

**LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
February 3, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.**

**ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

The Abilene Public Library Advisory Board met for a regular meeting on February 3, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 555 Walnut Street. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Judith Phaneuf, Elizabeth Norman, Kristi Brokaw, Vicki House, Karen Turner

Board Members Absent: Katie New, Joe Biles

Also Present: Julee Hammer, Library Director; Trent Dietz, Assistant City Attorney; Linda Camacho, Library Administrative Assistant

Media Present: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Judith Phaneuf at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and take action on approving the minutes from the regular meeting held on November 4, 2024.

Elizabeth Norman noted a correction to the minutes: the date of the next Library Advisory Board meeting was listed as May 5, 2025, but should be February 3, 2025. Elizabeth Norman moved to approve the corrected minutes. Kristi Brokaw seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (5): Board Members Phaneuf, Norman, Brokaw, House, and Turner

NAYS (0): None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judith Phaneuf opened the public comment period. The following addressed the Library Advisory Board:

- Tammy Fogle

With no other speakers coming forward, the public comment period was closed.

AGENDA ITEMS

2. Election of officers for 2025

Chair: Elizabeth Norman moved to approve Judith Phaneuf as Chair, Vicki House seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (5): Board Members Phaneuf, Norman, Brokaw, House, and Turner

NAYS (0): None

Vice-Chair: Kristi Brokaw moved to approve Elizabeth Norman as Vice-Chair. Vicki House seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (5): Board Members Phaneuf, Norman, Brokaw, House, and Turner
NAYS (0): None

3. Review on-order catalog comments and make a recommendation to the Library Director on pending book orders (discussion and possible action).

Judith Phaneuf reported there were no on-order catalog comments, so a review was not needed. Kristi Brokaw moved to approve the pending book orders, Karen Turner seconded the motion; motion carried. The Advisory Board's recommendation will be forwarded to the Library Director for completion of book orders. This is a standard agenda item at regular board meetings.

AYES (5): Board Members Phaneuf, Norman, Brokaw, House, and Turner
NAYS (0): None

4. Library Director's Report

a. Rec Center Branch Libraries Update:

Ms. Hammer provided an update on the new recreation centers that will replace the existing Cesar Chavez and G.V. Daniels facilities. She shared a series of presentation slides previously shown to the City Council, detailing the inclusion of integrated branch libraries within each center. Scheduled to open in Spring 2026, these libraries will share space within the recreation facilities and collaborate closely with the Parks & Recreation Department to offer joint programming. Although both centers will feature identical floor plans, their orientation will vary based on site-specific considerations. The Mockingbird Branch Library will close before the expiration of its lease on December 31, 2025. All staff currently assigned to Mockingbird will be reassigned to the new locations, and no staff positions will be eliminated as part of this transition.

b. Abilene Heritage Square Update:

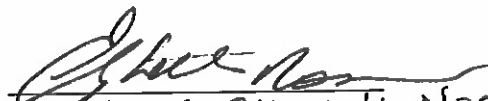
Ms. Hammer presented the board with a packet that included updated interior renderings of the library at Abilene Heritage Square, a recent construction site photo, and new exterior renderings. The information in the packet was presented to the City Council at an earlier meeting. The new library at Abilene Heritage Square will encompass approximately 68,000 sq. ft., which is an increase of 26,000 sq. ft. compared to the current Main Library. The project remains on schedule, with substantial completion expected by March 13, 2026, and a grand opening scheduled for April 24, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

The next Library Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, 555 Walnut St., 2nd Floor Council Chambers.

Linda Camacho
Library Administrative Assistant


Judith Phaneuf Elizabeth Norman
Chair Vice Chair

Minutes approved on: _____