



Minutes
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Minutes of the LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD hybrid meeting recorded at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, held in a hybrid format in-person at Tempe Public Library, and via Microsoft Teams.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Wendy Rosen (Chair)
Jesse Shank (Vice-Chair)
Martha Carter
Katie Boligitz
Dianne Haws
Sonia Sen

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Jessica Brown

City Staff Present:

Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director – Library
Erin Fillmore, Senior Management Assistant – Community Services Admin
Clarence Matherson, Jr., Deputy City Attorney
Kara DeArrastia, City Clerk

General Public Present:

None

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order:

Wendy Rosen, Library Advisory Board (Board) Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 - Call to the Audience:

No public comments from the audience to report.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of the December 3, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes: APPROVED

Wendy Rosen, Board Chair, asked the Board members to review the unapproved meeting minutes document dated December 3, 2025.

- No edits noted or requested.

MOTION: Katie Boligitz moved to approve the December 3, 2025 Board meeting minutes as presented.

SECOND: Jesse Shank seconded.

DECISION: Motion approved, 4-0.

Ayes: Wendy Rosen (Chair), Jesse Shank (Vice Chair), Katie Boligitz, and Sonia Sen

Nays: None
Absent: Jessica Brown
Abstained: Martha Carter and Dianne Haws

Agenda Item 4– City of Tempe’s Open Meeting Law Training Video

- Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director – Library, informed the Board that we would be watching the Tempe City Attorney’s Office Open Meeting Law training video.
 - Tempe Open Meeting Law Review, City Attorney’s Office was played (video can be found at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EzTI58YGIK8>).
- This item was opened for questions by Board members.
- The Board had no questions.

Agenda Item 5 - Staff Report: Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director – Library

- Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director – Library, gave the following report specific to Tempe Public Library (Library) operations:
 - **408** adults were engaged in 17 **programs** during December 2025; programs included:
 - **Book Clubs**
 - Mystery Club
 - Friends of Dorothy
 - Great Books
 - Footnotes Walking Club
 - Bite Size Book Club
 - **Writing Programs**
 - Writers’ Connection
 - Memories About Seasons of the Year
 - **Making and Playing Simple Percussion Instruments**
 - **Reel Deal Film Society**
 - **Writing Contest Book Launch**
 - **Board Game Café**
 - **Puzzle Swap**
 - **Car and Motorcycle Show**
 - The Library’s first ever car and motorcycle show was a (modest) success! Just under 150 attendees including kids who were thrilled to sit on the back of a motorcycle and feel the vibrations. The Friends set up a table to sell vintage car books, the fire department brought one of their trucks, and Dixon set up a mobile shop to sell flannels. The Library is looking at making this an annual event to highlight some of the lesser known resources like the Chilton and Mitchell’s car repair databases.
 - The Library is almost ready for FanCon! An annual all-hands event celebrating fandoms of every kind is happening on Saturday, January 31, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Board Members are all cordially invited to attend this free event with over 80+ vendors, activities for kids, and a stellar costume contest.
 - The Board asked if the Library sees a jump in circulation of Manga/Comics before and after FanCon and J. Jupitus responded that there is not a noticeable jump in circulation but the Library will focus more on these items this year to promote FanCon.
 - With A Twist programs will now occur monthly, on 2nd Sundays at 2:00 p.m.
 - The first program is Rock and Roll and Recycled Crafts, followed by Latin and Love Notes in February, and KPop and Coffee in March.

- With A Twist programs have been some of the Library's best attended adult programs in 2025, so broadening the options and program presenters makes it more sustainable.
- If you haven't checked out the Library's meetup, consider this your invitation:
<https://www.meetup.com/tempe-public-library/>
 - The Board asked if people attending programs advertised on the Library's Meetup had to have a Library card and J. Jupitus responded saying some of the available programming does require a Library card. The Board suggested this may be an opportunity to increase Library card holders.
- J. Jupitus reported the following information specific to operations of the Library's **Youth and Teen Services** areas:
 - **762** participants were engaged in 30 **youth programs** during December 2025, J. Jupitus highlighted the following programs:
 - **Storytimes:**
 - Baby Lapsit
 - Family Evening
 - Preschool
 - Toddler
 - Cuentos Contigo
 - **Mini STEAMers**
 - **Budding Builders**
 - **LEGO Learning Lab**
 - **Paws2Read with Finn and Roxy**
 - **Sunday Funday**
 - **Pokemon Hour**
 - **Raising a Reader with Southwest Human Development**
 - **Teen:**
 - Maker Lab
 - Crochet Corner
 - Teen Art Gallery
 - Trivia: Harry Potter
 - Super Mario Kart
 - New Year Tarot and Vision Board
 - Movie Marathon and Crafts
 - Book Review Pizza Party (we won this from Penguin Random House)
 - The Library had 22 teen volunteers for the month providing 55.5 hours of service, including judging at the car show and handing out the 3D printed trophies.
 - **55 Youth Activity Kits** and 46 teen **STEAM kits** circulated as well as 212 **scavenger hunters**.
 - Like the November "Wall of Gratitude", the Library invited families to post their favorite memory of 2025 on the wall and had 31 participants.
 - In 2025, Youth had some major changes, including moving the young adult collection to the main floor, establishing a teen MakerLab, hosting the Library's biggest Summer Reading program to date, and hosting our first ever Literacy Night.
- **Physical circulation of materials** for December 2025:
 - Physical circulation of materials in December 2025 totaled 34,219 uses;
- **Virtual/eResource circulation** for December 2025:
 - eResource circulation in December 2025 totaled 50,778 uses;

