



# City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
cctexas.com

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Library Board

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Tuesday, March 4, 2025

10:30 AM

La Retama Central Library, La Retama Room

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**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, Carroll Mathews, Dolores Rabon, Dora Wilburn

Present Virtually: None

Absent: None

#### C. Public Comment

- Becky Moeller said the meeting between the City Manager and board members should have been public, and that the board should have talked about the budget before the policy.
- Guillermo Gallegos said there is no pornography in the library and felt the library budget should be spent on literacy.
- Shawn Flanagan said the new Collection Development Policy and restricted library cards are a tolerant compromise.
- Daniel Resley said there are many opinions on morality and immorality, and he approves of the new Collection Development Policy.
- Aimee Pfeiffer said she works with at-risk youth and that absent parents lead to risky behavior, not books. She stated librarians are not babysitters, and parents should spend more time parenting.
- Cameron Rhodes stated the Citizens Defending Freedom met with the City Manager to push their agenda to remove anything that does not align with their political views such as LGBT material. He said parents should monitor what their children read.
- Kennah Leal thinks that librarians are more qualified than board members and that vague language in the Collection Development Policy is dangerous.
- Tom Tagliabue stated he dislikes the new Collection Development Policy, criticizing its

development process and the City Manager's meeting with board members, and called for more transparency.

- Christina English stated that the library should be for everybody. She was also critical of Citizens Defending Freedom and said they are fascist, citing their website as evidence.
- Eli McKay thinks that moral panic has been manufactured based on a fascist agenda that preys upon people with faith. She said that those who ban books are never on the right side of history, and we should stand against fascism.
- Isabel Arriaza stated that Citizens Defending Freedom and Moms for Liberty are similar to hate groups from history.
- Catherine Barnes thanked staff for creating the Collection Development Policy and stated she likes the new changes and the new library cards.
- Samuel Fryer corrected a previous comment quoted from the Citizens Defending Freedom website. He felt that morality quoted on the website comes from The Bible and we should not be corrupting children.
- Ken Weston supports proposed changes to CDP to move sexually explicit material (new and existing) from children and teen sections to the adult section. He felt that this is consistent with other standards such as not selling tobacco to minors. He then quoted a study that showed negative effects of pornography on minors.
- Francette Maney supports the new Collection Development Policy, she thinks it is not censorship, it is protecting children.
- Katy O'Callaghan thanked staff for creating the new Collection Development Policy. She thinks the proposed changes are helpful. She hopes that staff finds books that inspire a love of literature for youth in Corpus Christi while moving books to new sections.
- Roseanne Norman stated that once a child sees explicit material, they cannot unsee it. She said that parenting all the time is difficult and thanked the board for their efforts.
- Alberto Carrillo thanked the board members for the work they do. He was upset after looking through children and young adult sections and wanted to burn books he found.
- Barb Craig-Schniepp pointed out some inconsistencies in the new Collection Development Policy and asked about provisions for emancipated minors. She also does not like that the new policy removes the phrase "freedom to read is essential to our democracy". Laura Garcia made a point of fact that there are provisions for emancipated minors.
- Rachel Cabellero thinks that both sides need to be careful about what they accuse the others side of. She stated that we should join the fight against local child trafficking.
- Julie Rogers spoke after item 6, Director's Report. She does not think the library should spend money on new library cards and thinks there should be a town hall meeting on the matter.
- Marilena Garza spoke after item 6, Director's Report. She said the board does not listen to public comment or care about the budget and thinks that broad language in the Collection Development Policy can lead to discrimination.
- Public Comment received 3/4/2025 12:19am  
I am writing to submit a public comment regarding the proposed Corpus Christi Public Library Collection Development Policy (CDP).

Skip to the end for TL;DR (too long didn't read summary)

As a concerned member of the community, I urge the Library Board to delay the decision on this policy until all voices have been heard. The entire community—not just select groups—deserves the opportunity to provide input, including all Library Advisory Board members. A town hall meeting would allow for a more inclusive discussion, ensuring that the policy reflects the needs and values of all Corpus Christi residents.

Additionally, I want to emphasize that there is no pornography in our public libraries. This false claim continues to be used as a justification for unnecessary policy changes, despite the fact that pornography is illegal in public spaces—including libraries. Our library professionals have already developed a CDP based on their expertise and community feedback. I trust our librarians to make informed decisions, and I see no reason to amend or continue debating the Staff-proposed 2025 CDP.

