

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
LIBRARY BOARD**

Chairperson – Georgia Knazovich - Wasilla  
Vice Chair – Kathy Kysar - Sutton  
Secretary – Chad Scott – At Large 1

Karen Crandall – Big Lake  
Mary Fischer - Talkeetna  
Mark Spohn - Willow

Sally Pollen - Palmer  
Virginia Robson – Trapper Creek  
Martha Kincaid – At Large 2

**Meeting Minutes**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Trapper Creek Public Library and Teams**

**May 13th, 2025  
1:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. The Meeting on May 13th, 2025 was called to order at 1:00 PM by Chairperson Georgia Knazovich at the Trapper Creek Public Library.

**II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

- A. Present were Georgia Knazovich, Kathy Kysar, Karen Crandall, Mary Fischer, Chad Scott, Virginia Robson, Mark Spohn, Sally Pollen and Marty Kincaid. A quorum was present.

**III. AGENDA APPROVAL**

- A. Chad Scott moved to amend the agenda to include a discussion on drafting a letter to the Assembly commending them and staff for work with the LCAC book reviews and upcoming Library Board book previews, and it was passed. Chad Scott moved to accept the amended agenda; seconded by Kathy Kysar. The amended agenda was approved.

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- A. The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

**V. MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING**

- A. Mary Fischer moved to correct the Librarian's report line F to be corrected to reflect recent staff changes: one new hire (Christina) and one volunteer position (Jaren); seconded by Virginia Robson and passed. Mary Fischer moved to accept the corrected minutes, seconded by Virginia Robson. The corrected minutes were accepted unanimously.

**VI. BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Jillian Morrissey — Community Development Director: Addressed opportunities to improve Mat-Su Library's through recent and upcoming changes based on  
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community input and engagement. Shared the results of recent surveys conducted through in-person and social media engagement (92 respondents). Introduced an initial phase of the creation of a new process for the procurement of Library materials: Starting in the new fiscal year, the Library Board will begin Batch Reviews of the proposed Library procurement material. Many questions were asked and will be addressed through ongoing discussions between Staff and Librarians as well as input garnered from the public as the process unfolds.

Hugh Leslie – Recreation & Library Services Manager: Addressed Director Morrissey’s comments and the process of coordinating relevant questions to be answered in time. Mentioned concerns with comments made of a personal nature, not germane to the subjects at hand and encouraged discussions and comments not to become a “he said/she said” debate.

- B. Zane Treesh - Wasilla: Discussed progress and process for library expansion and RFID funding. Gave updates on events: concerts, fundraisers, and a summer reading program.
- C. Geri Denkwalter - Talkeetna: Talkeetna has two new hires, Christina and Geron. They are continuing the summer reading program, volunteers tutoring, refurbishing the community herb garden, rock painting, fairy rocks and doors, a Wild Bird Rehab event, Fire Fighter Olympics, and the 10th Anniversary of the Library.
- D. Juli Buzby - Sutton: Gave updates on end-of-school-year ice cream celebration. Summer reading and teen programs weekly. They have a community movie night and community garden programs, as well as home school events.
- E. Julie Mitchell - Willow: Discussed the Willow Trails Challenge program and the 9th annual 5K run.
- F. Cassidy Drake - Big Lake Library: Discussed story time programs, crafting, Literature and Lattes, and a silent auction raising money for kids, Susitna Rotary working on flower beds, and Kids Don’t Float and Firewise programs.
- G. Marita Crosby - Trapper Creek: Gave updates on Summer reading and lunch programs, Sunshine Transit providing transportation assistance, Friends of the Library planting plants and flowers.

#### VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – 3 minutes per person

- A. Jackie Goforth: Expressed concerns with the American Library Association and School Libraries promoting explicit content for minors under 16, as well as library systems promoting LGBTQ and DEI initiatives.

Sandra Eldridge: Talked about the importance of the Library and great memories made there.

