

Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board Agenda
Microsoft Teams Virtual & In-Person Meeting
Chugiak-Eagle River Library
August 19, 2026

Board Members

Ryan Foisy, Olivia Garrett, Jen Griffis, Lydia R. Johnson, Marc Johnson, Wade Hampton Miller, Antionette M. Street, Cristy Willer

Topic	Leader	Time
1. Call to Order	LAB Chair	5:30
2. Roll Call and Introductions	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 Chugiak-Eagle River Library	Info, Highlights, Tour	5:50
7. Disclosures	TBA	6:20
8. Unfinished Business – None	APL Director	--
9. New Business – Events and Programs Policy	Sarah Preskitt Adult Services Coordinator	6:20
10. Monthly Board Report	APL Director	6:50
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

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**Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board
Minutes of the Meeting of July 15, 2026**

1. Call to Order

Chair Willer convened the meeting at 5:32 p.m. in Anchorage Public Library, 3600 Denali Street, Moose Room, Anchorage, Alaska.

2. Roll Call

Present: Olivia Garrett, Lydia R. Johnson, Marc Johnson, Wade Hampton Miller, and Cristy Willer.

Absent: Ryan Foisy, Jen Griffis, and Antionette Street.

Also in attendance were Marjorie Harrison, Library Director, 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 July 15, 2026

and the motion passed without objection.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Wade Hampton Miller moved, Marc Johnson seconded,
To approve the minutes of the Library Advisory Board Meeting of May 20, 2026

and the motion passed without objection.

5. Public Participation – None

6. Library Spotlight

Resource – None
Service – None

7. Disclosures – None

8. Old Business – Budget Update

Members reviewed and discussed the APL Capital Improvement Plan 2027-2031.
A motion was made to vote on prioritizing the top three projects.
Marc Johnson moved, Wade Hampton Miller seconded,

and the motion passed without objection.

The top four priorities per the Library Advisory Board:

1. Loussac HVAC
2. Combined Redesign for Second and Third floors
3. Mountain View Library Remodel and Expansion
4. Muldoon Library and Transit Center Co-Location Facility

A motion was made to approve the top four priorities.

Wade Hampton Miller moved, Olivia Garrett seconded,

and the motion passed without objection.

Members discussed the 2026 APL Budget.

Suggestions included:

Extending branch hours (later evening hours), keep ILL services, outreach/Mobile Library, extend youth and children's services, more lockers (similar to the Dimond Center) or vending machines as an alternate to new branch locations, reduce free printing to five pages and make free printing for black and white only, charge for color copies or set aside one computer for color printing.

9. New Business – 2026 LAB meeting calendar

Members discussed the 2026 Library Advisory Meeting calendar.

August 19, 2026 – LAB will meet at the Chugiak/Eagle River Branch.

September 16, 2026 – LAB will meet at Loussac.

October 21, 2026 – LAB will meet at the Muldoon Branch.

10. Reports – Monthly Board Report has been distributed and is on file.

11. Member Comments

Board members extended a welcome to Lydia Johnson as a new board member.

Wade Hampton Miller had to leave at 6:52 p.m. Quorum ended.

12. Adjournment

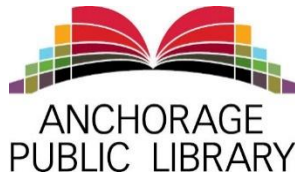
Chair Willer adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

The next Library Advisory Board will be held on August 19, 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>



EVENTS AND PROGRAMS POLICY

Effective Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Approval Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Supersedes P&P: Programming Policy	Previous version dated: 1/16/2019
Final approval by: (LIBRARY DIRECTOR SIGNATURE)	

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to give guidance to staff and community partners when planning library events, creating library programs, and evaluating event and program suggestions from organizations and individuals not affiliated with Anchorage Public Library.

2. POLICY

Anchorage Public Library (hereinafter referred to as “the Library”) provides events and programs that support our core values. Events and programs are integral components of library services that:

- introduce community members to library resources
- promote literacy skills and language development
- provide opportunities for engagement, learning, and entertainment
- expand the Library’s role as a community resource
- expand the visibility of the library
- attract new library patrons

Library staff use the following criteria in making decisions about event and program topics, speakers, and accompanying resources:

- support of the Library’s Core Values
- relation to Library collections, resources, exhibits, and programs
- community needs and interests
- availability of program space and Library staff
- treatment of content for the intended audience
- presentation quality
- presenter background/qualifications in content area
- budget
- historical or educational significance
- connection to other community programs, exhibitions, or events.

