

Bastrop Public Library Board Minutes
Bastrop Public Library Pressley Meeting Room
1100 Church Street
Bastrop, TX 78602
(512) 332-8880



March 10, 2025

Minutes - Public Library Board at 6:00 PM

Bastrop Public Library Board meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary at (512) 332-8800 or write 1311 Chestnut Street, 78602, or by calling through a T.D.D. (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) to Relay Texas at 1-800-735-2989 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Library Board Members Present

Chair Rebecca Bennett
Vice Chair Meagan Webb
Board Member Rachelle Caviness
Board Member Lisa Gossett
Board Member Nancy Wood

Guests, Liaisons, and Staff Present

Library Director Bonnie Pierson
Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison
Pete Parsons
City Council Member Cheryl Lee

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Rebecca Bennett at 6:00 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

3. MINUTE APPROVAL

- 3A. Consider action to approve Bastrop Public Library minutes from February 3, 2025, regular meeting.

Nancy Wood moved to approve the February 3, 2025, minutes with corrected spelling of a name. Lisa Gossett seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 4A. The library will have additional programs for Spring Break from Monday, March 17th through Saturday, March 22nd.

4B. Public Services Librarian Bethany Williams and Children's Services Associate Ariel Dirienzo will be attending the annual Texas Library Association (TLA) Conference in Dallas from Tuesday, April 1st through Friday, April 4th.

4C. Announcements from the Library Director.

Library Director Bonnie Pierson will present the board-approved Public Information Policy at the City Council meeting set for March 11, 2025.

4D. Announcements from individual board members.

Nancy Wood reminded the board that Music in the Museum would be held on March 15, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., and that Michal Hubbard would be presenting at a lunch and learn on March 12, 2025.

4E. Announcements from Planning & Zoning liaison.

Pete Parsons reported little progress on the City Comprehensive Plan. When the plan is further along, the Library can then make the request for a branch facility. Liaison Parsons will bring the Board a map when there is a draft plan.

5. REPORTS

5A. Director's report.

Director Bonnie Pierson highlighted the library's bird watching series, outreach at the local farmers' market, history talk on March 1, 2025 with Debbie Wahrmond and David Glen Robinson, and Public Services Associate Terry Carwell's sixth anniversary at the library. Bonnie also informed the board that she has continued gathering information on the proposed photo ID cards, including associated costs for equipment and supplies and reaching out to other library directors for feedback. She also noted that the 2025 board work plan was approved by the City Council on February 25, 2025.

5B. Statistics report.

Director Bonnie Pierson highlighted that non-resident usage is at 68% and an increase in door count over last year, and that library staff and volunteers are now tracking Spanish language usage in assisting patrons.

5C. Financial report.

5D. Fiscal Year 2026 Library Budget Planning report.

Director Bonnie Pierson reviewed the preliminary Fiscal Year 2026 budget request, pointing out that a request will be made for an additional part-time position to help with desk coverage.

6. PRESENTATIONS

7. WORKSHOPS

8. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

8A. Discussion and possible action on Bastrop Public Library's Public Room Policy.

Director Bonnie Pierson presented proposed changes to the Public Room Policy, defining how rooms get used and outlining associated fees, with an emphasis on the intent that the spaces are intended to be open to the public. Nancy Wood moved that the Board approve the Public Room Policy with changes. Rachelle Caviness seconded, and the motion carried.

8B. Individual requests from Library Board members for items to be listed on future agendas.

There were no requests.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Webb, Vice Chair

Rebecca Bennett, Chair