

**Berkley Public Library
Board Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2025**

Present: Matt Church, Library Director; Amanda Rohda, Chair; Margaret McGee, Vice Chair; Rita Van Brandeghen, Board Member; Ross Gavin, City Council Member.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

I. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Approval of Minutes from April 16 Meeting

The Board approved the minutes as printed. Rita moved to approve with a minor correction, Margaret seconded.

III. Librarian's Report

The Library Director presented reports on Library Staff, building and grounds, and programming. Highlights of the report include:

- Parks/Rec Spring/Summer guide made available. Postcards were mailed, including QR codes. Ice cream social is a key program.
- Received Community Foundation check for \$6,376 to be used for general operations of the Library.
- Seed Library has many new seeds. Volunteers hosted seed packing events. Bordine's donated surplus seeds, gift cards, and surplus plants.
- Matt presented at Strong Connections, Strong Libraries conference.
- City Budget meetings looked at library budget on April 28. Budget included key details with detailed narrative support.
- Friends met last Monday, raised over \$3000 in book sale. Busy sale in terms of donations and foot traffic throughout both days.
- MLA Spring Institute conference. MeLCat updated UI for easier use.

IV. Old Business

- Circulation numbers up slightly compared to last year.
- VOX books are in high demand, great to see high-quality picture books with an audio component for children.

V. New Business

- ILMS funding could be restored depending outcome of pending litigation.
- COVID tests will no longer be provided, some tests are still available at the library but will not be replaced as they are depleted due to federal budget cuts.

VI. Update from City Council Liaison

- Budget was passed at the last meeting, with capital plan for the library included.
- Community 1 and Bacon Avenue upgrades planned.
- Approved Street Art Fest, Art Bash, and Berkley Pride.
- Legal and Assessing services are being sourced/researched.
- City Manager and Clerk Staff met with Board/Commission Ad Hoc Committee to review handbook and will submit to Council in June. Phase II will include an ordinance review with feedback to each Board/Commission.
- Met with School Board for quarterly meeting.
- Dorothea pocket park met to finalize month-long window of programming.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

The next Library Board Meeting is Wednesday, June 18, 2025.

Submitted by Margaret McGee.