The Library may collaborate with Community Partners to develop events and programs. The Library hosts events and programs with community partners at the discretion of the Library. Events and programs may include, but are not limited to: speeches, community forums, discussion groups, informative demonstrations, workshops, displays, and live or media presentations. Library events are scheduled as staff and resources are available.

Performers and presenters may be required to provide licenses and/or liability insurance for events and programs including, but not limited to, the presence of live animals or the use of media at the discretion of the Library Director.

Food may be offered as part of Library events or programs if the food directly supports the goal of the event or program.

Open Access and Non-Discrimination

The Library's vision of open access to information and ideas extends to events and programming. Library events and programs are free and open to the public. The Library will abide by the Municipality's public policy described in Title 5 of the Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC). Events and programs staff, partners, and presenters must observe all facility use policies and the Library's Code of Conduct.

Professional performers and presenters that reflect specialized or unique expertise may be hired by the Library; performers and presenters will not be excluded from consideration because of their origin, background, or views, or because of possible controversy. Performers and presenters are required to comply with Municipal purchasing and risk management requirements. Unpaid performers and presenters may be asked to register as a volunteer.

For-Profit Enterprise and Sales at Events

The Library does not host events or programs that promote businesses or for-profit enterprises. Representatives of businesses and for-profit enterprises may present at library events and programs provided that any information presented is of general interest to the intended audience and is applicable to situations that do not require purchasing a specific product or enrolling in specific fee-based program. Promotion of any fee-based programs during Library events or programs is prohibited. Presenters are permitted to have business related brochures, flyers, or other informational items available for attendees to pick up if interested. Such materials may not be distributed as part of presentation or core program. Presenters may sell materials directly related to Library events only with prior approval from the Library Director. The Library may require a percentage of the gross sales from vendors who sell items at Library events and programs to be donated to the Friends of the Library. Library staff shall not assist with sales.

Political or Religious Events and Programs

The Library does not host events and programs with or without community partners that represent or campaign for a political candidate; represent or endorse a specific political party; nor solicit support for a specific ballot measure or proposition. The Library does not host events and programs with or without community partners that engage in direct solicitation and/or evangelization for religious affiliations or viewpoints. Representatives of political parties or religious groups may present at library events and

programs provided that any information presented is of general interest to the intended audience and is applicable to situations that do not require supporting a specific political candidate, ballot measure, or campaign or participation in religious activities.

Public Attendance and Accommodations at Events

Attendance at events and programs may be limited due to space or when safety or the success of an event or program requires it. Event attendance or program participation may be limited by age.

The Library complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and makes reasonable accommodations to library policies, practices, and procedures when necessary to ensure events and programs are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Event and Program Suggestions and Concerns

Suggestions from the public and/or unsolicited offers from individuals or organizations to present events or programs will be evaluated by the same standards used to develop other Library events and programs.

If a patron has a question or concern about an ongoing Library event or program, they may first address the concern with a library staff member. Patrons who wish to continue their request for review of library programs may submit a Request for Reconsideration form to the Library Director, which can be obtained at any Library location or from the Library's website. Requests for review of events and programs will be considered in the same manner as requests for reconsideration of library materials.

3. DEPARTMENTS/DIVISIONS AFFECTED

All Library locations

4. REFERENCES

Anchorage Municipal Code, Title 5, Equal Rights

Anchorage Municipal Code, Title 7, Purchasing and Contracts and Professional Services

Anchorage Public Library, Code of Conduct

Anchorage Public Library, Collection Management Policy

Anchorage Public Library, Facilities and Grounds Use Policy

5. DEFINITIONS

Community Partner: an agency, organization, institution, or individual with whom the Library has a cooperative, mutually-agreed upon relationship for hosting events or programs in support of the Library's mission.

Library Director: agency head or their designee

Library Event: an occurrence of a library-hosted class, workshop, storytime, lecture, or similar meeting with a defined starting and ending point within a time period of one day.

Library Program: a library-hosted initiative designed to encourage library goals inside or outside of physical library spaces such as challenges, contests, plans of activities that may or may not have a definitive starting or ending date. A program may last from two days to an indeterminate end date.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

Library Staff shall:

- review event and program suggestions in consultation with Assistant Director of Public Services as needed and evaluate them using the criteria in Section 2.

7. ANNUAL REVIEW DATE/LEAD REVIEW RESPONSIBILITY

This policy will be reviewed every two years in Q4 by the Adult Services and Youth Services Coordinators.

List reviews and/or edits for the previous 10 years.

