

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES OF THE POMONA PUBLIC LIBRARY

REGULAR MEETING

March 18, 2026

5:00 P.M.

100. OPENING

- **110. Call to Order**

Chair Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

- **120. Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chair Johannsen led the pledge of allegiance.

- **130. Roll Call**

Present Trustees:

- Lisa Snider (Mayoral Appointee)
- Sofia R. Araya Abbas (District 1) – Absent
- Meg Johannsen (District 2)
- Tom O. Rodriguez (District 3)
- Mario Suarez (District 4) - Arrived at 5:11pm
- Renee Barbee (District 5)
- Leesli Alcala (District 6)

Others Present:

- Mark Gluba, Assistant City Manager
- Anita Torres, Deputy Director of Library Services / Board Secretary

200. PUBLIC COMMENT

210. There was no public comment.

300. CONSENT CALENDAR

310. Approval of the February 18, 2026 Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE BARBEE AND SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SNIDER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0).

400. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

410. Trustee Barbee attended the Lunar New Year event.

500. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

510. Welcome and Introduction of the Newly Appointed District 6 Trustee, Leesli Alcalá. Board members introduced themselves to Trustee Alcalá. Trustee Alcalá introduced herself to the Board.

520. Nomination and Election of the 2026-27 Chair and Vice Chair for the Board of Library Trustees. Trustee Barbee nominated Vice Chair Johannsen for Chair of the Library Board. Trustee Snider nominated Trustee Barbee for Vice Chair of the Library Board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE BARBEE AND SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SNIDER, TO ELECT TRUSTEE JOHANNSEN AS THE 2026-27 CHAIR OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0).

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE SNIDER AND SECONDED BY TRUSTEE RODRIGUEZ TO ELECT TRUSTEE BARBEE AS THE 2026-27 VICE CHAIR OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0).

530. Update on Poet Laureate Plaque. Ms. Torres shared a mockup that was received by the vendor. Board members were asked to verify names and dates so that staff could proceed with placing the order.

540. Report from the Poet Laureate Ad Hoc Committee. Trustee Rodriguez reported plans for the committee to join the March 26th meeting of the Cultural Arts Commission. Ms. Torres reported an update on Poet Laureate Natalie Sierra.

550. Recent and Upcoming Library Programs. Staff reported on the upcoming Spring Event and themed Storytimes, and thanked the Foundation for their support and sponsorship.

560. Library Staffing Update. Ms. Torres announced her resignation from the City of Pomona and thanked staff, Trustees and support groups for the privilege and opportunity to have worked alongside them for more than 5 years. Ms. Torres announced

plans for Crystal Orosco, Daniel Maldonado, and Jeff McElroy to elevate their roles as part of a temporary plan until a more permanent staffing solution has been identified.

600. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

610. Friends of the Pomona Public Library The annual Trivia Bee is scheduled for April 24th. The Friends are looking for additional volunteers. Trustee Rodriguez asked the Board about their interest in forming a team.

620. Library Foundation Duane Smith mentioned the Foundation is sponsoring a limited number of seats for the Serving with a Purpose conference on May 14th and confirmed the annual Mayor’s Gala is scheduled for June 4th.

630. Support Our Pomona Public Library (SOPPL) John Clifford provided a brief history and an overview of the mission of the organization, to Trustee Alcalá.

700. STAFF COMMUNICATION

710. Deputy Director of Library Services Ms. Torres announced the \$10,000 donation from the Carnegie Corporation, to be used for a project or purchase in Special Collections.

720. Assistant City Manager Mr. Gluba reported on the status of the construction in downstairs staff areas.

800. ADJOURNMENT

810. Adjournment to Wednesday April 15, 2026.

ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:04 PM.

Anita Torres, Deputy Director of Library Services /Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Chair Johannsen, Library Board of Trustees