

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

Thursday, May 14, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.
Surprise Regional Library

Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Vice Chair Tomasina DiCapo, Commission members, Deborah Gentry, Kady McCarthy, Mark McCall (arrived at 6:11PM) and MaryAnne Riodique

Absent: Chair Desiree VanLoon and Commission member Annie Ansell

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

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Staff Reports

Ms. Ware reported on the following items:

- Summer Reading is going to be fantastic. We already have over 1,200 people signed up!
- Our interns have started and are really hitting the ground running with the interfile project and helping with new books coming in.
- Multigen is slated to have a grand opening at the end of August.
- Latest Library of Things added to the library are Ghost Hunting Kits and from a wonderful donation from Commissioner Ansell, Sewing Kits.
- Library Card Design Contest will be unveiled at the June 2nd Council Meeting.

E. Library Commission Agenda

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Consideration and action pertaining to the April 9, 2026 Library Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner McCarthy moved to approve the April 9, 2026 Library Advisory Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Riodique 2nd. 4 Yes votes. Motion carried.

2. Presentation pertaining to the Public Library Association 2026 Conference and City staff attendance thereof.

City Librarian Ashley Ware and Jamie McCraw, Librarian provided the Commission with an overview of their experience at the 2026 Public Library Association Conference they attended in Minneapolis Minnesota. They addressed the following items:

Ashley Ware Updates

- Sessions
 - Becoming One Library: How to Build Better Internal Communications
 - Engage, Empower, Evolve: Using Staff Input to Strengthen Culture
 - Highway to Hell: The Good Intentions Journey
 - Redesigning Rules to Reflect Library Values

Jamie McCraw Updates

- Sessions
 - Making Space for Teens: Easy Transformation, Passive Programming, Layout
 - Fostering Connections: Building Babies Brains Across a Community: Connecting Parents to Resources
 - Intentional Early Literacy Outreach to Hispanohablantes: Engaging Spanish-Speaking Families In Early Literacy ServicesStaffing

3. Presentation and discussion pertaining to the nistorical context of library policies, the principles of intellectual freedom, and the accessibility of library materials.

City Librarian Ashley Ware provided the Commission with an overview of the historial conext of library policies, key principals of intellectual freedom, and how the Surprise Public Library System ensures accessible balanced, and responsive collections for the community. She addressed the following items:

- History
 - Challenging access to information
 - Recent data
- Laws & Regulations
 - Constitutional rights
 - Supreme Court cases
- Surprise Public Library
 - Policy & Procedure
 - Vegans to Carnivores

F. Other Business and Future Agenda Item

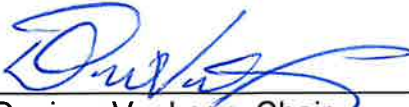
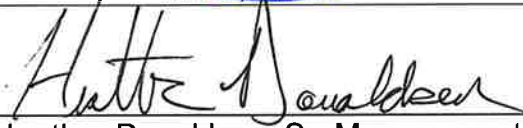
- None

G. Current Events and Reports

- Commissioner McCall and his family are signed up for the Summer Reading Program

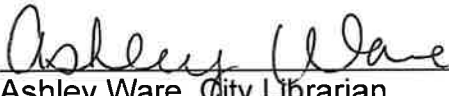
H. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn at 6:42 pm – Commissioner Gentry made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner McCall 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 May 14, 2026.

	 Ashley Ware, City Librarian
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