



City of Farmers Branch

Minutes

Library Board

The Manske Library
13613 Webb Chapel
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

Thursday, April 9, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Manske Library

Presiding:	Kristen Hansen
Present:	Kathy (Lee) Alvoid, Zechariah (Zech) Thompson, John (Paul) Giolma, Neil Thomas, Dawn Calzada, Stacey Baker
Absent:	Paul Schultz
City Representative:	Tracie Kreighbaum (Library Director), Robert Diaz (Parks and Recreation)

A. CALL TO ORDER

Kristen Hansen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on Thursday, April 9, 2026.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Library Board.

C. AGENDA ITEMS

C.1 TMP-5411 Consider approval of Minutes for the February 12, 2026 meeting; and take appropriate action.

Two corrections were noted: a typographical error in a Board member's name, and clarification that the library policy item C2 had been tabled. Zechariah (Zech) Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes with modifications. The motion was seconded by John Paul Giolma. Motion carried.

C.2 TMP-5412 Consider approval of the Library Policies Updates; and take appropriate action.

The Board considered the approval of the updated Library Policies draft. Discussion included:

- Recommended consistent use of "patron" and removal of gendered language.
- Minor numbering and formatting inconsistencies were identified and will be corrected.
- Discussion on Smoking Policy, and whether to include distance requirements from entrances. Agreed to refer to the existing City Ordinance and future legal review.
- Discussion on the presence of ADA accommodations, including wheelchairs, in the policies.
- Guest pass section determined to be outdated and recommended for removal.
- Fines and fees are governed by the City Code of Ordinance and are under separate review.

Kathy (Lee) Alvoid made a motion to approve the draft Policies pending legal and City Council review. The motion was seconded by Dawn Calzada. Motion approved.

C.3 TMP- 5418 Receive Library Director's Report

The Director provided updates on library operations, programming, and upcoming initiatives, including:

- Summer Reading Program (Unearth a Story) begins May 30.
- Bookmark Contest with Farmers Branch Arts Council judging and public voting happening in April.
- Continued effort to expand programming within library spaces, including the adult area near windows.
- New programs: Music Makers (collaborative music sessions) and expanded summer World Cinema Club.
- Voting hosted at the library April 20-28.

C.4 TMP-5413 Receive Patron Feedback.

The Board reviewed recent patron comments. Discussion included:

- Appreciation for digital resources, including magazines, streaming, and online content.
- Strong interest in board games and family activities.
- Positive comments on library environment and amenities.
- Perceived inconvenience of certain policies, including lending rules and fees.
- Negative feedback regarding themed teen program content.
- The Library Director responds to negative feedback and invites further discussion. Anonymous feedback hinders direct follow-up.

C.5 TMP-5414 Receive Trustee Report.

Kathy (Lee) Alvoid provided the Trustee Report. Discussions included:

- Increased attention to AI-related challenges, including misinformation and inaccurate citations.
- Need for education, training, and programming to support responsible AI use.
- Ongoing monitoring of legislation impacting libraries, particularly regarding material and access and intellectual freedom.

C.6 TMP-5415 Discuss Upcoming Grant Opportunities.

- Smaller grants in development for collection enhancement, including the Texas Book Festival Grant for an increase in Southeast Asian picture books and the Texas Summer at the Library Grant to acquire two AWE Bilingual Early Literacy Stations.
- Discussion on grants for upcoming library projects. High dollar (more than \$10K). Potential project ideas: Innovation Zone equipment, local history and storytelling initiatives, and mobile/outreach services.

C.7 TMP-5416 Receive an update from the Friends of the Library Re-establishment Subcommittee.

John (Paul) Giolma provided the Report.

- No new updates; initiative remains in early stages.

C.8 TMP-5417 Receive an update from Board Members on programs, events, or facilities attended in the City of Farmers Branch.

Kathy (Lee) Alvoid provided the Report. Discussions included:

- Gateway to the Globe Festival: attendance slightly lower due to weather and layout of the event; opportunity identified for library engagement through curated cultural reading lists.
- Upcoming events: Fishing Fun on April 25. Volunteer opportunity.
- Independence Day event planning underway.

C.9 TMP-5 419 Discuss agenda items for future Library Board meetings.

- Grants for upcoming library projects.
- Update from Friends of the Library Re-establishment Subcommittee
- Library policy updates pending legal review.
- Next meetings: May 14 and June 11, 2026.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Stacey Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Zechariah (Zech) Thompson. The motion carried. The April 9, 2026, meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.

Chair

Staff Liaison