Review Date	Review Agency	Review/Edit
7/16/2026	Adult Services and Youth Services Coordinators	Edited
1/16/2019	Library Director and Library Advisory Board	Edited from Sponsorship Policy

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

- The annual Summer Discovery summer reading and learning program concluded July 31.
 - We registered 3,575 people for the program over the course of the summer with 1,618 participants in the target elementary school age group. This is 4% more elementary school age children than in 2025 and an overall 1% decrease in total registrations. The overall decrease comes from a 12% drop in adult registrations whom we hypothesize have transitioned to the Adult Winter Reading Challenge.
 - As of August 4, 1,331 people finished the program, with 686 finishers in the target elementary school age group. This is 10% more elementary school age children than in 2025 and an overall 2% decrease in total finishers. However, we still met our target goals for finishers as 42% of elementary school age children completed the program and 37% of participants overall completed the program.
 - The Readers to the Rescue program, which encourages children and families to keep reading after they have completed their Summer Discovery log, concluded with 586,793 community minutes read, beating the goal of 250,000 community minutes by 135%.
- Kendall Millman (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library) did nine outreach storytimes for 292 people at locations including childcares, parks, AWAIC, and more. This work is funded by the Municipal Alcohol Tax.
- Muldoon Library hosted their first “Bus Storytime” with People Mover filling an entire bus with families (40 seats plus lap babies). We are excited to extend this popular Loussac program to the Muldoon and Chugiak-Eagle River libraries.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Loussac Library Youth Services staff will attend a new teacher orientation and the beginning of the school year librarian meeting to welcome Anchorage School District staff and share library resources with them.
- On August 5, Loussac Library Youth Services will host our first ever “My First School Bus” storytime in collaboration with the Anchorage School District transportation department. Attendees will learn how to safely ride the school bus and enjoy a themed story time. Geared towards ages 4-7.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Not all of the Summer Discovery statistics are available during the first week of August as the Mountain View Library staff were unable to update their statistics due to the unexpected closure of the branch.

Information

Recent Accomplishments

- Sue Sommers (Youth Services Librarian, Chugiak-Eagle River Library) coordinated a Car Seat Inspection event with the Center for Safe Alaskans. They inspected 15 seats in 10 family cars and gave away one free car seat to an expectant mother.
- Kelsey Skrobis (Youth Services Librarian, Loussac Library) hosted a tour for the Cook Inlet Tribal Council Summer Camp (25 people).

Next Steps/Coming Soon

-

Limiting Factors/Concerns

-

Community

Recent Accomplishments

- The Community Resource Group organized its first Loussac Library resource fair on July 22 on the second floor of the library. 40 participants attended to interact with the representatives from 15 organizations. The fair will join the smaller branch fairs as a monthly event.
- The Mobile Library joined the Bear Paw Parade in Eagle River for the first time ever with support from Marjorie Harrison (Library Director), Sandy Lukes (Community Engagement/Outreach Librarian), and Felicite Toney (Community Resource Group, Associate Librarian).
- Sue Sommers (Youth Services Librarian, Chugiak-Eagle River Library) and Nancy Hemsath (APL Friends of the Library board member) staffed a table at Bear Paw's special Teddy Bear Picnic that had 500 children and caregivers visit.
- Katarina Pavic (Branch Manager, Gerrish (Girdwood) Library) and Christine Morrison (Library Assistant I, Gerrish (Girdwood) Library) held an outreach event at the Girdwood Forest Fair and promoted Summer Discovery, gave away free books, and marketed library programs and services to 83 enthusiastic participants.
- Katarina Pavic (Branch Manager, Gerrish (Girdwood) Library) engaged with 19 people at an outreach event at the Girdwood Farmer's Market.
- Kendall Millman (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library) hosted a new Stroller Stories storytime at Cuddy Park for 28 people. Families walked or rolled around the pond with breaks for songs and stories.
- Multiple library staff from Loussac Library (Lisa Bricker, Youth Services Librarian; Kendall Millman, Early Literacy Outreach Librarian; Sandy Lukes, Community Outreach Librarian) and

Mountain View Library (Kim Cameron, Youth Services Librarian; Sienna Hannah, Library Assistant II) staffed the outreach table for the Anchorage School District's Helping Us Give School Supplies backpack and supply giveaway. Library staff spoke with approximately 1,170 people, providing event calendars, reading lists, online resource information, and some free books.