Furthermore, discussions regarding the CDP should not take place behind closed doors. Transparency and public involvement are essential in decisions that impact the entire community. Instead of revisiting this issue repeatedly, we should be focusing on more pressing priorities, such as increasing library operating hours, improving literacy programs, and expanding access to educational resources for all residents.

Libraries are a cornerstone of knowledge, learning, and community support. They should be shaped by inclusive policies that represent everyone, not just those with the loudest voices. Please ensure that decisions regarding our public libraries are made with fairness, transparency, and the best interests of the entire community in mind.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jennifer Adkins  
(361)945-5821

TL;DR:

- Delay CDP decision – broader community input needed (town hall).
- No pornography in libraries – false claims used to push unnecessary changes.
- Trust librarians – 2025 CDP is professionally developed, no need for amendments.
- Transparency – no behind-closed-doors discussions.
- Focus on real priorities – expand hours, improve literacy, support education.

• Public Comment received 3/4/2025 7:50am

I am writing in opposition to the proposed change to the library collection development policy. It should not be ratified without greater opportunity for the public to weigh in. The library advisory board should be consulted as well. Please do not commit the city to this plan - and the additional costs - to satisfy extremists. This policy is harmful and wasteful.

My full name and address-

Tracy Figueroa  
6253 Strasbourg Dr.

Corpus Christi, Texas 78414

- Public Comment received 3/4/2025 7:54am.

Hello. My name is Rachel Rogers and I live in district 5. I am writing to say that I am staunchly against the radical changes being made to our library regarding the censorship of books in our youth section. All because of a few repressed, transphobic, homophobic and sexist individuals with too much time on their hands and not enough common sense. Individuals who can't parent properly and are passing the responsibility to our libraries. Individuals who think they know better than trained librarians. Individuals who can't tell sexual nudity from nonsexual nudity. Individuals who would rather bury their heads in the sand about the world complexities that have a potentially difficult discussion with their children. Individuals who prefer kids sheltered and woefully unprepared for life's realities. I find all of this horrifying. Let's talk about what this is really about. Religious zealots pushing an agenda and trying to control what other people's kids read because they are having a hard time instilling bigotry in their own when there's freedom to seek out information present. Knowledge is power. Knowledge can arm our children against otherwise confusing topics if we are willing to have an open dialogue with them about it. Why we are wasting time with this when we could instead be helping to boost literacy and community outreach is beyond me. In 2023, Corpus was found to be one of Texas least educated cities, beaten only by Harlingen and McAllen, and if that study was done again today...I'm not convinced we'd fare any better. Nor will it get better if we start letting a small group of citizens tell the library what is and isn't pornography. I love this city and want to raise my daughter here, but not if it's going to fall further into narrow-mindedness. Thank you.

- Public Comment Received 3/4/2025 10:18am

Hello,

My name is Mark Muenster, I have lived in Corpus Christi my whole life. I loved the Neyland library growing up, and still go there now. There is no pornography in the libraries. Please protect the views and literature that represents all. Illicit material is much easier found through technology/phones/the internet at home, than at the library. Delay the decision in the proposed collection policy.

Mark Muenster

- Public Comment Received 3/4/2025 10:22am

Public comment:

"There is NO PORNOGRAPHY in the libraries!! Pornography is illegal in public spaces - and libraries are a public space. Period.

Also, the library professionals listened to the board and community and developed a Collection Development Policy (CDP) based on their professional expertise and what they heard. We trust librarians and their knowledge. There is NO need to amend the Staff proposed 2025 CDP or to continue the discussion.

Furthermore, discussions about the CDP should not happen behind closed doors. The public and the entire Advisory Library Board have a right to be involved and know what is going on with our public libraries.

The past year has been challenging, expensive, and destabilizing for our libraries. We need to move on to other priorities like increasing operating hours and improving literacy."

-Anna Allcott, Nueces County resident

- Public Comment Received 3/4/2025 10:30am from Kailey Diaz.

I find it very concerning as local mother that this board meeting wasn't more promoted, a topic that may so directly impact my children. I have a 6 year old autistic son, and a 16 non binary kiddo.

Pornography keeps popping up over the course of conversation since arriving this morning. I, for one, have yet to see the pages of Hustler gracing the shelves of my Local Library.

Pornography is illegal in public spaces.

