

Library Commission

Regular Meeting

Monday, May 11, 2026

4:00 PM

City Council Chambers and Zoom



APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Chair Samuel Braitman

Vice Chair Jacquelyn Chou

Commissioner Rita Crabtree-Kampe

Commissioner Amy Ferris

Commissioner Diane Levitt

Commissioner Dina Doll

Commissioner Kylie Cullen

CITY STAFF

Parks and Recreation Director Mark Leyman

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kari Bell

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is to provide excellent municipal services, preserve our small beach town character, and enhance the quality of life for our residents, businesses and visitors.

MANHATTAN BEACH'S LIBRARY COMMISSION WELCOMES YOU!

Meetings are broadcast live through Zoom (Direct URL:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1616819175> , Meeting ID: 161 681 9175

The City continues to offer an opportunity to participate in Library Commission meetings via Zoom and in-person. The Library Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments in advance of the meeting, no later than 12:00 PM, the day of the meeting, via:

- 1) eComment at <http://www.manhattanbeach.gov/ecomment> or
- 2) Email to parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov

All of your comments provided by the deadlines above will be available to the Library Commission and the public prior to the meeting.

Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on this agenda are available for review on the City's website at www.manhattanbeach.gov, the Police Department located at 420 15th Street, and are also on file in the Parks and Recreation Department for public inspection. Any person who has any question concerning any agenda item may call (310) 802-5448 or email parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov .

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, you should contact the Parks and Recreation Commission at (310) 802-5448 (voice) or (310) 546-3501 (TDD) or email parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov . Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting, including but not limited to providing hand held microphones during the meeting.

CERTIFICATION OF MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA POSTING

I, Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, state under penalty of perjury that this notice/agenda was posted on Thursday, May 7, 2026, on the City's Website and on the bulletin boards of City Hall, Joslyn Community Center and Manhattan Heights.

BELOW ARE THE AGENDA ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED. THE RECOMMENDED COMMISSION ACTION IS LISTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TITLE OF EACH ITEM IN BOLD CAPITAL LETTERS.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIBRARY COMMISSION MAY ACT ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA.

- A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**
- C. ROLL CALL**

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

This is the time for the Library Commission to:

(a) notify the public of any changes to the agenda; or

(b) rearrange the order of the agenda.

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**1. Library Commission Minutes**[LC 26-0005](#)

This Item Contains Minutes of the Library Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2026

Attachments: [Library Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2026](#)

F. LIBRARIAN REPORT

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

At the discretion of the Chair, the Chair may allow 2 minutes of public comments.

Speakers may provide public comments on any matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Library Commission, including items on the agenda. The Chair may determine whether an item is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Library Commission. While all comments are welcome, the Brown Act does not allow the Library Commission to take action on any item not on the agenda. If you would like to provide public comments from your seat, please inform the Meeting Clerk or raise your hand. Staff will provide a handheld microphone to ensure your comments are heard.

The Library Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments in advance of the meeting, no later than 12:00 PM, the day of the meeting, via:

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- 2) Email to parksandrecreationcommissions@manhattanbeach.gov

All of your comments provided by the deadlines above will be available to the Library Commission and the public prior to the meeting.

IN PERSON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Please complete the "Request to Address the City Council or Commission" card by filling out your name, the item(s) you would like to offer public comment, and returning it to the Meeting Clerk.

ZOOM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 1) Join Zoom Meeting via the internet:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1616819175> , Meeting ID: 161 681 9175

During the meeting you will need to use the "raise hand" button through Zoom at the time the Agenda Item is being presented for the Library Commission consideration.

- 2) Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Conference (Voice Only):

Phone Number: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 161 681 9175

*During the meeting you will need to enter *9 on the phone's dial pad at to activate the "raise hand" button at the time the Agenda Item is being presented for Library Commission consideration.*

H. GENERAL BUSINESS

Each speaker may speak for up to 3 minutes on each general business item. If you would like to speak from your seat, please inform the Meeting Clerk or raise your hand. Staff will provide a handheld microphone to ensure your comments are heard.