- o Due to the community's reaching their goal of reading an extra 250,000 minutes for Readers to the Rescue as part of Summer Discovery, the Friends of the Library donated \$2,500 worth of school supplies for this event, which were included in the backpacks children received.
- Summer Discovery programming concluded at all library locations.
 - o July brought three paid performers to APL. These programs are funded by the Friends of the Library and offered systemwide:
 - Comics Workshop with Lee Post (153 people)
 - Magic by Robbie (565 people)
 - Science Discovery with Campbell Creek Science Center (221 people)
 - o Between May 26 and July 31, APL hosted 56 Summer Discovery events for children in grades K-12 with an overall attendance of 3,171 people.
 - o Youth librarians systemwide hosted an additional 84 storytimes with 2,154 attendees and 70 other youth programs with 842 attendees.
- Sandy Lukes (Community Engagement/Outreach Librarian) had her busiest outreach month of the year, visiting five events throughout the Municipality, including a Mobile Library stop at ReMADE in South Anchorage, a booth at the Disability Pride Celebration, and resources at the Anchorage Senior Activity Center Health Fair.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The Gerrish (Girdwood) Library is partnering with Downsizing Alaska and Turnagain Arm Community Health to hold a workshop in August for seniors and their families to learn how to declutter, organize and stage their home.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- The Department of Public Assistance (DPA), which has attended the smaller-branch monthly Community Resource Group resource fairs since their inception in February, has decided to stop attending the Chugiak-Eagle River Library and the Girdwood Library fairs. DPA is a main draw for fair attendance, providing immediate application processing along with the required interviews at the fairs, which allows participants to acquire SNAP (food stamps), Medicaid, and senior benefits without major hurdles.

Internal Operations and Statistics

Recent Accomplishments

- Six front-line staff members from Loussac Adult Services, Gerrish Library, Mountain View Library, and Chugiak-Eagle River Library met to draft recommendations for how to address rising printing costs. The work group recommended keeping 10 complimentary printed or copied page sides per day but charging for color pages if increased costs required cuts to the program or a requirement for increased revenue to help cover costs.

- Core Services By The Numbers
 - Access to a diverse collection of materials in various formats –
 - Circulation:
 - Physical Circulation: 82,627
 - Digital Circulation: 51,998
 - Total Circulation: 134,625
 - Tech services: new items added 3,739; items repaired/records updated 1,080
 - Knowledgeable and approachable staff
 - 10 Staff training hours for July
 - Access to internet connectivity
 - Wifi sessions: 7,546
 - Computer sessions: 5,008
 - Professional reference and research assistance
 - Reference questions answered : 3,402
 - Spaces for individual or group use – number of visitors
 - Loussac Library: 26,823
 - Chugiak-Eagle River Library: 7,669
 - Gerrish (Girdwood) Library: 2,368
 - Mountain View Library: 7,076
 - Muldoon Library: 4,088
 - Programming and outreach to support the mission and vision of the library
 - 41 total Adult Programs with 377 attendees
 - 120 total Youth programs with 4,488 attendees
 - 15 total All Ages programs with 894 attendees
- Safety and Security standing update - Incidents more than doubled this month for a total of 65 incidents
 - Loussac Library: 52 incidents
 - Chugiak-Eagle River Library: 2 incidents
 - Gerrish (Girdwood) Library: 1 incident
 - Mountain View Library: 10 incidents
 - Muldoon Library: no incidents
- The Adult Services division started operations in the new format under APL's ongoing reorganization plan. Six staff members will work under new supervisors and two staff will report to new divisions. Staff working in new divisions will continue to assist Adult Services by staffing service points.
- Marjorie Harrison (Library Director) presented on the downtown library at the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Make it Monday Forum on July 27.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- In the early hours of August 1st, a semi-truck and another vehicle hit the Mountain View Library. More information will be available in future board reports about timelines for repair and the levels of service possible.

- The following policies are being updated and will be brought forward to the Library Advisory Council: Events & Programs (August), Circulation (September), Exhibits (November), and Volunteer (December)

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Budget Coordinator Mollie Roache transferred from the Library to a position with the Anchorage Assembly. Sarah Preskitt will be acting in this key roll to ensure APL's 2027 budget is submitted on time for both operating and capital. APL will be hiring to fill the position as soon as possible.

Library Board Updates

Recent Accomplishments

- The Library Advisory Board welcomed three new community members.
- The Library Advisory Board provided input on the 2027 operating budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The Friends of the Library will be hosting a fall "Educator Book Sale" for teachers and education staff to stock up on materials for the coming school year.
- The Library Advisory Board will review the draft Events and Programs Policy in August.

Social Media/Photos

Recent Accomplishments