

Municipality of Anchorage
 Library Advisory Board Agenda
 Microsoft Teams Virtual & In-Person Meeting
 Loussac Library (Moose Room)
 June 17, 2026

Board Members

Megan Cacciola, Olivia Garrett, Jen Griffis, Marc Johnson, Wade Hampton Miller,
 Cristy Willer

Topic	Leader	Time
1. Call to Order	LAB Chair	5:30
2. Roll Call	LAB Chair	5:30
3. Approval of Agenda	LAB Chair	5:35
4. Approval of Minutes	LAB Chair	5:40
5. Public Participation	TBA	5:45
6. Library Spotlight	Staff	
a. Service: <i>Digital Accessibility/PDF Recommendations</i>	Kristie Nelsen Virtual Services Librarian	5:55
b. Service: <i>Outreach</i>	Sandy Lukes Community Engagement/Outreach Librarian	6:10
7. Disclosures	TBA	6:25
8. Unfinished Business – Budget Update	APL Director	6:30
9. New Business – None	LAB Chair	---
10. Monthly Board Report	APL Director	6:45
11. Board Comments	LAB Chair	6:55
12. Adjournment	LAB Chair	7:00

Following is a link to join the meeting virtually:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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Meeting ID: 292 276 050 799

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Phone Conference ID: 632 109 625#



**Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board
Minutes of the Meeting of May 20, 2026**

1. Call to Order

Chair Willer convened the meeting at 5:39 p.m. in Anchorage Public Library, 3600 Denali Street, Moose Room, Anchorage, Alaska.

2. Roll Call

Present: Megan Cacciola, Olivia Garrett, Marc Johnson, Wade Hampton Miller, and
Cristy Willer
Absent: Jen Griffis

Also in attendance were Elizabeth Nicolai, Library Assistant Director, Mollie Roache, Budget Coordinator, and Rebecca Lampert, Junior Admin Officer.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Wade Hampton Miller moved, Marc Johnson seconded,
To approve of the agenda of the Library Advisory Board Meeting of May 20, 2026
and the motion passed without objection.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Megan Cacciola moved, Marc Johnson seconded,
To approve the minutes of the Library Advisory Board Meeting of April 15, 2026
and the motion passed without objection.

5. Public Participation – TBA

Mary Weiss joined the LAB meeting online; she did not wish to speak.

6. Library Spotlight

Resource – *None*

Service: Outreach – Sandy Lukes, Community Engagement/Outreach Librarian (Will reschedule)

7. Disclosures

None

8. Old Business

None.

9. New Business

Budget Update – Mollie Roache, Budget Coordinator, discussed the process and timeline of Municipal budget approval, the Capital Improvement Plan, and the Downtown Library project.

10. Reports

Board Report May 2026 – distributed and is on file.

11. Member Comments

Cristy Willer spoke with the Head of Boards and Commissions and was told that they have not received any applicants for Board membership. Members were encouraged to tell likely candidates that there were vacancies on the Board. Recruitment for Board members will be discussed with Marjorie Harrison, Library Director, when she returns.

Megan Cacciola asked (regarding the budget) if it would be helpful to have a long-term outlook for the budget, facility maintenance, capital improvement projects, etc., versus deferred maintenance on our facilities.

Members discussed visiting the Chugiak-Eagle River Branch in August or September.

12. Adjournment

Chair Willer adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

The next Library Advisory Board will be held on June 17, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Lampert, Junior Admin Officer for
Marjorie Harrison, Library Director

For detailed Board discussion, please refer to the recording of this meeting located on the Anchorage Public Library Website at [Library Advisory Board - Anchorage Public Library](https://bit.ly/APLLABYouTube) <https://bit.ly/APLLABYouTube>

Our mission is connecting people to education, information, and community. Each month we share our wins, our challenges, and public information, in service of the Municipality of Anchorage.

Education

Recent Accomplishments

- Kendall Millman (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library) did 12 outreach storytimes for 204 people at Head Starts, daycares, rec centers, AWAIC, Covenant House, and more. This work is supported by the Alcohol Tax.
- Youth Services staff, systemwide, did outreach visits to schools in May where they invited students to join Summer Discovery, showed off STEM kits and other library resources; and signed up students, families, and faculty for library cards:
 - Loussac Library youth staff (Lisa Bricker (Youth Services Supervising Librarian), Kelsey Skrobis (Youth Services Librarian), and Keelin Baughman (Teen Services Librarian)) did five school outreach visits in May reaching 346 people.
 - Red Coffey (Youth Services Librarian, Muldoon Library) visited the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School (ANCCS) connecting with 196 students.
 - Katarina Pavic (Branch Manager, Gerrish (Girdwood) Library) visited the Girdwood School and talked to 107 children.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Youth Services at all locations will host Bird TLC for an interactive program about the fascinating world of avian intelligence as part of Summer Discovery.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time

Information

Recent Accomplishments

- Kendall Millman (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library) hosted a table at the Office of Children's Services' Foster Family Appreciation Night. She spoke with 91 people about library resources and Summer Discovery.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- None at this time

