

**CITY OF SURPRISE  
Library Advisory Commission  
16755 W Vereda Solana Dr.  
Surprise, Arizona 85387**

Thursday, January 9, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Asante Library

**Meeting Minutes**

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Chair Kady McCarthy, Commission members Deborah Gentry, Desiree VanLoon and Jamie Baker

Absent: Vice Chair Tomasina DiCapo and Commissioner Shields

Staff: Ashley Ware – City Librarian and Heather Donaldson – Management Analyst, Sr.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Staff Reports

Ms. Ware reported on the following items:

- The Mayor's Literacy Challenge kicked off with a launch party at all three libraries on January 4th. The Challenge runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> - February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Our latest staff started in December. Kate, Regional & Hollyhock Branch Manager, Kayla, Library Assistant, and Chanee, Library Aide.
- There are a few outreach opportunities for January and early February, such as the Surprise Community & Resource Center Groundbreaking Ceremony Celebration and Storytime at the Stadium.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

None

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. Consideration and action pertaining to the November 14, 2024 Library Advisory Commission meeting.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the November 14, 2024 Library Advisory Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>. 4 Yes votes. Motion carried.

2. Presentation and discussion pertaining to a mid-year update, a review of the progress of, and a discussion on the key measures of success of the Library Advisory Commission.

Ms. Ware provided the Commission with an in-depth review of the Surprise Public Library System's first quarter including the milestones achieved since July 1, 2024. She highlighted significant strides made over the last three months. She addressed the following topics:

- First 5 Months of FY25
  - Nearly 162,853 patrons
  - 2,562 volunteer hours
  - 724 programs with over 16,000 patrons participating
  - 7,296 new library cards
  - 72,513 items checked out
- Library Program Highlights
- Library Programs
- City Department Partnerships
- Community Partnerships
- Summer Reading 2024
  - 67,000 patrons visited our libraries
  - Over 9,000 patrons attended Summer Reading programs
  - 277 programs in June and July
- New Items
  - Expanded Words on Wheels
  - One of the largest borrowers of MAX items
  - 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
  - Record players and vinyls
  - PS5 gaming consoles for programs
  - Expanded volunteer program
  - Associate Librarian positions
  - Tween programs
  - Kid Librarian
  - Driving Tests
  - Reading Arizona

E. Other Business and Future Agenda Items:

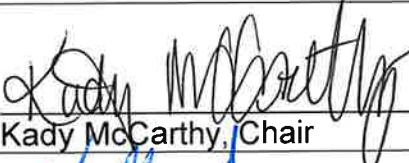
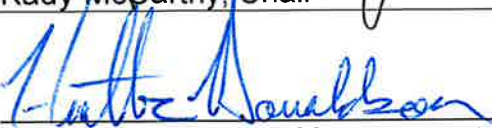
- Chair McCarthy asked for the Commission to receive training and orientation for volunteer opportunities.

F. Current Events and Reports

None.

## ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 6:35 pm – Commissioner VanLoon made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>. 4 Yes votes. Motion Carried.

|         |                                                                                                                                 |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|         | <br>Kady McCarthy, Chair                      |
| ATTEST: | <br>Heather Donaldson, Management Analyst Sr. |

## CERTIFICATION:

I, Ashley Ware, City Librarian for the City of Surprise Arts, Culture & Library Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Library Commission meeting held on January 9, 2025.

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|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <br>Ashley Ware, City Librarian |
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