



San Francisco Public Library

San Francisco Public Library Commission

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2026

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

Meeting opened following the Ramaytush Ohlone land acknowledgement.

Commissioners Present: President Calhoun, Vice President Jones, Commissioner Huang, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Bolander, Commissioner Kenaston, Commissioner Menon.

Staff presenters / participants: Margot Shaub (Commission Affairs Analyst); City Librarian Michael Lambert; Chief of Public Services Dolly Goyal; Chief Analytics Officer Randy McClure; Youth Services Manager Ileana Poulou; Hai Ching Chen (Chinese Center Program Manager); Sachiko Iwibuchi (Japanese Language Librarian).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Gibbs, retired librarian, reported prevailing at the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (File No. 26015) requiring three minutes public comment; criticized past two-minute limits and urged the Commission to prioritize public oversight and free speech obligations under the Brown Act/Sunshine Ordinance.

Anonymous citizen accused the Commission of “elitism” and decision-making opacity; questioned unannounced changes in comment time 2 to 3 minutes and warned against serial meetings; urged respect for democratic process.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director of Library Users Association Libraryusers2004@protonmail.com, PO Box 170544, San Francisco California 94117-0544 faulted lack of clear announcement of 3-minute change; cited prior interruptions and minutes that incompletely or misleadingly summarize public comments; raised concerns about AI/social media risks and privacy.

Kate Lazarus, Board, Friends of the Public Library, updated on Mission/Chinatown remodels; advocacy to restore \$3.2M to the California Library Services Act (incl. \$3M ESL); ongoing charter reform monitoring with no proposed changes to the Library Preservation Fund; noted the library’s strong role as a successful set-aside.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 12, 2026 MINUTES

Public Comment

Anonymous citizen argued drafts misrepresent/omit significant portions of prior remarks (e.g., Lynn Davidson, Peter Warfield, Jason Gibbs) and omitted Ruben Juarez entirely; urged accurate, complete minutes.

Jason Gibbs requested explicitly including Ruben Juarez’s comments in the minutes.

Peter Warfield detailed substantive points he felt were missing (privacy audit; whistleblower Frances Haugen testimony; Surgeon General concerns; risks of uncritical social media promotion) and asked for accurate attribution of his email address and comments.

Commission Discussion

Commissioners proposed returning the minutes for revision rather than approving language absent exact corrections; suggestion review and bring back to April Commission meeting.

Motion: Motion by Commissioner **JONES** to bring back the February 12,2026 minutes to the next meeting; seconded by **LOPEZ**

Action: AYES 7-0 (Calhoun, Jones, Huang, Lopez, Bolander, Menon and Kenaston)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 VISION 2030 MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT

Dolly Goyal, Chief of Public Services, presented [Vision 2030 Mid Year Progress Report](#)

Public Comment

Anonymous commenter criticized perceived “elitism,” questioned “right-sizing” as euphemism for book dumping; argued for preserving literacy and culture. 1

Youth Advisory Board intern advocated for continued investment in teen spaces across districts for safety, study, and social connection.

Peter Warfield warned of “de-bookification,” challenged “misalignment” rationale, and raised concerns about electronic-only titles and long holds; urged caution about social media and AI harms to youth.

Another speaker offered an extended reflection on “thoughtful navigator” ideals, questioned training resourcing (STATCOM status), and asked for support for staff professional development time/funding.

Commission Discussion

Menon asked about YAB–nonprofit connections; Poulou described first-year environmental scan, partnerships, teen-led program design, branch evaluations, outreach, and field trips (e.g., SF State). 1

Huang pressed for visibility into data & analytics, workforce culture, and systems/operations; staff previewed patron churn (~75 days) analysis, equity zone mapping (ArcGIS), HR initiatives (employee shout-outs; standard training). 1

Jones encouraged organizing KPIs under thematic micro-pillars (e.g., celebration & collaboration) and blending

quantitative + qualitative feedback; suggested an “engagement model” lens for CTS relabeling outcomes.

Lopez requested clearer visuals distinguishing completed vs. active work and mapping projects to Vision 2030 goals; asked detailed questions on YAB selection/process/roles and K2C partnership responsibilities.

Bolander praised the difficult culture shift toward outcomes/OKRs; asked for clearer visual reporting; staff emphasized accessibility work and cross-department learning.

Calhoun emphasized serving patrons first and highlighted CTS relabeling as transformational accessibility work.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 PUBLIC SERVICES PERFORMANCE MEASURES MID YEAR REPORT

Randle McClure, Chief RSA, presented Public Services Performance Measures [Mid-Year Report](#)

Public Comment

Anonymous Commenter Anonymous urged fuller minutes that capture cross-item overlap and substantive Commission discussions.

Jason Gibbs asked whether e-resource usage is reflected in active card status praised circulation gains as evidence of effective “rightsizing.”

Peter Warfield questioned survey methodology online-only sampling, noted hours consistently lowest, critiqued definitions, and asked about measures like visits per open hour.

Commission Discussion

Bolander asked for action plans to lift the bottom-three satisfaction areas (hours, website, programs).

