

City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street Corpus Christi, TX 78401 cctexas.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Library Board

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

10:30 AM

La Retama Central Library, La Retama Room

The City of Corpus Christi promotes participation regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability or political belief. Reasonable accommodation is provided upon request and in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For assistance or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact (361) 826-3300 at least 48 hours in advance. Upon request, this information can be available in larger print and/or in electronic format.

A. Call To Order

Pat Craig called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

B. Roll Call

Present: Pat Craig, Carrie Moore, Jennifer Anderson, Joan Carrillo, Melinda De Los

Santos, Alice Hawkins, Dolores Rabon, Dora Wilburn

Present Virtually: None Absent: Caroll Matthews

C. Public Comment

- Alex Hatley, previous librarian with CCPL, shared that Koha can restrict by age and that library administration fears that the library board will try to become a governing board. Laura Garcia responded that the current alerts provided by Koha are not effective, which is why staff is recommending the Parent Must Be Present enhancement.
- Shawn Flanagan thinks that some books belong in the adult section, and others in the children's section. He said he does not like the lack of compromise in the latest draft of the Collection Development Policy.
- Sylvia Whitworth said she tried to read new policy, but it was boring until you got to the sexy part. She said there seems to be two groups; the professional group is boring because they just want people to read as many books as possible and the other group seems to be sexually frustrated.
- Colby Wiltse voiced support for policies that protect children from accessing potentially harmful materials.
- Juan Rodriguez shared National Institute of Health studies that connect sexually explicit material and pornography with risky sexual behavior as an adult.
- Guy Gallegos feels that those pushing the recommendations are fascists and that basic sex education should be taught to help children recognize and report sex abuse. He said the "sexually explicit" material is either for older children or not actually sexually

explicit.

- Tom Tagliabue spoke after item G, the Collection Development Policy Discussion. He said he is relieved that city staff rejected some of the proposed changes and gave suggestions on some sections to keep.
- Julie Rogers spoke after item G, the Collection Development Policy Discussion. She stated the Discussion on Collection Develop Policy is the same things being repeated and she supports changes made by staff and feels the board will try to destabilize the library by not seeking more funding. She also said that people are being more rude to city staff. Pat Craig made a statement of fact that nobody is trying to destabilize the library.
- Eli McKay spoke after item G, the Collection Development Policy Discussion. She stated the new website is easier to use than the old website. She hopes the board will work on other things this year and feels that the board is being manipulated by a fascist regime.
- Vickie Natale spoke after item G, the Collection Development Policy Discussion. She stated she supports changes recommended by city staff, that the library should not interpret law, and that parents should be responsible for what their children checkout, not librarians. She said she encourages the use of the reconsideration process that is in place.
- Jazmeyne Evans spoke after item G, the Collection Development Policy Discussion. She stated some board recommendations are not necessary. She likes that staff adapted to respond to community need and wants the board to lean on library staff expertise.
- Marilena Garza spoke after item J, Future Agenda Items. She stated it is shameful that the city uses the libraries as warming/cooling centers without providing funding and that the city needs a homelessness advisory board and wants homelessness concerns and budget to be on the next agenda.
- The following citizen submitted a written public comment which is attached to the minutes: Jim Klein, Corpus Christi, TX.

D. Approval of Minutes and Action on Absences

1. <u>25-0162</u> January 7, 2025 Library Board Minutes

<u>Attachments:</u> January 7, 2025 Library Board Minutes - Draft

A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Carrie Moore and seconded by Melinda De Los Santos. The motion passed unanimously. Carrie Moore asked that her previous absence be excused. Jennifer Anderson motioned to excuse her previous absence; Dolores Rabon seconded the motion. All voted to excuse her absence except Alice Hawkins who abstained.

E. Friends of CCPL Liaison Report

- **2.** <u>25-0163</u> Friends of CCPL Liaison Report
 - The Friends of CCPL- Teen Bookfest by the Bay will be held on February 22nd from

10am to 4pm.

F. Director's Report

3. <u>25-0164</u> Director's Report

- Grant funds for warming/cooling center are for direct services, the library does not qualify.
- Booklist update- the list will be sent to the Library Board members if they want to continue updating it.
- Update on Teen and Young Adult sections- Over 1000 books were reviewed, of those about 700 will move to the new Teen section and approximately 300 will remain part of the Young Adult Collection.
- United Way of the Coastal Bend- Sherry Peterson who oversees the Success By 6 Coalition will give a presentation at the March Library Board meeting.
- Week of the Young Child- United Way of the Coastal Bend will host the Week of the Young Child on April 12th from 12-3pm.

G. Staff Presentation

4. <u>25-0165</u> Collection Development Policy Discussion

<u>Attachments:</u> Collection Development Policy (redline version) (1)

• Collection Development Policy Discussion- the proposed changes to the policy were discussed including principles and reconsideration process, with a brief discussion on making recommendations to the City Council.

H. Unfinished Business

None

I. New Business for Discussion

None

J. Future Agenda Items

- Carrie Moore would like to take a board vote to see who would like to see sexually explicit material for 17 and under moved from the YA to adult section.
- Melinda would like recommendations for new strategies to increase public awareness on age-appropriate books.

K. Adjournment

Adjournment at 12:26 pm.

Public Comment received 2/4/2025 7:47AM

Greetings to the members of the Corpus Christi Library Board. My name is Jim Klein. I live in District 2 of Corpus Christi. Regarding the Corpus Christi Library Board's consideration of new language in the Corpus Christi Public Library Development Policy, I strongly urge the Board to adopt the language proposed by the Corpus Christi Library staff. This language reflects their professional training and expertise in this matter and does not bias any demographic group living within city limits. Thank you, Jim Klein Corpus Christi resident, District 2