MINUTES
CITY OF DENTON
DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
South Branch Library – July 14, 2025

After determining that a quorum was present, the Denton Public Library Board convened on Monday, July 14, at 5:28 p.m. The meeting was held at the South Branch Library at 3228 Teasley Lane, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Rebecca Fridley, Patricia Peters, Kerol Harrod, Eva Poole, and Ellen Sullivan
ABSENT: Kathryn Pole

Also present: Jennifer Bekker and Marcella Lunn

1. PRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. LB25-042 Consider approval of the minutes of June 9, 2025.

The Board accepted and approved the minutes of the June 9, 2025 meeting. Eva Poole motioned, Ellen Sullivan seconded, all in favor.

B. LB25-043 The Board received an informational report regarding digital newspapers and magazines at Denton Public Library.

Rachel Reeves, Technical Services Manager, will provide an overview and demonstration of the new PressReader™ digital newspaper and magazine service.

PressReader™ is a digital periodical platform for newspapers and magazines. Library patrons have access to over 7,000 publications in over 60 languages from countries across the world. The service allows reading, downloading issues or articles, reading in magazine or text view, printing, and accessibility features such as font change and listening. In addition to the PressReader™ content, Denton Public Library has added digital access to The Wall Street Journal and New York Times newspapers. New York Times content includes all NYT content including historical issues dating back to 1851, Wirecutter, The New York Times Cooking, The Athletic, and more.

C. LB25-045 The Board received an informational report regarding the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries.

- The next Big Book Sale is scheduled for Saturday, August 9, 2025.

D. LB25-044 The Board received an informational report regarding the Emily Fowler Library Foundation.

There have been no changes since the last Library Board meeting.

Library staff are working to schedule a Foundation meeting in August. Library staff recommends that the Foundation Trustee positions be expanded to add two or three new Trustees.

From the Emily Fowler Library Foundation Trust Agreement:

> "At any time the City of Denton Library Board shall have the right, without the consent of the other then members of the Board of Trustees, (1) to appoint a new member in addition to the other then members of the Board of Trustees, and (2) to appoint a new member to fill any vacancy in the Board of Trustees, and (3) to discharge any member of the Board of Trustees."

E. LB25-046 The Board received a report, held a discussion, and considered approval of the following Denton Public Library Policy updates:

- *Community Use Operating Policy for the Forge Makerspace*
- *Community Use Operating Policy for the Legacy Lab*
- *Genealogy and Local History Research Operating Policy*
- *Bulletin Boards and Public Notices Operating Policy*

The Board accepted and approved the policy updates, with a minor clarification to the *Community Use Operating Policy for the Forge Makerspace*. Eva Poole motioned, Rebecca Fridley seconded, all in favor.

F. LB25-047 The Board received a report and held a discussion regarding:

Summer Reading Challenge - The 2025 Summer Reading Challenge is a literacy program to support literacy and encourage individuals of all ages to develop a love of reading. The program runs June 1 through July 31. As of July 9, 2,338 people have registered for the program. Last year a total of 2,073 people registered for the program.

Staffing Update - There have been some recent staffing changes. Interviews are complete and a final candidate for the Part-Time Librarian at South Branch has been selected to fill that vacancy. Library staff are working with Human Resources to complete the hiring process. Chuck Voellinger, Librarian at Emily Fowler Central Library, is retiring this week. The South Branch Manager position remains vacant.

North Branch HVAC Replacement - The North Branch Library HVAC units will be replaced August 16-22. The building will be closed and the parking lot inaccessible while the cranes are working. Library staff will work at other branches during the closure. The closure posting along with information about extending holds due to the closure will be made available several weeks before the facility improvement.

3. CONCLUDING ITEMS

The Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Kerol Harrod, Chair

Cynthia Carter, Administrative Assistant
City of Denton, TX

Minutes approved on: August 11, 2025