

**CITY OF SURPRISE
Library Advisory Commission
16089 N. Bullard Ave.
Surprise, Arizona 85374**

Thursday, March 12, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

Surprise Regional Library

Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

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

Absent: Commission members Kady McCarthy and MaryAnne Riodique

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

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Staff Reports

Ms. Ware reported on the following items:

- Books & Baseball Month is upon us. Patrons are using their free tickets from Mayor's Literacy Challenge to go to some awesome spring training games. We have had specialty programs with baseball crafts and this weekend we have a person coming in to talk about baseball cards and trading! They donated over 6,000 cards to give out to patrons.
- Multigen has hit a slight snag and will be delaying the estimated open time from June/July to July/August.
- Out of the Park music festival is coming up and there is an offer released today for library patrons to use a special code BOOKSROCK for \$15 off! We love how Sports, Entertainment, and Culture support us in so many ways.
- We are searching for 2 new interns. They would be helping with the new processing and retro labeling projects.

E. Library Commission Agenda

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Consideration and action pertaining to the February 12, 2026 Library Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Vice Chair DiCapo moved to approve the February 12, 2026 Library Advisory Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner McCall 2nd. 5 Yes votes. Motion carried.

2. Presentation and discussion on Surprise Regional Library.

Kate Malstaff, Surprise Regional Library Branch Manager, provided the Commission with a presentation about the Surprise Regional Library which is the largest branch within the Surprise Public Library System. She addressed the following items:

- Building Updates
 - New automated material handler
 - New printer/copier
 - New furniture
 - Coming soon items
- Public Art
 - Vaya con Dios
 - The Learning Tree
 - Reflections of Surprise
 - The 5 C's of Arizona
- Staffing
- Volunteers
 - Adult volunteers
 - Teen volunteers
- Programs and Services

3. Presentation and discussion on Mayor's Literacy Challenge 2026 wrap up.

Tonya Stuempfl, Librarian, provided the Commission with a presentation about the Surprise Public Library System's 2026 Mayor's Literacy Challenge which is in its third year. She addressed the following items:

- Program history
- Yearly stats
- Prizes
- Partners

F. Other Business and Future Agenda Item

- Chair VanLoon proposed having a future agenda item to discuss Banned Books Week and possible ideas to promote Freedom to Read for next October. She also requested for an update on the Library of Things.

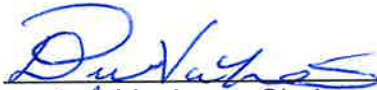
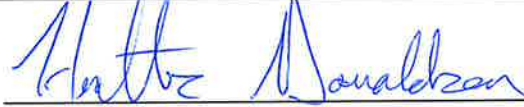
- Commissioner Gentry asked for a future agenda item to discuss the new system within the library. She also asked for an item to report about the Culture Passes with stats of how they are used, etc.
- Commissioner DiCapo asked if there could be signage around the City Campus advertising what items the Library has in the Library of Things. Commissioner Gentry asked if there has been a newspaper article advertising the Library of Things.

G. Current Events and Reports

- Commissioner McCall asked for clarification of an e-mail the Commission received from Arts & Culture regarding The Vista event.

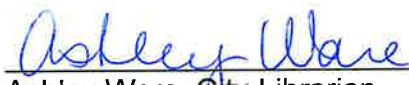
H. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn at 6:47 pm – Vice Chair DiCappo made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gentry 2nd. 5 Yes votes. Motion Carried.

	 _____ Desiree VanLoon, Chair
ATTEST:	 _____ Heather Donaldson, Sr. Management Analyst

CERTIFICATION:

I, Ashley Ware, City Librarian for the City of Surprise Library Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Library Advisory Commission meeting held on March 12, 2026.

	 _____ Ashley Ware, City Librarian
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