



CITY OF LAS CRUCES

MINUTES

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, January 22, 2026

1. Call to Order – President Stephen Jones called the meeting to order at 3:03 P.M. Library Advisory Board (LAB) Members present: President Stephen Jones, Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson, Secretary Jennifer Kreie, Members Jessica Streeter, and Jason Ferguson. Members Erin Wahl, and Denali Wilson attended the meeting online through Teams about 17-19 minutes into the meeting. Also, in attendance: Sarah Booth, Library Deputy Director; Carol Brey, Quality of Life Director, and Dan Carrillo, Administrative Assistant.

a. Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson read the *Land Acknowledgement Statement*.

b. Acceptance of January 22, 2026, Agenda – President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve as presented; Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson voiced a motion to approve; Member Jessica Streeter seconded the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried. NOTE: Member Erin Wahl and Denali Wilson weren't available for this vote

2. Review and Approval of December 11, 2025, Minutes – President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve as presented; Member Jessica Streeter voiced a motion to approve; Member Jason Ferguson seconded the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried. NOTE: Member Erin Wahl and Denali Wilson weren't available for this vote.

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

a. Staff updates and Other Information

i. Unfortunately, LAB Secretary Jennifer Kreie, has resigned from the LAB.

Ms. Kreie wanted to focus more on the League of Women Voters. We appreciate all she has done for Library and LAB.

ii. We would like to welcome Nancy Claypool, who will be replacing Jennifer Kreie, District 5. Ms. Claypool isn't official yet until paperwork is signed at the City Clerk's office.

iii. Library Manager (Support Services): Colleen Corgel has resigned and accepted a position at the Queens Library in New York. Victoria Simkins, Librarian II, will be Interim Library Manager (Support Services). Ms. Simkins has already done an amazing job in the short time during the transition to this interim position. Since the City of Las Cruces is currently in a hiring freeze, we did get authorization to hire for this position. The position was posted today and will be listed for six weeks.

iv. Some Quality of Life (QoL) staff and others will be traveling to Santa Fe for Las Cruces Legislative Day. We would like to thank LAB members Erin Wahl, Jessica Streeter, and Denali Wilson, and Friends of TBML President Lynda St. Clair, for going up and advocating for the Library and supporting the renovation project of the building that is planned. Ruben, who is one of the architects for the project, has designed a new flyer to hand out at Legislative Day. Carol Brey, QoL Director, needs to review and approve it first. There will be swag bags that will be handed out as well.

b. 2025 Year in Review – Things That Happened and Accomplished This Year

i. All of our furniture has arrived and out. We have new lounge chairs on both floors, a new conference table and chairs in the Staff Conference Room, and new tables and chairs in the Board Room

ii. We worked very hard all year on the House of Dracula. Over 500 people attended this interactive event. We won 1st place and a gift card in the Small Program section of the City of Las Cruces contest.

- iii. The Friends of the TBML, Bearto's Book Den, opened in January 2025, and it has been a huge success.
- iv. We shifted fiction to improve ADA accessibility. We are also pulling out the new DVDs, instead of shelving them with current DVDs.
- v. We moved away from sorting shelves and are now shelving items as they are returned.
- vi. Library card check-out receipts now show the "amount saved" for each check out.
- vii. Our main book vendor, Baker and Taylor, declared bankruptcy
- viii. Thanks to Shuly Serrano, Library Manager, and her team. The Library was the GECU VITA Tax Site of the Year for 2025. Vita tax assistance starts again on February 2, 2026.
- ix. We moved the reference desk, so we have one combined Circulation and Reference area. This makes it easier for patrons to access what they need from either section.
- x. Desert Peak Architects completed their design of the renovation and expansion. We are now having weekly meetings to review the specifications and keep up with any progress being made.
- xi. The Border Regional Library Association Fall Conference was held at the Library on November 15, 2025. Over 80 regional librarians attended. It was a success.
- xii. The 90th Anniversary of the Library was on December 7, 2025. We celebrated this event all year with special library cards.
- xiii. We said goodbye to Library Assistants Lanee Lujan, and Meghan Romero, and Library Page Azi Candia-Garcia.
- xiv. We welcomed Library Supervisor Sarah Murphy, Library Assistants Douglas Hooton, and Valerie Chacon, and Library Page Lucia Ortiz.

1 c. Our Goals for 2026

- 2 i. Continue to replace furniture in the building, specifically in the Children's
3 area.
- 4 ii. Add more computers to the main floor and also add a printer to the main
5 floor.
- 6 iii. Install Bibliotheca's Unify+ for marketing on the self-checks and the sorter.
- 7 iv. Continue to work on the Library's Customer Service Model.
- 8 v. Encourage staff to continue to share any ideas to make the library better.

- 9 d. Sarah Booth officially introduced Nancy Claypool to the LAB. All LAB Members
10 and Library Staff introduced themselves and what capacity they are in for the LAB
11 and Library. Ms. Claypool mentioned that she is a retired Clinical Social Worker
12 and has been in New Mexico for 25 years. Jennifer Kreie reached out to Ms.
13 Claypool to let her know she was stepping down and to get involved with the LAB
14 if she so desired. Ms. Claypool also knows Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson.
- 15 e. President Stephen Jones called for a motion to accept the Library Director's
16 Report; Member Jason Ferguson voiced a motion to accept; Vice-President
17 Maryann Hendrickson seconded the motion; all voted in favor; Motion carried.

18 4. New Business

19 a. Nominations and Vote for Vacant LAB Secretary

- 20 i. Member Jason Ferguson nominated Member Erin Wahl for Secretary – Ms.
21 Wahl accepted. No other nominations were brought forth. Member Jason
22 Ferguson voiced a motion to approve; Member Jessica Streeter seconded
23 the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried.

24 5. Announcements/Other Information

25 a. Friends of TBML President Lynda St. Clair announced the following:

- 26 i. The Friends of TBML had their annual meeting this past weekend. The

meeting went very well. I didn't remember to bring copies of the meeting packet but if anybody wants one, I will email it to you. One of our goals this year is to do a better job with advocacy. Our focus last year was getting the bookstore up and running last year, which worked out very well. We will have an Advocacy Committee.

ii. We will have two upcoming author talks. The first is January 28, 2026, at 1:30 P.M., featuring Ben Okopnik. The next is February 16, 2026, at 1:30 P.M., featuring Cassie McClure. All author talks are held in the Roadrunner Room on the 2nd floor of library.

iii. The next book sale is February 19, 2026, for members and February 20-22 for non-members.

b. Member Erin Wahl mentioned the following:

i. The New Mexico Black History Exhibit is currently being held at Branson Library at New Mexico State University (NMSU). It will move to Zuhl Library at NMSU next. The plan is to move exhibit to Branigan Library and have a launch event there sometime in March, April, or May 2026. We have some grant money left to buy snacks, drinks, etc. when it moves to Branigan Library. I will work with Shuly Seranno, Library Manager, on an available date we can find in those months mentioned.

6. Public Participation

a. Nancy Claypool, District 5 incoming LAB Member.

b. Lynda St. Clair, Friends of TBML President.

7. Adjournment – Vice-President Maryann Hendrickson entertained a motion to adjourn meeting; meeting adjourned at approximately 3:52 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 3:00 P.M. in the Roadrunner Room on the 2nd floor of TBML.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink is written over a solid black horizontal line. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'J. A. P.'.

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PRESIDENT or VICE-PRESIDENT