2. Library Commission Work Plan 2026/2027

[LC 26-0007](#)

I. STAFF ITEMS

J. COMMISSION ITEMS

K. ADJOURNMENT

L. FUTURE MEETINGS

June 8, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM

July 13, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM

August 10, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM (Cancelled)

September 14, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM

October 12, 2025 - Monday - 4:00 PM (Rescheduled to Tuesday, October 13, 2026)

October 13, 2026 - Tuesday - 4:00 PM (Rescheduled from Monday, October 12, 2026))

November 9, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM

December 14, 2026 - Monday - 4:00 PM (Cancelled)



CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
www.manhattanbeach.gov • (310) 802-5000

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Date: 5/11/2026

TO:

Honorable Chair and Commissioners of the Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM:

Kari Bell, Senior Recreation Supervisor

SUBJECT:

Library Commission Minutes

This Item Contains Minutes of the Library Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

The attached minutes are for the Commission's approval:

Attachment(s):

1. Library Commission Adjourned Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2026

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**

Monday, April 13, 2026

4:00 PM

City Council Chamber, City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue and Zoom

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Braitman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present (7) Commissioners Cullen, Doll, Ferris, Crabtree-Kampe, Levitt, Vice Chair Chou, Chair Braitman

Absent: None

Others Present: Senior Recreation Supervisor (SRS) Kari Bell; Senior Management Analyst (SMA) Linda Robb, Recording Secretary Rosemary Lackow

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA It was moved and seconded (Doll/Crabtree-Kampe) to approve as submitted. Motion carried 7-0-0-0.

E. LIBRARIAN’S REPORT

Library Manager Cassandra Sargent reviewed programming, recent and upcoming (April/May) and updated (2025 -2026) metrics:

	March 2026	March 2025
No. of Programs	28 with 997 participants	22 with 1,007 participants
Visitors	14, 326 (-1,380)	15,706
Circulation (non-digital)	19,322 (+4,123)	15,199
Library cards issued	297	
Holds placed	4,808	

Recent/upcoming programming included Evening Book Club, Writer Workshop, Sound Bath Meditation, Teen Librarian Open Hour, Car Care for Teens, New Parent Engagement, Paint by Numbers Acrylic Bookmarks, Rhythm and Roots (Louie Cruz Beltran Latin rhythms); Listen, laugh, learn and participate! (children); Painted Furoshiki Cloths (hands-on demo); teen study hall; “Get Koala-fied”. County speaker series events in May: include Regency Era Inspired Book Vase and Queen Charlotte Book Club. For more info and reservations:

<https://lacountylibrary.org/location/manhattan-beach-library/>

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Library Commission Minutes, Adjourned regular meeting minutes: March 9, 2026

It was moved and seconded (Crabtree-Kampe/Ferris) to approve as submitted. Motion carried

7-0-0-0 by hand vote.

H. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

2. Library Commission Work Plan 2026/2027 (approved by City Council February 24, 2026).

a. Library Appreciation Events (Commissioners Cullen, Ferris)

SRS Bell noted that Queen Charlotte books have been purchased; the committee wants to offer the MB branch staff and school librarians reserved seating and the opportunity to be recognized at the speaker event. Another appreciation event is being considered at the end of the year.

b. Speaker Series (Commissioners Braitman, Chou, Levitt)

Chair Braitman noted some special planned activities for the May 23rd Julia Quinn speaker event. Library Manager Sargent reported on promotion and publicity (1,165 registrants to date, started including digital ads, email blasts, county website popups; press release to go out soon, posters to be sent to SRS Bell to be installed on city buildings; flyer to be given to Chair Braitman to give to Chamber of Commerce for giving out to community; direct outreach planned to Easy Reader, Daily Breeze, and Manhattan Beach News; and under discussion is Ms. Quinn recording a video.

