



# City of San José Library and Education Commission

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## MEETING MINUTES November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

#### Roll Call

PRESENT: Chair Angelica Ramos; Vice Chair Coco-Nicole Banks, Commissioners Daphna Woolfe, Jose L. Abastida, Gini Bossenbroek, Patricia Mendoza, Gerard Roney, Marvin McCrary, Charea Bustamante

ABSENT: Commissioners Deniz Westphal, Ramnik Saandal, Jose L. Abastida, Kristen Brown, Westley Baker

STAFF: Deputy Library Director of Public Services Ann Grabowski; Library Foundation Executive Director Dr. Dawn Coppin; Division Managers Jean Herriges, Vidya Kilambi and Michelle Amores; Program Managers Anh Tran and Karla Alvarez; Administrative Officer Fiahna Cabana, Senior Librarian Melissa Datu, Senior Librarian Rebekah Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant Dziem Nguyen, Librarian I Cassidy Pham

OTHERS: City of San Jose Vice Mayor Rosemary Kamei; Council Assistant Kobe Lopez; City of San José City Auditor Joe Rois

### I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

The Library and Education Commission convened at 7:06 P.M. via Zoom webinar. A quorum was achieved with 8 Commissioners present and 5 Commissioners absent.

### II. Consent Calendar

A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2025.

On the motion of Commissioner Rooney, seconded by Commissioner Bossenbroek, Commissioners voted unanimously to approve September 17, 2025, meeting minutes. (8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions)

### III. Open Forum: No individuals addressed the Commission.

**Commissioner Mendoza arrived at 7:09 pm, achieving quorum with 8 Commissioners.**

### IV. Discussion/Action Items

A. **Branch Spotlight: Tully Library (M. Datu)**

The Commission received a report on the Tully Branch. Discussion Followed.

B. **Program Spotlight: Disability Access Committee (R. Gonzalez)**

The Commission received a report on the Disability Access Committee. Discussion Followed.

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C. Commissioners Coco-Nicole Banks, Marvin McCrary, Gerard Roney, Gini Bossenbroek. (F. Cabana)

The Commission voted to approve the sub-committee appointment to prepare an Annual Budget Position message for City Council. The Commissioners appointed are Commissioners Coco-Nicole Banks, Marvin McCrary, Gerard Roney, Gini Bossenbroek. Discussion followed.

On the motion of Commissioner Mendoza, Seconded by Commissioner Wolfe the Commission voted unanimously to accept the Budget Sub-Committee appointments. (8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions)

#### **V. Council Liaison's Announcements**

City of San José Councilmember Rosemary Kamei addressed the Commissioners.

Councilmember Kamei shared the following updates:

- Council approved \$75,000 increase in the SJPLF Grant. These funds will be used towards Library programs. Schools Cities Collaborative Convening will be on Friday, November 21. Topics will include Literacy Initiatives and safe routes to school. District 1 Office will work in collaboration with Fire and Library department for a holiday Book Drive to gift new books to children during this season. The Council is currently coordinating with VTA and Police departments on safety for 2026 sporting events, Superbowl and FIFA, in the Bay Area. The City is seeing that revenue has been leveling off, but there will continue to be budget challenges next year under the new Federal Administration.

#### **VI. Chair's Announcements**

Chair Ramos shared that there will not be a Library and Education Commission meeting held in the month of December. The next meeting will be on January 21, 2026.

Chair attended the San Jose Public Library Foundation Author event featuring Vicky Nguyen and County Supervisor, Betty Duong. The Chair highlighted the Library's partnership with Science is Everything, who provide STEM kits to children.

#### **VII. Library Director's Announcements**

San José Public Library Deputy Director of Public Services, Ann Grabowski, shared

- a. Library launched a new AI initiative with Mayor Mahan and three leading technology companies. The initiative is called AI For All. The Library is celebrating Native American Heritage month in November. The Library and SJSU are partnering the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual LocalLit event on Saturday, January 24 from 2-4:30 PM at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. The Library is preparing for the Winter Reading program from December 1 to January 4. The Library will be closed for the holidays which includes:
  - i. Thanksgiving Holiday - Thursday, Nov. 27 to Friday, Nov. 28
  - ii. Christmas Holiday – Wednesday, Dec. 24 to Thursday, Dec. 25
  - iii. New Year's Day – Wednesday, Jan. 1

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The library's online collection, eLearning resources, and streaming services will not be impacted and will be available at [sjpl.org](http://sjpl.org).

**VIII. Comments and Announcements:**

A. Announcements & Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners: None  
Commissioner

B. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board: Vice Chair Ramos shared that the Foundation raised over \$150,000 from the Signature Author Event. A reminder that Giving Tuesday is on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. To donate, visit the Foundation's website at sjplf.org. The Foundation is recruiting a Senior Accountant, details can be found on their website, sjplf.org/career

**IX. Information and Upcoming Opportunities for Commission Participation**

See SJPL Program Calendar at <https://www.sjpl.org/>

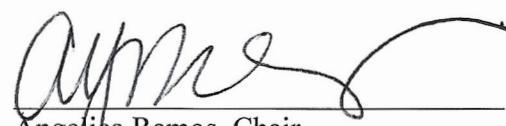
**X. Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas:**

- Commissioner Bossenbroek suggested having a presentation AI For All and safety using AI.

**XI. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items**

The next regular meeting will be held on **January 21st, 2026, at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.**

**XII. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 P.M.



Angelica Ramos, Chair  
San José Public Library  
and Education Commission

ATTEST:

LIBRARY AND EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARY



CASSIE HUNTER