

PALM SPRINGS LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 17TH 2026 6:30PM
MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Michelle Dunlap, Board Members, Robin Hughes, Lenore DiRienzo, Enrico DiRienzo, Aarika Stacey-Hill
Staff Liaison: Ashley Calderon and Claudia M. Ruiz.
Absent: Lauren Benett

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by Chairman Michelle Dunlap.

Approval of Agenda and add-ons:

Chairman, Michelle Dunlap added three items to the agenda which are, contact information, communication and room policy. Enrico DiRienzo made a motion to approve. Lenore DiRienzo seconded the motion; the motion carried.

New Business:

- New partnership with PACE center for girls, staff went to their facility. Staff will be going to them monthly. The first outreach activity with them was last week. 15 girls were awarded to attend our program and they all signed up for a library card. Staff gave them a 30-minute presentation on how to use the libraries' online resources like Hoopla and CloudLibrary. They also provided them with a fun Valentine's cookie decorating activity to keep them interested. The attendees were able to select their next month's activity, and it will be based on Women's History Month.
- Staff continue going monthly to eight daycares to conduct Storytime.
- Community events and partnership continue with Hippy, Bridges and Journey church, the final read for the record will be hosted by Bridges on February 26th. The Village Mayor and Vice Mayor will read the story in the English language and Carlos Mahecha a Journalist/News reporter will read it in Spanish.
- Staff attended Touch-A-Truck event, and it was a great event.
- Becca's Closet is another community event the library is hosting. It's a non-profit organization that provides free prom dresses for high school girls in need.
- Literacy Stars kicked off with a fantastic start, and currently the program has 12 mentors and 9 students. Michelle is still hopeful to gain more students to the program. It's both a great program for the children and the mentors.
- Book Display Committee started recently. Staff are assigned to a different section, and themes are in place for the entire year.
- Staff will be going to Palm Springs Elementary to prepare goodie bags for the students who have perfect attendance. Because of ECLC -community partnership meetings Mrs. Rowe can do more incentives for the students.
- Bookwars: from March 2nd through March 27th. – Grade 3, Palm Springs and C.O.T. schools go against each other, who can read most pages. The winner wins a Pizza party.
- Bookmark contest starts next week, and templates will be dropped off to the local schools.
- Read Across America/Dr. Seuss will be March 2nd the library staff with the help of reader volunteers from other departments will read at the elementary schools including St. Luke and daycares.
- Career Day at C.O.T Kirklane elementary is March 13th,2026.

- There are two new Applicants for the Library Advisory Board, they will be on the agenda to be appointed at the next council meeting.

Old Business:

- Approval of January 20th, 2026, minutes approved by Lenore DiRienzo and Robin Hugues.

Member Comments:

- Chairman would like to change the format of the agenda and have the approval of the minutes as section II.
- Board members want to ensure their contact information is up to date in the clerk's office.
- Communication board members want to clarify the attendance email. They like the email one week in advance and then a text reminder on the day of.
- Discussion of the Meeting Room Policy. Chairman Michelle Dunlap is asking for us to review the policy and fees associated with it as she is not in agreement with it. Discussion continued and board member Aarika Stacey-Hill, mentioned that possibly fees may be waived to non-profit organizations with a 501(c)3.

Public Comment:

Jim Dunlap representing the African Violet Society of the Palm Beaches is bringing up to the board his concerns of having to pay the outlined fees on the meeting room policy since their donation option to make a yearly donation to *Friends* is no longer available now that *Friends of the Palm Springs Library* dissolved. He stated that they have been using this location for over 20 years and the fees on the policy are not reasonable.

Next Meeting:

- Next meeting will be March 17th, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Robin Hughes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Enrico DiRienzo seconded motion: meeting was adjourned at 7: 09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia M. Ruiz
Library Administrative Assistant