

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

Thursday, May 8, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Asante Regional Library

Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Chair Kady McCarthy, Vice Chair Tomasina DiCapo, Commission members Annie Ansell, Deborah Gentry, Desiree VanLoon, Mark McCall and Jamie Baker

Absent: None

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

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Staff Reports

Ms. Ware reported on the following items:

- Introduction of Commissioner Annie Ansell.
- Hollyhock is gaining two new employees. Darlene will be starting at the end of May, and our second new staff member is going through the process to make it official.
- Summer Reading is here! Registration is available right now through our website, and patrons can start logging minutes on June 1st. Our kick-off event is going to take place at Surprise Regional on May 31st at 10am.
- Library card designs have been picked! We are going to be reaching out to our winners next week, and they will be announced at a Council meeting in June. The designs will be available for patrons on July 1st, and all entries will be up in the library for patrons to peruse.
- We wanted to do something for late Commissioner Shields for the work he has done for the library and his advocacy, so his wife, Judy, will be choosing a library card design in his honor.

E. Library Commission Agenda

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Consideration and action pertaining to the April 10, 2025 Library Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the April 10, 2025 Library Advisory Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner McCall 2nd. 7 Yes votes. Motion carried.

2. Discussion and review pertaining to the Surprise Public Library Strategic Plan first draft for review and feedback.

City Librarian Ware lead a discussion with the Commission regarding the first draft of the strategic plan. The Commission reviewed and commented on the following draft plan sections:

- Background and History:
 - Timeline
 - Background and History
 - Relations to Other Plans and Studies
 - American Library Association Mission and Core Values
- City Council Strategic Plan (2023):
 - Safe and Healthy Community
 - Economic and Cultural Vitality
 - Community Livability & Live-Long Learning
 - Stewardship
- Public Engagement:
 - Public Engagement
 - Methods of Engagement
 - Survey (794 responses)
 - Survey Outreach
 - Individual Meetings (63)
 - Focus Groups (7)
- Mission and Vision of Surprise Public Library System:
 - City of Surprise Mission
 - Surprise Public Library Mission
 - Surprise Public Library Vision
- Strategic Goals
 - Goal 1: Grow community connection to improve the lives of Surprise residents.
 - Goal 2: Develop and encourage lifelong learning through innovative and impactful programming, collections, and resources addressing community interests and needs.
 - Goal 3: Strengthen the visibility of the library to broaden the perception of what a library could be for the community.
 - Goal 4: Explore options for library expansion for the growing needs and population of Surprise to enhance the community experience and improve services.
- Community Input Survey
 - Results
 - Comments

F. Other Business and Future Agenda Items:

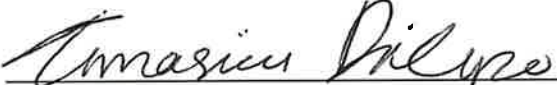

- Commissioner Baker asked if the Commission can be notified of how they can help with the Summer Reading Program.
- Commissioner VanLoon commented that the social media campaign for the anniversary of Paul Revere's Ride was terrific, and it would be amazing to notify local media in advance of doing these types of things.

G. Current Events and Reports

- Commissioner Gentry attended her HOA's neighborhood event, and there was a great library presence there.
- Commissioner Baker advised that Safety Splash is happening tomorrow, and the Library will have a presence there.
- Vice Chair DiCapo is very excited that the Library is being sponsored by the Phoenix Mercury for the Summer Reading Program. She also advised that she knows the Mercury mascot and dancers if the Surprise Public Library System ever want to have them come any library events.


H. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn at 7:05 pm – Vice Chair DiCappo made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Baker 2nd. 7 Yes votes. Motion Carried.

	 Tomasina DiCapo, Vice-Chair
ATTEST:	 Heather Donaldson, Sr. Management Analyst

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 Advisory Commission meeting held on May 8, 2025.

	 Ashley Ware, City Librarian
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