



CITY OF LAS CRUCES

MINUTES

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, March 26, 2026

1. Call to Order – President Stephen Jones called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M. Library Advisory Board (LAB) Members present: President Stephen Jones, Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson, Secretary Erin Wahl (present through TEAMS), Members Denali Wilson, and Nancy Claypool. Members absent: Members Jessica Streeter, and Jason Ferguson. Also, in attendance: Sarah Booth, Library Deputy Director; and Dan Carrillo, Administrative Assistant.

a. Lynda St. Clair, Friends of TBML President, read the *Land Acknowledgement Statement*.

b. Acceptance of February 26, 2026, Agenda – President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve as presented; Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson voiced a motion to approve; Member Nancy Claypool seconded the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried.

2. Review and Approval of February 26, 2026, Minutes – President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve as amended; Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson voiced a motion to approve; Member Denali Wilson seconded the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried.

3. Library Deputy Directors Report – Sarah Booth, Library Deputy Director, presented the following:

a. Library Statistics

i. Sarah Booth mentioned that today is Maryann Hendrickson, Vice-President, last meeting as a member of the LAB. Ms. Booth expressed her gratitude and thanks for all that Ms. Hendrickson has done during her tenure as an LAB member.

- ii. We are now three quarters through the current fiscal year. At this point, we have checked out 194,778 physical items and 87,821 digital items.
- iii. Library visits remain strong. We have had 178,520 visitors so far this year. This includes 19,422 people who attended 962 programs.
- iv. I attended our Grants meeting today. We have spent all our 2022 GO Bond funds. We look forward to the next Go Bond which is coming soon.

b. Library Programs Events, Other Information

- i. Fifty patrons attended the library's National Barbie Day Crafternoon event. Patrons were encouraged to "BYOB (Bring your own Barbie, and Ken dolls)" and craft a "weird wardrobe" for them.
- ii. Technical Services staff have been processing high volumes of new materials as we order/purchase items from our new book vendor, Ingram. Roughly 320 new items were added to the collection in the last seven days, compared to 89 items during the same time frame last year with our previous vendor, Baker & Taylor, which is now out of business.
- iii. We have installed special software on our three self-check machines. The machines are now able to run specialized ads. The ads will appear as a screen saver as the patron walks up to the kiosk. Currently, we are running ads to promote our books clubs and programs, as well as the Friends Pop Up Sale. There is even a widget to show the weather forecast. We are excited to use this software to help promote library programming.
- iv. Thanks to the General Federation of Women's Club Progress Club for giving the Library \$3,200 (through the Friends of TBML) to begin our Comprehensive Literacy Program "Grow To Learn." This funding will be used for ESL instructors as well as training for staff in early literacy practices. We highly appreciate the support from them.
- v. Friday, March 6, 2026, was Read Across America Day at the Library.

1 Library staff organized craft projects for participants. Eleven different
2 community partners participated. NGAGE brought their mobile children's
3 museum. There was even a special visit from the Las Cruces Grinch. 200
4 people attended this program.

5 vi. The State Library held their regional Summer Reading Workshop at the
6 Library on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. The State Library rotates locations
7 for this workshop, and we were honored to be picked this year.

8 vii. We have received approval to update our room reservations software. It
9 will be less expensive than the current software we use now. One very
10 helpful feature of this new system is that tablets can/will be used for
11 customers to scan their library cards to access the room. We hope to have
12 this up and running sometime in August 2026.

13 c. Library Renovation and Expansion

14 i. Library staff met with Consultant Brad Waters and Desert Peaks Architects
15 to discuss plans for the library renovation last week. This included a
16 detailed discussion of interactive, educational spaces in the children's
17 department, automated material handling in the circulation department,
18 and expanded public computer stations and makerspace technology. 2024
19 Library GO Bond funds will be used for the initial project of replacing
20 furniture in the Children's area, which is the main focus this year. Regarding
21 this, we had a meeting with Sonya Delgado, Assistant City Manager, about
22 the next steps. We are still putting things together and awaiting City Council
23 approval, but there may be less finding than anticipated. Council's decision
24 should come in April or May 2026.

25 ii. When the rest of the Library renovation project is ready to move forward, it
26 was determined by Brad Waters, Godfrey's and Associates, and the
27 architects that moving staff totally out of the building would be more cost

1 effective than renovation happening while library is open and staff is still on
2 the premises. They could do both phases of the project without any
3 interruption from patrons or staff.

4 iii. I am working on a naming policy. It is early stages right now, but the policy
5 will define minimum limits for naming rooms in the renovated building.

6 d. Acceptance of Library Director's Report

7 i. President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve report; all voted in
8 favor; motion carried.

9 4. Announcements/Other Information

10 a. Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson mentioned the following:

11 i. Ms. Hendrickson mentioned that it has been a privilege to be a member of
12 the LAB for the last eight years and has learned so much from everyone
13 involved in the LAB. Ms. Hendrickson thanked Sarah Booth, and Dan
14 Carrillo, who has been on the LAB team for the past eight years while a
15 member, Library staff, Councilor Flores, who appointed Ms. Hendrickson,
16 and the Friends of TBML, who have stepped up big to help the library
17 succeed. Many things were accomplished during Ms. Hendrickson's tenure
18 on the LAB, including getting through Covid, creating a DEI statement,
19 approving many library policies, discussing the effects of the First
20 Amendment Auditors that visited the library, and reading of the Land
21 Acknowledgement Statement before every LAB meeting, among many
22 other things. I hope you all continue to do these things because it means
23 so much to the community. Thank you.

24 b. Member Erin Wahl mentioned the following:

25 i. On Sunday, March 29, 2026, we will have a reception for the New Mexico
26 Black History Exhibit. Join us for a roundtable discussing African American

1 history in New Mexico. Students and members of the community will come
2 together to discuss the Spotlights exhibit, tell stories, and celebrate the
3 legacy of African Americans in our state. The panels have been placed
4 throughout the library for the past month. It starts at 2 P.M. and there will
5 be light refreshments

6 c. Lynda St. Clair, Friends of TBML President mentioned the following:

7 i. The April newsletter was just approved for printing today. There are a lot of
8 things coming up this month. If you are a member of the Friends, you will
9 be receiving a copy of the newsletter by email around April 1, 2026. Print
10 copies should be available next week.

11 ii. The author talk for April will be New Mexico Senator Bill Soules. The talk
12 will be on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 1:30 P.M. in the Roadrunner Room.
13 Senator Soules also gave the library money.

14 iii. There will be a Pop-Up Book Sale on Saturday, April 18, 2026.

15 iv. The Friends will have a table out for National Library Week which is April
16 19-25, 2026.

17 v. On April 23, 2026, the library will have a film screening of The Librarians.
18 Thank you to KRWG for help in sponsoring this event.

19 5. Public Participation

20 a. Lynda St. Clair, Friends of TBML President.

21 6. Adjournment – Member Denali Wilson entertained a motion to adjourn meeting; meeting
22 adjourned at approximately 3:42 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April
23 23, 2026, at 3:00 P.M. in the Roadrunner Room on the 2nd floor of TBML.

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26 **PRESIDENT or VICE-PRESIDENT**