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time

Community

Recent Accomplishments

- Loussac Library Youth Services staff hosted the Summer Discovery kick-off event, Reading Rendezvous on May 16. They welcomed nearly 2,000 people to the Loussac Library lawn to enjoy live entertainment and visit over 40 booths from local organizations. Youth staff registered 948 people for Summer Discovery
- Sue Sommers (Youth Services Librarian, Chugiak-Eagle River Library) partnered with Eagle River Parks and Recreation to host a Celebrate Summer event at the Harry J. McDonald Memorial Center. There were tables for organizations, facepainting, recreational games, and the opportunity to sign up for Summer Discovery. There were 225 people in attendance. CE is considering offering this program on an annual basis.
- Samantha Blanquart (Youth Services Coordinator, Loussac Library) co-hosted a special municipal department storytime with the Anchorage Police Department for 39 people. Deputy Chief Wilson read books with the children before families toured a patrol vehicle.
- The Gerrish (Girdwood) Library has wrapped up its annual Seed Exchange, in collaboration with the Girdwood Library and Community Room Boosters, with a total of 217 participants and handed out over 1500 seed packets.
- Summer Discovery programming began in May with the Stuntology events, which brought 323 people across all five branch locations. Children and families enjoyed and learned different parlor tricks using household objects that they can try at home. **(photo below)**
- Loussac Library debuted the new playstand in the children's area, generously funded by the Friends of the Library. This playstand will encourage children to develop their imaginations and create pretend play scenarios. The first theme is "Post Office" **(photo below)**.
- The Genealogy Workshop had a busy session on May 12 with a total of 6 patrons. Amanda Andros (Adult Services Reference Librarian/Interlibrary Loan Supervisor, Loussac Library) leads this program on the second Tuesday of each month in partnership with the Anchorage Genealogical Society. The program is on summer break and will return in September.
- Mountain View Library hosted a Community Drumming Circle facilitated by Gail Jackson, Global Drum Circle Facilitator Trainer and Remo Endorsed Facilitator. Participants explored percussion instruments, creative expression, and community connection through interactive music-making. Twelve people attended.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The May citywide Community Resource Event at the Park Strip was cancelled, the Community Resource Group looks forward to AMDOT's (Anchorage Multi-Disciplinary Outreach Team) new start date at the same location on Wednesday, June 10.
- The Community Resource Group is planning to co-host the Mountain View Library edition of June's small branch Housing Resource Fairs with the state Office of Citizenship Assistance (OCA).

This will expand the hours of the event and help build a partnership that should allow the OCA to host their own resource fairs at Mountain View Library in the future.

- Mobile Library will have its first public stops in June.
- Youth Services at all locations will host Krumbambuli Puppet Theatre featuring “The Gruffalo” as part of Summer Discovery.
- Chugiak-Eagle River Library will host their annual “Books With Chinooks” program on June 16.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time.

Internal Operations and Statistics

Recent Accomplishments

- After a thorough review of position descriptions, operational needs, and strategic plan goals, APL announced to all staff a new organizational plan. This moves divisions into groups more aligned by work types to create efficiencies and better internal communication.
- Sam Dinges (Adult Services Reference Librarian, Loussac Library) finished inventory on the sixth of eight moving boxes of Alaska books donated by local author and historian James Barnett, passing the 200 book mark from this donated collection. This collection includes numerous early and limited edition prints of rare and culturally significant works of Alaskana.
- Core Services By The Numbers
 - Access to a diverse collection of materials in various formats –
 - Circulation total for May: 126,156
 - Digital items: 51,663
 - Physical items: 74,493
 - Tech services: new items added 2,280; items repaired/records updated 572
 - Knowledgeable and approachable staff
 - Staff completed 23 training hours for May
 - Access to internet connectivity
 - Wifi unique users: 6,305
 - Computer sessions: 4,091
 - Professional reference and research assistance
 - 8,828 Reference questions answered
 - Spaces for individual or group use – visitor count
 - Loussac: 27,236
 - Chugiak-Eagle River: 6,405
 - Gerrish (Girdwood): 2,678
 - Mountain View: 11,257
 - Muldoon: 3,103*
 - *This is only a partial month’s footfall
 - Programming and outreach to support the mission and vision of the library
 - 57 Total Adult Programs for May
 - 103 Total Youth programs for May
 - 6 Total All Ages programs May

- Safety and Security standing update
 - 48 incidents resulting in trespass from the library
 - Loussac: 41 incidents
 - Mountain View: 5 incidents
 - Muldoon: 2 incidents

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Sam Dinges (Adult Services Reference Librarian, Loussac Library), Sandy Lukes (Outreach Librarian), and Sarah Preskitt (Adult Services Coordinator) met with Emily Paige (Collections Management Services Coordinator) and Ariel Mortem (Technical Services Supervisor) about the Alaska Native Languages books potential move to the World Languages collection. Sam and Sandy began the process of assessing the number of books that would make a good match and have a current count of nearly 50. A follow-up meeting on this project will be held in July.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time

Library Board Updates

Recent Accomplishments

- The May Friends of the Library Booksale brought in 1,384 people and total sales of \$21,308.
- Kathryn Clark started as Executive Director for the Anchorage Library Foundation.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- None at this time

Social Media/Photos

Recent Accomplishments



Post Office themed play area in Loussac Library, May 2026.



Patrons participating in a movement activity with Stuntology at Gerrish (Girdwood) Library