



City of Abilene

Library Advisory Board Agenda

Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Abilene Public Library Advisory Board of the City of Abilene to be held on January 26, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, 555 Walnut Street, Council Chambers, Abilene, Texas, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items.

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES

1. **Minutes:** Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on November 10, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENT

AGENDA ITEMS

2. Election of officers for 2026 (discussion and possible action).
3. Review on-order catalog comments and make a recommendation to the Library Director on pending book orders (discussion and possible action).
4. Library Director's Report (discussion)
 - A. Rec Center Branch Libraries update
 - B. Abilene Heritage Square update

ADJOURNMENT

Notice

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Abilene will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending meetings. To better serve you, requests should be received forty-eight (48) hours prior to scheduled meetings. Please contact the City Secretary's Office at 325-676-6208. Telecommunication device for the deaf is 325-676-6360.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above meeting notice was posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall of the City of Abilene, Texas, on the 16th day of January, 2026, at 8:35 a.m.

Kaitlin Richardson, Deputy City
Secretary, TRMC

**ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2025**

The Abilene Public Library Advisory Board met for a regular meeting on November 10, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 555 Walnut Street. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Joe Biles, Kristi Brokaw, Karen Turner, Terry Young

Board Members Absent: Vicki House, Katie New, Judith Phaneuf

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

Media Present: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Kristi Brokaw at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

- 1. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and take action on approving the corrected minutes from the meeting held on August 4, 2025.**

Joe Biles moved to approve the corrected minutes from August 4, 2025. Karen Turner seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (4): Board Members Young, Biles, Turner, Brokaw

NAYS (0): None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kristi Brokaw opened the public comment period. With no speakers coming forward, the public comment period was closed.

AGENDA ITEMS

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

Kristi Brokaw reported there were no comments on the pending book orders from the online on-order review catalog, so a review was not needed. Karen Turner made a motion to recommend approval of the pending book orders, which Joe Biles seconded. The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried. The Advisory Board's

recommendation will now go to the Library Director, who will oversee the completion of these book orders. This is a standard agenda item for regular board meetings.

AYES (4): Board Members Turner, Biles, Young, Brokaw

NAYES (0): None

3. Library Director's Report

a. Recreation Center Branch Libraries Update:

Ms. Hammer reported that the Mockingbird Branch Library permanently closed to the public on October 31, 2025. Following the closure, furnishings were redistributed to the Main Library and South Branch for reuse. Additional furnishings were offered to other City departments, with remaining items designated for the City's online auction.

Library materials from the Mockingbird Branch will be boxed by staff and relocated to the Main Library for evaluation. Materials will be assessed for condition and determined for redistribution to other branches or retention for the new recreation center library branches. Staff are also coordinating with the IT and Facilities departments to remove all remaining City equipment.

Construction updates were provided for both recreation centers. At the Cesar Chavez Recreation Center, roofing installation is ongoing, HVAC ductwork is being installed within interior walls, overhead piping insulation is in progress, and drywall installation and insulation continue throughout the building. At the G.V. Daniels Recreation Center, window glazing and electrical wiring are underway, interior walls are being taped and bedded, primer paint is being applied, basketball goals have been installed, gym painting is in progress, and HVAC duct installation continues.

Ms. Hammer noted that the Parks & Recreation Department is coordinating the purchase of furniture and equipment for the recreation centers. Some purchases have already been presented to City Council, with additional items forthcoming.

b. Abilene Heritage Square Update:

Ms. Hammer reported that on September 29, 2025, air conditioning was activated in Phase C of the Abilene Heritage Square project, which includes staff areas and the Texas History and genealogy space. The auditorium structure was completed on October 8. A site walk and pre-installation conference with 720 Design and furniture vendors was conducted on

October 22 to review delivery logistics and FF&E installation. Phase C construction was completed on October 23. Activation of air conditioning in Phase D, which includes the new library construction, is scheduled for November 11. Work on the parking lots is also ongoing.

The project remains on schedule, with substantial completion anticipated on March 13, 2026, and owner move-in scheduled to begin on March 16, 2026. The public grand opening ceremony is scheduled for May 18, 2026.

Ms. Hammer stated that the bulk of the furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) purchases for the Main Library at Abilene Heritage Square were presented to the City Council, approved, and are in process. City Council allocated \$3 million from the Minor Improvement Fund for this purpose. Staff are also working with Museum Arts. Inc. on the design of the storytime area on the second floor of the new Main Library.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

The next Library Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, 555 Walnut St., 2nd Floor Council Chambers.

Kristi Brokaw

Linda Camacho

Linda Camacho,
Library Administrative Assistant