBTQ+ people would be understood and campaign

for their rights was laid a century earlier in the German-speaking world. Southside Librarian Samuel Buelow presented his in-depth research, a look at the German Homosexual Emancipation Movement of the late 1800s and early 1900s, a thriving cultural, scientific, and political movement that had lasting impacts around the world before being violently suppressed by Nazi persecution.

85 people attended, including Ada Negraru, the Continuing Education Coordinator with New Mexico State Library, who featured the program in a recently published article, saying “Something Queer at the Library talk series has gained reputation as one of the best prepared and attended events on the Santa Fe cultural scene.” (<https://nmstatelibrary.org/what-i-learned-this-month-by-attending-three-public-library-programs/>)



### **Forty Years in the New Mexico Roundhouse with David Abbey**

Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Main Library

David Abbey was a finance and budget expert at the state capitol during the administrations of seven New Mexico governors, from Toney Anaya in 1983 to Michelle Lujan Grisham. He was known for his broad knowledge of New Mexico history and worked to find workable solutions in the face of partisan divides. 69 people attended the talk featuring David Abbey on his recently published book “Forty Years in the New Mexico Roundhouse”.

### **Invite Connection**

Tuesday, January 20, 2026, La Farge Library

Feeling disconnected? Want to enhance your natural skills to better communicate and listen to others? Join long-time professional learning and people development strategist Jules Dresen for these monthly workshops focusing on practicing two skills everyone possesses: listening and curiosity. These workshops provide a safe opportunity to practice and improve these skills to better connect with others in our community. 21 people attended the first workshop gathering, and the program will continue monthly for people to connect at La Farge Library.

**Santa Fe Senior Theater**

Thursday, January 8, 2026, Southside Library

Do you love stories, drama, and a good laugh? Then join The Santa Fe Senior Theater workshops for a low-pressure way to enjoy acting and storytelling with others in our community ages 55 and up. Participants in this free weekly workshop usually read from scripts during performances, so there's no need to memorize lines. This free program is geared toward socializing for those with or without theater experience: story and literature lovers, actors, singers, musicians, writers, dancers, teachers, librarians, and all sorts who value inclusive fun and creative activities. The Santa Fe Senior Theater proudly works as a Special Project with Teatro Paraguas, a long-standing member of the Santa Fe theater community. Regular attendance of approximately 30 people have been joining the Senior Theater weekly workshops taking place at the Southside Library.

**Santa Fe Flutes - Musical Performance**

Saturday, January 31, 2026, Southside Library

58 people, including the Mayor Garcia attended and enjoyed a free concert of the enchanting sounds of our city's flute choir, including standard concert flutes, piccolo, alto flutes, and bass flutes, at the Southside Library. Performance by Santa Fe Flutes.

**Statistics**

	December	January	YTD
Physical Circulation	41,325	38,448	287,773
Digital Circulation	22,905	24,719	152,937
Total Circulation	64,230	63,167	440,710
New Library Cards	324	420	2,713
Adult and Gen. Interest Programs	34	51	308
Adult and Gen. Interest Program Attendance	1,509	1,460	13,704
Children's Programs	51	55	385
Children's Program Attendance	1,097	982	7,783
Young Adult Programs	9	11	89
Young Adult Program Attendance	163	178	1,156
Public Computer Sessions	6,238	7,265	46,378
Visits	37,028	38,433	265,754

**Technical Services December Statistics**

New Bibliographic Records: 572

New Item Records: 1,762

Items Withdrawn: 750

New Items Ordered: 839

Patron Requests Filled: 112

Total Items in Physical Collection: 245,920

### **Technology**

- Reenabled purchase suggestions and interlibrary loan requests and there were no complaints. The ability to suspend submissions will be helpful to workflow and to provide clear communication to patrons.
- Cyber Mesa updated our ILL email address. It is now [interlibraryloan@santafelibrary.org](mailto:interlibraryloan@santafelibrary.org).
- Reached out to several New Mexico libraries to see what they use for public computing (in anticipation of replacing public computers this year), what setup was like, and if they are happy with the product. We received helpful responses from Los Alamos Public Library and the State Library.
- Added Small Business Help to our website as a library service
- Completed onboarding the public computing server replacement at La Farge. Authentication and printing is up and running.
- Did another wave of service suspensions for hotspots that were not returned, bringing that total up to 50/83 hotspots suspended.
- Issued a staff reminder to only use royalty-free or free-to-use photographs in their promotional materials
- Had a temporary and intermittent Library Market Calendar issue that prevented pages from loading which was resolved
- ITT needed to make an urgent change to our assigned IP address which meant Kristen worked as quickly as possible to update the allowlist with multiple vendors so we could regain access to the ILS, some staff permissions in the discovery layer, Ancestry, and Useful control center links. These services were not usable until this was fixed.
- Resolved the light printing problem on Southside's public printer
- Removed the "Sign Up for Newsletters" link at the bottom of the homepage of the website. The most reliable way to receive newsletters is being an active library cardholder.
- Affected staff (particularly management) have been meeting where they can to address the upcoming ADA accessibility compliance standards that will become mandatory for us come April. We are working on coming up with guidelines for staff.