



# *San Francisco Public Library*

## **SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION**

### **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of JANUARY 15, 2026**

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting JANUARY 15, 2026, at the Koret Auditorium, Main Library and virtually on Zoom.

The SFPL Commission meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Present: Calhoun, Huang, Lopez, Bolander, and Jones.

Vice President Calhoun presented the ancestral homeland acknowledgement of the Ramaytush Ohlone.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **Public Comment**

Emily Garvie, Executive Director, Friends of the Library, said Friends is hosting their annual book sale on February 6 and 7 and end of year fundraising is going well. Garvie thanked Connie Wolf and Mary Lomax Ghirarduzzi for their Commission service.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director of Library Users Association Libraryusers2004@protonmail.com, PO Box 170544, San Francisco California 94117-0544, said two members of Commission were not in attendance and is concerned about the direction of the Library including touting of Technology and AI.

Jordan Gonzales said an item in July's meeting regarding the transfer of materials to high density storage, Facilities Director Cunha presented a few rooms of materials from the Brooks Center to 750 Brennan, and this included thousands of periodicals that have been available through the magazines and newspaper center. Six months later these materials are inaccessible to patrons.

Jason Gibbs said during 2020 and 2021 he was assigned as a disaster service worker but towards the end was allowed to come to the Library one day a week to work with his team, during that time there was an all-staff training where somebody from outside of the system said that libraries are at heart a racist institution and he could not accept that because the culture of SFPL system is not like that. It is contrary to Library values of free and equal access.

Ruben Juarez said the labor team representing its members is looking forward to a dynamic new year and meeting with management to address different items including safety concerns, dealing with vacancies, understaffing, and getting necessary equipment. They look forward to engaging with the Commission in 2026.

## **AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 18, 2025**

Peter Warfield said his email address is wrong.

Jason Gibbs said the minutes that were included in the Commission used to include the supplemental materials and should be included again.

Ruben Juarez said the last meeting Jason included powerful insight into the current bylaws.

### **Commission Discussion**

Motion: Motion by Commissioner **HUANG** to approve the minutes with two changes seconded by Commissioner **BOLANDER** to approve the **DECEMBER 18, 2025**, Commission Minutes.

**Action:** AYES 5-0 ( Huang, Lopez, Bolander, Jones and Calhoun)

## **AGENDA ITEM NO.3 FACILITIES UPDATE**

John Cunha, Facilities Director, presented an overview of the Facilities Division.

### **[Facilities Division Presentation](#)**

#### **Public Comment**

Peter Warfield thanked Commissioner Huang for making the motion to correct his email address in the minutes and the commission for voting for it.

Ruben Juarez said the presentation did a wonderful job of making the case for how responsible and committed Library workers are and going into a new budget cycle encouraged management to focus on getting optimal staffing, so Library workers can reach service excellence standards.

Jason Gibbs said he enjoyed that staff was highlighted in the presentation because they are often invisible to people. Custodial, is forward-facing part of the library, they provide customer service.

### **Commission Discussion**

Commissioner Bolander asked about the substantial drop in health and safety between 2024 and 2025 and if there was something that contributed to that drop.

Cunha said he didn't know but the possible onboarding of Nancy Teranova could be a contributing factor, and they will figure it out going forward.

Vice President Huang asked what numbers on the slide 15 could potentially change next time.

Fernandez said 27 through 29 will get revised as they get new information.

Commissioner Lopez said when people think of library they think of books and librarians, but it takes a whole community to operate and congratulated the custodians and all the work they do and asked if there are career opportunities for them.

Cunha said he is trying to create a promotional path for the facility team to hang onto talent.

Commissioner Jones said she could see the pride Cunha has for his team they are unsung heroes and much of their

work is behind the curtain and she said the SF fellow program is interesting and asked if it is only in Facilities.

Cunha said it is a citywide program and other SFPL divisions have fellows.

Commissioner Huang said they do not talk about Facilities work enough and it is hard, complicated and wants to make sure Facilities Division has the resources to be successful. Huang asked about what the drivers were in the change in incidents.

Cunha said It's not any one thing it's all of them and since 2022 this location here has seen a vast improvement there's been a huge activation in union plaza and they are doing everything they can to activate Fulton plaza, civic center plaza.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO.4 FYS 2027 & 2028 ANNUAL BUDGET**

Mike Fernandez, Chief Financial Officer, presented the FYs 27 & 28 Budget.

#### **[FYs 27 & 28 Budget Presentation](#)**

#### **Public Comment**

Ruben Jaurez asked what upgraded security systems for all SFPL locations meant and would like to see a deeper dive in to how the budget process works.

Jason Gibbs said the collection is divided between online and physical and they work in different ways. When the Library buys for its physical collection, they have the book. With online materials the Library provides Amazon Prime or Netflix to the public, that is money the Library is paying and not getting anything physical in return.

Peter Warfield said there needs to be a patron privacy audit with any kind of electronic programs or materials with respect to print versus E-materials, the measurements are very suspect in terms of people's preference.

#### **Commission Discussion**

Commissioner Jones asked if the Facebook archive is a Labor or service cost, and noted it is expensive.

Fernandez said it is full-service cost.

Commissioner Lopez said the Financial Coaching events are very well attended and asked about the partnership with the Treasurer's office, what do they provide, and do we pay them for that.

Michelle Jeffers said the Treasurer does not do it for free, they engage with the financial coaches, and they contract with the financial coaching firms that the library hosts, but the Treasurer is the holder of that contract, the Library pays them for the training curriculum.

Commissioner Huang asked how the \$17.6 million breaks down. 2028 is higher.

Fernandez said it is slightly higher in 2028 due to the labor agreement raises, which run through FY 27.

#### **THE MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:42 PM**

Margot Shaub, Commission Affairs Analyst  
Commission Affairs Analyst, Main Library, San Francisco, CA 94102-4733

To access **Commission Meeting recordings** please visit: [SFPL Commission Meeting JANUARY 15, 2026](#)

**Please note: These are draft minutes subject to revision by the San Francisco Public Library Commission. Copies of the minutes and handouts are available in the office of the Library Commission Affairs Analyst, 6th floor, Main Library, 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102-4733.**

Explanatory documents: Copies of listed explanatory documents are available as follows: (1) from the Commission Liaison Affairs Analyst/Custodian of Records, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Main Library; (2) in the rear of Koret Auditorium immediately prior to, and during, the meeting; and (3), to the extent possible, on the Public Library Commission webpage: [sfpl.org/library-commission/public-notices/agendas](http://sfpl.org/library-commission/public-notices/agendas). Additional materials not listed as explanatory documents on this agenda, if any, that are distributed to Library Commissioners prior to or during the meeting in connection with any agenda item will be available to the public for inspection and copying in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.1 and Sunshine Ordinance Sections 67.9, 67.28(b), and 67.28(d).