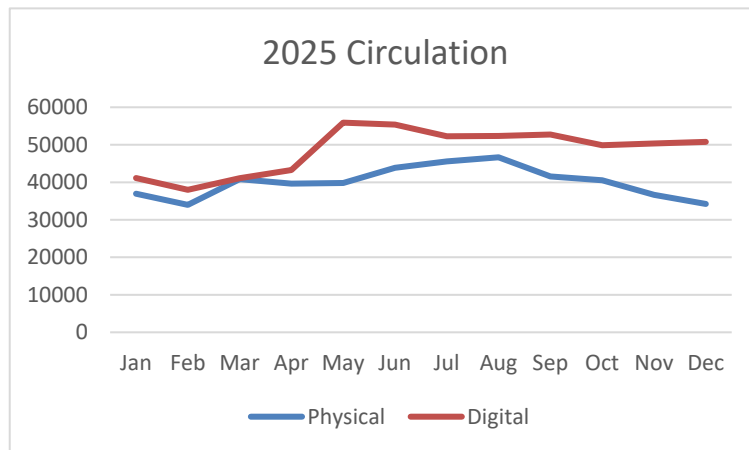
- Library staff added **1,188** new users and renewed **1,380** cards in December 2025.
 - **Public access computers** saw 3,465 total sessions in December 2025.

 - **Gate Count:** 29,962

 - The Library had **208** App downloads (141 Apple; 67 Android) in December 2025.

 - The Library ended the year with 84,225 active cardholders. About halfway to our goal of everyone in Tempe having a Library card! Staff created an Instagram video thanking Library users for spending time with the Library in 2025 and it was one of the Library's higher performing posts for the year, with one commenter claiming responsibility for at least a quarter million of the circs.
 - The Library is working on an Orbit bus channel card marketing campaign with literary quotes and teasers to help drive traffic (pun intended) to the Library by building interest. The book quotes will have a QR code linking to a copy of the item to encourage folks to read further.
 - The Library conducted a staff survey in advance of the larger Strategic Plan survey and found that most of the pain points for staff are currently in technology – helping Library users with printing, having limited options for payments, and frequent failures of equipment due to outdated service contracts or lack of updates. This is something the Library is prioritizing for 2026.
 - The Library completed the Request for Proposal (RFP) process for purchasing library materials and established a cooperative contract with Brodart, with approval pending from City Council to add four (4) additional vendors. Diversifying vendors is intentional to prevent future disruptions in materials purchasing, such as those experienced during the Baker & Taylor bankruptcy.
- J. Jupitus updated the Board on the following topics:
 - The Library is experimenting with a multi-month programming theme to see if it creates a cohesion in the programming offered and encourages repeat attendance.
 - Staff started having youth and adult programming meetings three (3) times a year to bring everyone together to discuss ideas and potential opportunities for cross-department collaboration.
 - Library programming focus for January through April 2026 is highlighting creativity and all the various forms it takes.
 - The Library had a clock tower refresh; new hands and mechanisms were installed on January 6, 2026 to ensure the clock displays the accurate time for anyone driving by.
 - This refresh was especially needed since it features prominently in our new logo!
 - The Library added floor maps to the website so people can more easily navigate through the building on their own, should they want to do so.
 - The Tempe Community Survey results from 2025 rated 85% satisfaction with the quality of Tempe Public Library.
 - For context, the national average rating for library satisfaction is 59% and mid-sized city average is 64%. The quality of library programs and services was rated at 82% satisfaction. There was also 82% satisfaction with the perception of safety at the Library complex during the day and 65% satisfaction at night.
 - Perception of safety is something the Library is actively working on with security and the police department.
 - For more community survey results, check out the report here: <https://www.tempe.gov/government/strategic-management-and-innovation/signature-surveys-research-and-data>.
 - The Library is considering a Library Open House in May 2026 that could include tours, sampling story time and other programs, showing how to use the Library's app, among other possibilities.
 - The Board asked if people could sign up for a Library card online and J. Jupitus responded that they can.
 - A quick year in review, Tempe Public Library 2025 by the numbers:

- 2,032 stories provided on the short story machine: 43% were 1 minute, 30% were 3 minutes, and 27% were 5 minutes.
- 960 new members on Meetup with 130 events, 4.8 out of 5 stars rating, and +438% attendance over 2024.
- Over 9,000 phone calls were answered.
- 3,087 open hours with 461,466 people through the doors.
- 577 programs for youth and teens with 26,021 attendees; 252 programs for adults with 4,084 attendees.
- Two (2) Writers in Residence and two (2) Tempe Writes contests.
- 3,250 estimated attendees at FanCon, 4,658 registrants for Summer Reading, and 1,500 books provided for One Tempe One Book.
- 3,104 Library app downloads.
- 51,648 items were added to the collection.
- 483,314 physical items and 583,182 digital items were circulated for a grand total of 1,066,496 circulations. This is about a 9% increase from the 2024 circulations. The chart below shows physical and digital circulation for 2025. Note the increase in circulations during Summer Reading.



Agenda Item 6– Member Announcements/Future Agenda Items

None.

Agenda Item 7 - Adjournments

- Motion made by Jesse Shank to adjourn the meeting.
Second by Sonia Sen.
Meeting Adjourned at 6:48 p.m.
 - The next meeting of the Library Advisory Board is scheduled to occur at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2026;
- This public meeting will be held in a hybrid format in-person and virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Prepared by: Erin Fillmore; Reviewed by: Jessica Jupitus

Wendy Rosen
Wendy Rosen (Feb 5, 2026 10:24:49 MST)

02/05/2026

Approval Signature: Library Advisory Chair






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Final Audit Report

2026-02-05

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