



# City of Farmers Branch Minutes Library Advisory Board

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

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Thursday, November 13, 2025

6:00 PM

Manske Library – IZ

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**Presiding:** Kristen Hansen

**Present:** Kathy (Lee) Alvoid, Zechariah (Zech) Thompson, John (Paul) Giolma, Stacey Baker, Neil Thomas, Dawn Calzada, Paul Shultz

**Absent:** Hayden Gray, Zechariah (Zech) Thompson

**City Representative:** Tracie Kreighbaum (Library Director), Tara Bradley (Parks and Recreation)

## A. CALL TO ORDER

Kristen Hansen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM on Thursday, November 13, 2025.

## B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

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

## C. AGENDA ITEMS

### C.1 Consider approval of minutes for the October 9, 2025 meeting, and take appropriate action.

John (Paul) Giolma made a motion to approve the minutes of October 9, 2025. The motion was seconded by Stacey Baker. Motion carried.

### C.2 Receive Trustee Report.

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

- AI screening in Texas schools: AI tools mislabel neutral terms and miss actual problematic content, making them ineffective for reviewing large library collections.
- Border library access cut off: New U.S. immigration rules ended Canadian access to the historic Haskell Library, which sits directly on the Quebec–Vermont border.
- Libraries use games for engagement: DC Public Library uses the Playful City Lab game for scavenger hunts and text-based storytelling to connect patrons with programs.

Developed by American University.

- Texas reading lists: The Texas Library Association provides curated, Texas-themed reading lists that libraries share to promote fiction and nonfiction titles. Provides free software for the public.

### **C.3 Receive Patron Feedback.**

Updated feedback was distributed and discussed, including:

- All positive feedback.
- Overall sentiment: very positive, expressing strong appreciation for the library and its resources.
- The library is noted as a convenient place to vote.

### **C.4 Review Presentation to City Council.**

Kristen Hansen presented the Manske Library Board's Annual Report on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

- Reviewed library participation methods, critical business outcomes, large events with Board involvement, Library Feedback tools and City Media used,
- Highlighted increase in library visitors, Net Promoter Score, and the increase in program attendance.
- Shared Future Goals including Library Board member attendance at outreach events, collaboration with other City Boards, and looking for ways to increase the library's reach across the whole community.

### **C.5 Receive an update from the subcommittee on the annual Jolabokaflod Book Drive.**

Paul Schultz reported on the subcommittee for the annual Jolabokaflod Book

- Hayden Gray contacted the Dallas Medical Center. This organization cannot participate this year. Metrocrest has been contacted as a possible recipient.
- Close to 600 books were collected last year.
- A donation box will be set up in the library starting Monday, November 24 by library staff. Library staff will advertise the Jolabokaflod dates.
- The last day to donate books is Friday, December 12.
- The first sorting group will meet on Tuesday, December 9, at 1:00 pm. Lee, Kristen, and Paul G. will participate.
- The second book sorting will be on Wednesday, December 17, at 6:00: Dawn, Stacey, and Paul S. will participate.

- Books will be taken to the recipient in January. A City truck has been used in the past to deliver the books.

**C.6 Receive an update from Board Members on programs, events, or facilities attended in the City of Farmers Branch.**

Stacey Baker reported on participation in recent and upcoming city events. Discussions included:

- The City's Events Advisory Committee encourages cross-board participation.
- Discussion on Friends of the Library and re-establishment of progress. Look at other City Friends groups. Board members are encouraged to use contacts to find people to lead the Group.
- A Friends Group Subcommittee was discussed to explore reaching Farmers Branch residents interested in leading a Friends group. Paul Shultz, Kathy Lee Alvoid, and John Paul Giolma expressed interest in participating.
- Farmers Branch Christmas Tea on December 6 and 13 is sold out.
- Christmas Carnival Saturday, December 6. Tracie can send out the sign-up form.
- Anticipated events: March multicultural festival Gateway to the Globe and Fishin' Fun in April.

**C.7 Receive Library Director's Report.**

Tracie Kreighbaum reported on the library's activities in October. Discussions included:

- Library volunteer hours increased by 47.6% compared to October 2024.
- Over 20% of items checked out in October were electronic resources.
- Program attendance was up over 63% over October 2024.
- The Library participated in several outreach activities in October including Haunts & Houses at the Historical Park and Trunk or Treat at McLaughlin Strickland Elementary School.
- A new color copier/printer is being installed in November.

**C.8 Discuss agenda items for future Library Board meetings.**

- Update on the Jolabokafloð Book Drive.
- Friends of the Library re-establishment progress.
- No meeting in December. Next Meeting January 8, 2026.

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

Kathy (Lee) Alvoid made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Paul Schultz. Motion carried. The November 13, 2025 meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.