- B. Karen Lewis: Praised the Library for the wonderful things that they do. Then expressed concerns with obscene content still on the shelves, and shared excerpts from the book *Identical* by Ellen Hopkins, pleading to Librarians to do something.
- C. Corinne Smith: Came to tell the board how much she loves the Libraries and trusts the Librarians to choose materials based on their education, training, and career choice. She went on to emphasize the importance of Libraries as a crucial meeting place that provides important resources to those who otherwise would go without.
- D. Sue Deyoe: Spoke in support of Librarians and all they do.
- E. Kathleen Trump: Spoke about her excitement for library programs and the passion of the Librarians. Questioned the Library Board's inclusion in material procurement as undermining the Librarian's expertise.
- F. Sandra Porter: Spoke about how proud she is of the Libraries, the work they do and the special place they hold in the community.
- G. Kathy Ernst: Talked about early days in support for Trapper Creeks Library, loves what is happening with the Libraries and the healthy community they create.

#### VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Borough Presentation – report: The report was well received and plans are to have another report on the Schedule for September.
- B. Positive comments on libraries
- C. Budget Comments: Hugh Leslie mentioned February would be appropriate if the Board had any concerns they would like to address. Went over the FY26 budget that was handed out.

#### IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Board member attendance: Chairperson Knazovich discussed the importance of getting the participation of the members to maintain a quorum.
- B. Discussion on LCAC score cards
- C. Letter to the Assembly: Chad Scott made a motion to write a letter to the Assembly expressing support for the LCAC, thanking them for their efforts to enhance the Library collection, making it a safer and more welcoming place for children and families. Seconded by Mark Spohn. The Motion passed 5-4.

Mary Fischer made a motion asking Chad Scott to draft a letter for consideration a

the August meeting, seconded by Kathy Kysar. Motioned passed.

- D. Master calendar for libraries: Kathy Kysar discussed with staff about the process of improving updates and creating a master calendar. Marty Kincaid suggested providing the calendar or newsletter to the People's Paper and other outlets. Hugh Leslie commented that it was a good idea but had to be fleshed out suggesting to pick it back up in August. The Chairperson agreed to table discussion.
- E. Public welcome in libraries: No discussion was made. Kathy Kysar and Mary Fischer commented that according to the survey it was not a concern.

X. ADVOCACY

- A. None

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. None

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Karen Crandall: Commented that if we were to write an article or newsletter update in the Peoples Paper that maybe a drop off could be made to provide copies to the libraries or key central locations for the public.
- B. Mary Fischer: Expressed concerns put on the Library Board by the Assembly and Staff to take on the Herculean task of reviewing 400-600 books a month, without adequate time to read them. She said it is dishonest to have the Library Board review books that instead should be reviewed by a team of five experts, educated and trained to implement state policy.
- C. Kathy Kysar: Stated none of our libraries have pornography in them. She claimed that there are members of the LCAC who do not have library cards, and that there are no agendas in the libraries to promote LGBTQ materials; instead, there is a trend creating more demand for those kinds of books. And that there is no research that shows reading disturbing books causes disturbing behaviors.
- D. Chad Scott: Corrected the false statement earlier in the meeting that Meadow Lakes does not represent District 7 when in fact the vast majority of the community is in District 7. Stated that opposition to inappropriate books is not an attack on libraries, but rather an effort to restore support to libraries. And in referencing the Library Boards Batch Review of proposed Library procurement



material he said, its strange to imagine hundreds of books being deemed innapropriate when, at best, a very small percentage of books may even garner a discussion on their merits and will be dispatched very quickly.

- E. Marty Kincaid: Made comments in support of further promotion of the Libraries and expressed concerns about the dangers of AI and sexually explicit materials for minors.
- F. Mark Spohn: Commented in support of the representation in his district as a member of District 7 on the LCAC board.

### XIII. NEXT MEETING

- A. August 12, 2025 Big Lake Library

### XIV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Meeting adjourned at 3:01PM

X Georgia Krazovich  
Georgia Krazovich - Chair

X 8/11/2025  
Date

ATTEST:

X Sarah Thomas  
Sarah Thomas - Staff Support

X 8/11/2025  
Date