Libraries are public spaces.

I have fond memories of Library trips, events, game days, lock ins. My childhood Library was inclusive and a safe place for everyone. I feel like that is being taken away.

Why are librarians not being heard?

Why are mothers and fathers not being heard?

This is the first time I've attended a public board meeting. I'm disappointed. And I want to see change.

#### **D. Approval of Minutes and Action on Absences**

A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Carrie Moore and seconded by Melinda De Los Santos. The motion passed unanimously. Carroll Matthews asked that her previous absence be excused. Jennifer Anderson motioned to excuse her previous absence; Carrie Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **1. [25-0329](#)**

**Attachments:** [February 4, 2025 Library Board Minutes- Draft](#)

#### **E. Partner Presentation**

2. [25-0330](#) United Way Success by Six Early Childhood Coalition Presentation

**Attachments:** [United Way of the Coastal Bend, Success By 6 Overview](#)

- Sherry Peterson, Success By 6 Director at United Way of the Coastal Bend, gave an overview of the program. Topics included Local Data Story, Responding to the data, Focus on School Readiness – Language and Cognitive Development, Success By 6 Early Childhood Coalition – Community Strategies, and Overview of 10 years of partnership with Corpus Christi Public Libraries to support child literacy.

**F. Friends of CCPL Liaison Report**

3. **25-0331** Friends of CCPL Liaison Report

- The Friends of CCPL- Teen Bookfest by the Bay had 650 in attendance. They are planning next year's event. The Friends will also have a table at the Week of the Young Child.

**G. Director's Report**

4. [25-0332](#) Introduction of New Juvenile and Teen Library Cards

**Attachments:** [Library Board-March 2025](#)

- Introduction of New Juvenile and Teen Library Cards- Laura Garcia gave an overview of the new library cards to be introduced. Topics included the price and timeline for implementing the new cards.

**H. Unfinished Business**

- None

**I. New Business for Discussion and Possible Action**

5. [25-0333](#) Collection Development Policy Discussion and Possible Action

**Attachments:** [Current Collection Development Policy](#)  
[Staff Recommended Collection Development Policy](#)

- Collection Development Policy Discussion and Possible Action- Laura Garcia presented proposed changes to the staff recommended Collection Development Policy. Carrie Moore motioned to approve the staff recommended Collection Development Policy. Melinda De Los Santo seconded the motion. After some clarifications from Laura on some changes, Alice Hawkins made a motion to amend the initial motion to instead table the motion until staff has a better idea of how much it will cost to implement the new Collection Development Policy. Dora Wilburn seconded the motion. Alice Hawkins, Carroll Matthews, and Dora Wilburn voted to approve the amendment. Pat Craig, Carrie

Moore, Melinda De Los Santos, and Joan Carrillo voted against amending the motion. Jennifer Anderson abstained. The motion to amend the initial motion did not pass. Alice Hawkins then asked for clarification on two meetings between the City Manager and a local citizen and a meeting between City Manager, Library Staff, and a member of the Board. City Manager, Peter Zaroni provided details. Carrie Moore called the question to return to the original motion. Pat Craig, Carrie Moore, Jennifer Anderson, Joan Carrillo, Melinda De Los Santos, and Dolores Rabon voted to return to the original motion. Alice Hawkins, Carroll Matthews, and Dora Wilburn voted against the motion. The motion to return to the original motion passed. Pat Craig, Carrie Moore, Jennifer Anderson, Melinda De Los Santos, Joan Carrillo, and Dolores Rabon voted to approve the Collection Development Policy proposed by staff. Alice Hawkins, Carroll Matthews, and Dora Wilburn voted against approving the Collection Development Policy proposed by staff. The motion to approve the Collection Development Policy proposed by staff passed. After the vote, Jennifer Anderson said she did not like the policy as presented but wanted to move forward and focus on other things.

6. [25-0338](#) National Library Week 2025 Proclamation Discussion and Possible Action

**Attachments:** [CC Library Proclamation 2025 Draft](#)

- National Library Week 2025 Proclamation Discussion and Possible Action. Pat Craig presented a proclamation to send to the mayor for National Library Week. A motion to approve the proclamation and send it to the mayor was made by Carrie Moore and seconded by Melinda De Los Santos. The motion passed unanimously.

**J. Future Agenda Items**

- None

**K. Adjournment**

Adjournment at 12:57 pm.