

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
MONROVIA LIBRARY BOARD
HELD THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026**

CONVENE: President Woodford convened the regular meeting of the Monrovia Library Board on Thursday, January 22, 2026 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, and Administrative Assistant Giana Marini.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Boardmember Hernandez led the Flag Salute.

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

PRESENTATIONS: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR: CC-1 was moved by Vice President Carlson and seconded by Boardmember Hernandez and CC-2 was moved by Boardmember Caterino and seconded by Vice President Carlson. There were no objections and the motion was unanimously approved.

CC-1 Unadopted Minutes of the October 23, 2025 Regular Meeting

CC-2 Adult and Youth Services Program Report for January 2026

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB): Yasmin Siam, a 12th grader at Monrovia High School.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

AR-1 Library Strategic Plan Q1 Update – Carey Vance, Library Manager provided updates on the Library Strategic Plan Q1. There were 5,884 patrons who attended library programs for children, teen, and adults from October through December 2025. There was a total of 2,332 interactions with veterans from the Veterans Resource Center staff and volunteers and a total of 9,272 students who were served by the Monrovia Reads Van. There were 478 interactions with seniors at outreach visits, which is a 144 percent increase over the previous year in 2024.

In 2025, Adult Services expanded programming throughout the year including Veterans and Adult Literacy programming with a total of 3,242 patrons who attended programs. The library continues to partner with Starbucks, Look Cinemas, Makers & Clay, and other local organizations to host events for veterans and their families. In 2025, a total of 815 patrons attended 23 programs for Veterans. The Legacy Project's online historical collection had 17,931 searches from July through December 2025. This special collection provides important historical research resources for students, historians, and community members.

CC-1

The Library is continuing to work on ways to maximize indoor and outdoor spaces for the community and provide programming and services that meet patron's needs inside the library and out in the community while using use technology to provide expanded access.

After discussion, it was moved by Vice President Carlson and seconded by Boardmember Caterino to: receive and file **AR-1 Library Strategic Plan Q1 Update.**

AR-2 California Public Library Survey Evaluation – Carey Vance, Library Manager provided updates on the California Public Library Survey Evaluation. All Public Libraries in California are required by the California State Library to submit an annual report. State grants and some federal grants are contingent on completion of the survey. This report is for FY24/25 and was submitted in October 2025, and will be on the State Library's website in early 2026. The library received two federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants for sustainability and Makerspace STEAM programming. These two grants provided funds to purchase equipment including the Charlie Cart mobile kitchen, Glowforge laser printer, sublimation printer, and Library of Things items. The Makerspace grant totaled \$42,055 dollars while the sustainability grant totaled \$23,381 dollars. Every three years, the report requires a salary survey to be included on the report. Due to updated instructions from the State Library, this year's salary survey was based on job duties in order to accurately reflect job titles to job salaries.

Staff have expanded the Library of Things Collection with grant funds and support from key stakeholders. The expansion has resulted in a 62 percent increase in the number of Library of Things items held by the library over the previous fiscal year, which went from 541 in FY 23/24 to 875 in FY24/25. The Library continues to add more items to the collection. The number of visits to the library increased by 17 percent from 117,607 in FY23/24 to 137,538 in FY 24/25. The increase in visits resulted in more use of Reference Services and transactions over the course of the year from 53,647 in FY23/24 to 59,722 in FY24/25. The circulation of physical and electronic materials increased by 15 percent, with a total of 249,248 items borrowed in from FY24/25 versus 217,322 in FY23/24.

In-person programming increased in both the numbers of programs offered and total attendance from the previous year. In FY24/25, the library offered a total of 843 programs for 45,109 attendees which was a 40 percent increase over FY23/24 which offered 765 programs for 37,824 attendees. A total of 30 percent of the programs were offsite. There was a 43 percent increase of teen program attendance and a 67 percent increase in adult program attendance. In FY23/24, the software that tracks the wireless sessions experienced issues with the upgrades to the library's router system resulting in several months of missed data collection.

After discussion, it was moved by Boardmember Hernandez and seconded by Vice President Carlson to: receive and file **AR-2 California Public Library Survey Evaluation.**

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

RFS-1 Carey Vance, Library Manager

- The One City One Story Kickoff Event is Saturday, January 24, 2026. There are 22 community booths that have confirmed to attend the event. There will be a mini meditation session, Kombucha Demonstration, music, games, raffles, Library of Things Petting Zoo and the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library will host a book sale.
- The Lunar New Year Celebration will be on Saturday, January 31 from 12pm to 3pm. The Field Elementary Lion Dance Team will perform, and there will be a Guqin Chinese Instrument Demonstration and crafts.
- Community Services Director, Tina Cherry, is retiring and has served the Public Services for 32 years. Her Retirement Party will be at 5:30pm in the Community Center. Recreation Manager, Rebecca Sandoval will be the new Community Services Director and Recreation Supervisor, Heather Sayers will become the new Recreation Manager.

LIBRARY BOARD LIAISON REPORTS:

LR-1 President Woodford: The Heritage Society is preparing for their annual meetings and a topic that will be covered is Artificial Intelligence in Genealogical Research. The Heritage Societies are ready and willing to donate books to the library on history topics as needed.

LR-2 Vice President Carlson: The Foundation had its year end gathering and will sponsor the One City One Story event in February. The Foundation is ready to donate to library requests as needed.

LR-3 Boardmember Caterino: Library Manager Carey Vance presented the One City One Story program at the Monrovia Community Coordinating Council during their most recent meeting.

LR-4 Boardmember Hernandez: Monrovia Reads has fundraising activities planned and will be supporting the One City One Story program.

LR-5 Boardmember Ramos: Excused.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular Library Board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The regular meeting of the Library Board was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.