



# CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES AGENDA

Civic Center Council Chambers  
100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660

Monday, May 18, 2026 - 5:00 PM

**Board of Library Trustees Members:**

Lauren Kramer, Chair  
Antonella Castro, Vice Chair  
Dorothy Larson, Secretary  
Meghan Murray, Trustee  
Chase Rief, Trustee

**Staff Members:**

Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director  
Francine Jacome, Administrative Support Specialist

The Board of Library Trustees meeting is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Board of Library Trustees agenda be posted at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of each regular meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Commission and items not on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board of Library Trustees. The Chair may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

The public can submit questions and comments in writing for the Board of Library Trustees to consider. Please send them by email to the Library Services Department at [LibraryBoard@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:LibraryBoard@newportbeachca.gov) by Sunday, May 17, at 5:00 p.m. to give the Board of Library Trustees time to consider your comments. All emails will be made part of the record.

The City of Newport Beach's goal is to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, we will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible at (949) 717-3801 or [mhartson@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:mhartson@newportbeachca.gov).

**NOTICE REGARDING PRESENTATIONS REQUIRING USE OF CITY EQUIPMENT**

Any presentation requiring the use of the City of Newport Beach's equipment must be submitted to the Library Services Department 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

**I. ROLL CALL - 5:00 P.M.**

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Public comments are invited on agenda items. Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The Board of Library Trustees has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in silent mode.*

**III. CLOSED SESSION**

1. Discuss the Library Services Director's Appointment, Employment and Evaluation of Performance (Government Code § 54957)

**IV. RECESS**

**V. RECONVENE AT 5:45 P.M. FOR REGULAR MEETING**

**VI. ROLL CALL**

**VII. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

**VIII. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IX. NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

*The City provides a yellow sign-in card to assist in the preparation of the minutes. Completion of the card is not required in order to address the Board of Library Trustees. If the optional sign-in card has been completed, it should be placed in the tray provided.*

*The Board of Library Trustees of Newport Beach welcomes and encourages community participation. Public comments are generally limited to three (3) minutes per person to allow everyone to speak. Written comments are encouraged as well. The Board of Library Trustees has the discretion to extend or shorten the time limit on agenda or non-agenda items. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in silent mode.*

**X. CONSENT CALENDAR**

*All matters listed under CONSENT CALENDAR are considered to be routine and will all be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. The Board of Library Trustees has received detailed staff reports on each of the items recommending an action. There will be no separate discussion of these items prior to the time the Board of Library Trustees votes on the motion unless members of the Board of Library Trustees request specific items to be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. Members of the public who wish to discuss a Consent Calendar item should come forward upon invitation by the Chair.*

**A. Consent Calendar Items**

- 2. Minutes of the April 20, 2026 Board of Library Trustees Meeting (pp. 4-8)**

[DRAFT OF MINUTES](#)

- 3. Patron Comments (pp. 9-11)**

Monthly review of evaluations of library services through suggestions and requests received from patrons.

[PATRON COMMENTS](#)

- 4. Expenditure Status Report (pp. 12-13)**

Monthly expenditure status of the Library's operating expenses, services, salaries, and benefits by department.

[APRIL EXPENDITURES](#)

- 5. Board of Library Trustees Monitoring List (p. 14)**

List of agenda items and dates for monthly review of projects by the Board of Library Trustees.

[MONITORING LIST](#)

**XI. CURRENT BUSINESS**

**A. Items for Review**

**6. Fiscal Year 2026-27 Library Services Budget (pp. 15-18)**

Staff requests that the Board of Library Trustees review and approve the Fiscal Year 2026-27 operating budget for the Library.

[STAFF REPORT](#)

[ATTACHMENT A](#)

**7. Acceptance of a Grant from the Library Foundation (p. 19)**

Staff recommend the Board of Library Trustees approve the acceptance of a grant from the Library Foundation of Newport Beach for Project Adult Literacy.

[STAFF REPORT](#)

**8. Library Activities (pp. 20-29)**

Monthly update of library events, services, and statistics.

[STAFF REPORT](#)

**B. Monthly Reports**

**9. Library Foundation Liaison Reports (pp. 30-31)**

A. Library Foundation Board - Report of the most recently attended meeting.

B. Library Live Committee - Report of the most recently attended meeting.

C. Witte Lectures Committee - Report of the most recently attended meeting.

[FOUNDATION REPORT](#)

**10. Foundation Literacy Liaison Report**

Trustee update of the most recently attended Foundation Literacy Committee Meeting.

**11. Friends of the Library Liaison Report**

Trustee update of the most recently attended Friends of Library Board Meeting.

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Public comments are invited, and non-agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board of Library Trustees. Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The Board of Library Trustees has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on agenda or non-agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in silent mode.*

**XIII. BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES ANNOUNCEMENTS OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION ACTION OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM) OR RECONSIDERATION**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**