



**City of Farmers Branch
Minutes
Library Advisory Board**

Farmers Branch
Manske Library
13613 Webb Chapel
Farmers Branch, TX
75234

Thursday, April 10, 2025

6:00 pm

Manske Library – Innovation Zone

Regular Called Meeting called to order 6:00 PM

Presiding: Kristen Hansen

Present: Kathy (Lee) Alvoid, Zechariah (Zech) Thompson,
Stacey Baker, John (Paul) Giolma

Absent:

City Representative: Heather Fuller (Library Director), Ryann Dekat
(Assistant Director), Susan Considine (VP of
Operations (LS&S))
Robert Diaz (Parks and Recreation)
Tara Bradly (Parks and Recreation)

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizen – Price Trozen was allowed three minutes for citizen comments. He expressed great commendation for the library and all the programs that are offered. He also stated that two in particular, the sewing and the dungeon's and dragons' programs, are extremely popular and he would like to see more of these types of offerings in the future.

C. AGENDA ITEMS

25-279 Consider approval of minutes for March 6, 2025 and take appropriate action

Lee motions to approve minutes without changes, Stacey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

25-280 Receive Trustee Reports

Lee presented four topics.

1. Texas Senate Bill 13 has passed the Senate and is under consideration by the House in the Texas legislature. This bill would affect the materials available for school libraries. This could impact the traffic of patrons who require higher literature sources such as students who are attending AP courses.
2. Creating Library Access, an article from D-Tech International, published information about assisting the library in becoming 24 hours accessible. This included ideas for locker systems, which prompted discussion regarding how Farmers Branch could improve access to the library with potential locker sites.
3. Follow-up on Grapevine Library GROW Mobile outreach program, was shared by Lee, who had reached out to the Library Director for Grapevine, who gave some resources on how to convert city-owned service vehicles into mobile library systems. The discussion was held regarding the best method found by the other systems is to start small and grow as the demand continues.
4. The final topic of discussion was regarding the decreased funding issues with grants and continuing budget cuts throughout the education system. The library is closely monitoring these effects on the patrons and their access to information.
5. Stacey and Lee presented that they are members of the Farmers Branch Event Advisory Committee, which provides feedback solicited by the city regarding events and considers how to improve future events.

25-281 Receive Patron Feedback

Three comments from patrons were reviewed from the Library 360 system. The library director responded

to one piece of feedback, a 0/10. This comment was regarding the noise level of someone on their phone in the shared computer area. It was noted that the individual's volume was not unreasonable. There are no public access computers available in quiet designated areas; however, laptops are available to check out and take to the area. This individual did not respond to the library director for follow-up.

25-283 Library Director's Report

The library board received the director's report regarding the status of the library and its patrons' usage.

Category	Number
Physical Items Checked out	14,060
E-Materials Checked Out	2,749
Program Attendees	1,758
Reference Questions Answered	1,028
Library Visitors	11,666
Computer Users	1,742
New Cards Issued	225
Physical Collection Size	74,121

Several highlights from events held this past month were provided. Cathy's Critters had 486 patrons attend. Sticky Fingers Cooking Class, a program where school-age children can learn to cook and tie it to a book, learned how to "cook" vegan tacos using the book "Dragon Loves Tacos" as inspiration.

Spring break also included several school-age events, including Coding from Scratch and the Mario Cart Tournament, which were extremely popular and will be repeated in the near future. The library also hosted its first bilingual story time, which was well attended. Other events were well attended, including the Teen Science Café, the Moroccan Tea Workshop, and more.

The library also has several school-age STEAM Kits that are now being checked out. Currently, there are 15 prepared bags, and given the high demand, there are plans to increase this number.

Elections will impact all programs in the Community Hub area starting April 22 through May 4.

25-282 Discuss Agenda items for future Library Board Meetings

Community engagement and how the library is involved within the city will be added as a section in upcoming meetings.

Advertising the library and its many programs continues to be an important topic. The library has received permission to publish "Facebook Stories" online as events are occurring to improve relations with the community. Several other forms of community outreach continue to be used and further developed for engagement.

The Summer Reading Theme will be "Color our world."

The next scheduled Library Board meeting will be May 8th and June 12th, 2025.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn entertained by Kristen. Zech motions, Lee seconds, motion passes.
Meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM

Chair

Recording Secretary