

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
MONROVIA LIBRARY BOARD  
HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025**

**CONVENE:** President Woodford convened the regular meeting of the Monrovia Library Board on Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Monrovia Community Center, Monroe Room, 119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, California. Staff in attendance: Library Manager Carey Vance, Adult Services Supervisor Kurt Gally, Youth Services Supervisor Ginger Antunez, Librarian Jade Marquez, Management Analyst Julie Gallardo and Administrative Assistant Giana Marini.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Boardmember Ramos led the Flag Salute.

**ROLL CALL:** In attendance: Boardmember Hernandez, Boardmember Ramos Vice President Carlson and President Woodford. Boardmember Caterino excused.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** was moved by Vice President Carlson and seconded by Boardmember Ramos. There were no objections and the motion was unanimously approved.

**CC-1** Unadopted Minutes of the September 25, 2025 Regular Meeting

**CC-2** Adult and Youth Services Program Report for October 2025

**TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB):** Sophia Nunez, a senior at Arcadia High School shared upcoming TAB events.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None.

**AR-1 Literacy Services Status Update –** Jade Marquez, Librarian provided updates on Literacy Services. During the FY 24-25, the library provided 101 programs with a total of 859 program participants. Tutors volunteered a total of 926 hours, 146 hours were helping with programs and 780 volunteer hours were one-on-one tutoring. There are 16 continuous active volunteer tutors, including six new tutors who completed training and onboarding. There were 10 new learners who joined the program, and 37 Learners served in the program who completed at least one learning goal. Goals completed included gaining better employment, organizing a community event, obtaining a passport, earning a United States citizenship, learning to read maps, navigating property taxes, and communicating effectively with coworkers. Funding from California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) was approved as a single block grant of \$64,350 dollars for FY24-25.

**CC-1**

**After discussion,** it was moved by Vice President Carlson and seconded by Boardmember Hernandez to: receive and file AR-1 Literacy Services Status Update.

**AR-2 Library Strategic Plan Q4 Update –** Carey Vance, Library Manager provided updates on Library Strategic Plan Q4. As of October 2025, there were 138 veterans who have attended the monthly Veterans Meetup at Starbucks since the start of September 2023. From July through September 2025 there were 7,033 number of attendees of all ages who attended library programs, which was a 26 percent increase from the previous year. There were 5,693 number of visits to the online streaming platform Kanopy since launching in September 2022. There were 667 numbers of interactions between Veterans Resources Staff and on-site support for Veterans and their families from July through September 2025.

The Monrovia Reads Van returned to campuses in September, bringing access to library materials and services. Staff served a total of 750 students who borrowed 484 books and created 119 new library cards in the first month of the new school year. The library partnered with Monrovia High School students to host a robotics program for school-age children in September. The Monrovia High School Robotics Team showed kids how robots work and provided hands on activities to build their own robots. The library will continue to work on ways to maximize indoor and outdoor spaces for the community and provide programs and services that meet patron's needs both in the library and out in the community. The library will continue to use technology to provide expanded access to library services for the community.

**After discussion,** it was moved by Boardmember Ramos and seconded by Boardmember Hernandez to: receive and file AR-2 Library Strategic Plan Q4 Update.

**AR-3 November and December 2025 Library Board Meetings “Going Dark” –** Carey Vance, Library Manager. The Library Board will not meet November and December 2025. The next Library board meeting will resume January 22, 2026.

**After discussion,** it was moved by Boardmember Ramos and seconded by Vice President Carlson to: receive and file AR-3 November and December 2025 Library Board Meetings “Going Dark”.

## **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

### **RFS-1 Carey Vance, Library Manager**

- The City will be hosting Monrovia's *One City, One Story* citywide reading and community engagement initiative. The selected book is *The Bear* by Andrew Krivak that explores nature, resilience, wisdom and hope. The program will take place from January through March 2026. Activities include a kickoff event at Library Park, nature craft programs, book discussions, Veteran's Paint & Sip, Bear Aware Family program and a finale event.
- The Library Enhancement Project is complete and ready to bid. Construction costs have risen considerably and staff will be pausing the project while funding options and adjustments are being considered. The library will continue to reorganize library spaces, explore flexible layouts and enhance park furniture around the library to offer more space for the community and expand Library Wi-Fi.

**LIBRARY BOARD LIAISON REPORTS:**

**LR-1 President Woodford:** No report.

**LR-2 Vice President Carlson:** The Foundation will be supporting the City's One City, One Story project. The next Foundation meeting will be in December 2025.

**LR-3 Boardmember Caterino:** Excused.

**LR-4 Boardmember Hernandez:** Monrovia Reads meetings will now take place quarterly during the evenings.

**LR-5 Boardmember Ramos:** The next Friends of the Monrovia Public Library meeting will be in November 2025.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next regular Library Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The regular meeting of the Library Board was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.