The topic of meetings between the city (Library Commission) and County was discussed. SRS Bell will reach out to the County to set up, perhaps quarterly; commissioners should watch for emails about available dates.

Commissioner Levitt requested as a follow-up that the Commission agenda regularly include an item that is a recap of the meetings held with the County.

The Commission discussed future author speakers for Fall and beyond, focusing first on a children's author; some being considered: R.L. Stine (offer pending), Dave Pilkey or Chris Colfer, who might attract several age groups. Others include: Ina Garten (Barefoot Contessa/Be My Guest), Kelly Slater (renowned surfer); Jenna Bush Hager (author/journalist), Taylor Jenkins Reid (NYT best-selling novelist), Michael Connelly (best-selling crime novelist); Erik Larson (American journalist/author of historical nonfiction), or an Olympic athlete/author. A quick straw poll of the Commission by SRS Bell indicated a consensus to try first for Michael Connelly. Commissioner Levitt suggested Allegra Goodman, author of "This is Not About Us?" and a NASA scientist-author.

c. StoryWalk (Commissioners Chou, Cullen, Crabtree-Kampe)

Vice Chair Chou noted that the committee had a delay but has chosen new books: 1) "Just One Little Light" by Kat Yeh; 2) "The Together Tree" by Aisha Saeed, and "Juneteenth for Mazie" by Floyd Cooper, ordered through Amazon; all to be installed by the boy scouts. The stands and holders have been repaired/refurbished and look great. The committee hopes that a monthly monitoring and maintenance task may be added to the scouts' duties.

d. Library Needs Assessment (Commissioners Braitman, Doll, Levitt) - see staff items.

I. STAFF ITEMS

SRS Bell reported that county consultant Grace Eng Nadel will be presenting the final report of the needs assessment study to the City Council on 4/21/26. All encouraged to attend. The library fund now is at \$14 million. Three main suggestions have emerged from the study on spending the funds: 1) explore design options for an enhanced outdoor patio to incorporate seating, lighting, and audio, to be used for community programming as well as events; 2) explore developing additional parking on Lot 3 (possibly sharing parking revenue with LACOPL) and 3) develop additional space dedicated to storage of MB Historical Society collection.. After the council approves direction, the joint city/county task force will at its next standing (end of month) meeting, discuss moving forward.

Library Manager Sargent suggested two author/speakers if a moon/Artemis themed talk is desired (possibly a third speaker event on a smaller scale):

- 1) Emily Calandrelli aka “The Space Girl”, aerospace engineer, author who advocates for STEM education, inspiring girls to pursue science; and
- 2) Jackson Pierce, of NASA JPL.

J. COMMISSION ITEMS

Chair Braitman noted on 4/16 the “Cupcakes with a Cop” event at Susie Cakes.

K. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:50 pm it was moved and seconded (Cullen/Levitt) to adjourn the meeting to May 11, 2026, at 4:00 pm; motion passed unanimously 7-0-0-0.



CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

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STAFF REPORT

Agenda Date: 5/11/2026

TO:

Honorable Chair and Commissioners of the Library Commission

THROUGH:

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director

FROM:

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director
Kari Bell, Senior Recreation Supervisor
Janeth Medina, Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT:

Library Commission Work Plan 2026/2027

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Library Commission discuss the 2026/2027 Library Commission work plan items approved by the City Council at the February 24, 2026 City Council work plan meeting.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Fiscal implications, if any, will be developed on a project-by-project basis and presented to the City Council as necessary.

DISCUSSION:

1. 2026/2027 Work Plan Updates:
 - a. Library Appreciation Events (Commissioners Cullen, Ferris)
 - b. Speaker Series (Commissioner Braitman, Chou, Levitt)
 - c. StoryWalk (Commissioners Chou, Cullen, Crabtree-Kampe)
 - d. Library Needs Assessment (Commissioners Braitman, Doll, Levitt)