Lambert contrasted SFPL ~52.1 hours vs. national ~41.9; reaffirmed all branches 7 days/week; next Open Hours Assessment in 2028 (intercept surveys; district meetings).

McClure flagged DOJ ADA web requirements and the need to rethink the website for digital-native access over the next 3–5 years.

Huang explored Wi-Fi decline hypotheses (connectivity improvements, building factors).

Jones suggested benchmarking peer libraries and target-setting; posited a possible “analog third-space” trend where patrons choose books/conversation over Wi-Fi.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 CITY LIBRARIAN’S REPORT

Hai Ching Chen, Chinese Center Program Manager, recapped [Lunar New Year programming](#).

Sachiko Iwibuchi, Main Librarian, highlighted the screening of “[Paper Lanterns](#).”

City Librarian Michael Lambert reported collaboration with the [Consulate General of Kazakhstan](#).

Public Comment

Peter Warfield praised the Kazakh concert but criticized perceived selectivity in event publicity, asking for better onsite print communications.

Commission Discussion

Menon asked how programming is strategized across the year and the best ways for the public to learn about offerings.

Lambert cited the At The Library (ATL) monthly newsletter, flyers, website, and mobile app; acknowledged robust attendance and room for improvement; emphasized co-creation with partners and volume 15,000 programs/year.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:37 PM

ADDENDUM:

The following summaries are not part of the body's official minutes, nor does the body vouch for their accuracy.

Jason Gibbs during your December 2025 meeting I tried to prevail upon the Commission to follow their bylaws and allow 3 minute public comment. Unsuccessful here, I appealed to the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force. On March 4, 2026 I prevailed in "File No. 26015: Complaint filed by Jason Gibbs against the San Francisco Library Commission for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.15, by failing to allow public comment for up to three minutes." While the Commission was the named party in the matter you visibly never acted on this matter and allowed it to continue for 13 consecutive meetings even after being warned that it was improper. The Administrative Code states that the commission exists to serve the public's interest. It are a governance body that "provides oversight and direction" to the work of the Library and should represent the public and not library leadership. Jason Gibbs.

General Public Comment Anonymous commenter said stop the hate, stop the ignorance, don't give money to or accept money from the Friends of the Library. I came in February of 2025 to commemorate the fifty-year anniversary of my attendance at Library Commission meetings. I was so "horrified," that I forgot to mention it. The institution is "Public" "Library." Yet, anti-intellectual elitist are appointed Library Commissioners. Real elitism would be based on positive elements. Demeaning and denigrating the public to establish elitism demonstrates how thin commissioner's elitism really is. Commissioners who cared would encourage even the less elite public. You granted three minutes of public comment on the agenda without any reference to who did it or why. Reduction to two minutes in January 2025, was also without rationalization. You are totally neglectful and oblivious to responsibility, or you have illegal seriatim meeting to make secret decisions. Respect for democracy would recognize both as equally bad.

Anonymous commenter said stop the hate, stop the ignorance don't give money to or accept money from the Friends of the Library. The City Librarian described new commissioners with comments of "millions of dollars in political giving" and "wealth management leader." Qualifications as library commissioners would be included in the minutes. Item No. 1, Lyn Davidson's first ten seconds are summarized. Omitting her emphasizing the role of labor is a gross misrepresentation. Peter Warfield also summarized for the first ten seconds. Omitting his point that this Commission was deliberately neglecting the important violations of privacy is a gross misrepresentation. Jason Gibbs was summarized for a minute, management's failure to provide follow-up was not included. Ruben Juarez followed Jason Gibbs reinforcing the importance of accurate data. With no convenient way to misrepresent him, you just left him out Just erased him. Was there not a single comment from any commissioners under the budget discussion.

Anonymous commenter said stop the hate, stop the ignorance, don't give money to or accept money from the Friends of the Library. My goodness! Did anyone understand that? Will this item appear in the minutes as a Powerpoint only without any of the staff's presentation or any of your questions as last month's budget discussion did? You are desperate to establish your elitism but your anti-intellectualism is unquestioned. Something called "right-sizing the collection" is now being blamed on the pandemic? Can that be anything but another euphemism for book dumping? This once prime research library has become an expensive alternative for Netflix. Will the public's cherishing

of libraries survive this “dumbing down” of our citizens? Your admission barely half of third-graders read at grade level can be extended through college. You look for popularity rather than value. People will recognize that. You are abandoning literacy, intellect, culture and learning for what is popular.

Library Commission President introduces public comment with the implied threat that the relevance of our comments might be narrowly construed and ruled out of order. Really? Don't all of these issues overlap with each other? At the last meeting you had very crucial comments about the budget, particularly Commissioner Jones, that you should be reminded of. The previous item on the mid-year report pointed out that you should pay attention to details, note how things work, be thoughtful and accessible. Will that discussion be reflected in the minutes? Will you take that to heart? You have been dumbing down yourselves persistently. In this crucial transition in library service we need to be thoughtful. It is about the role of the library, not patron satisfaction. You should be open to all public comment.

To access **Commission Meeting recordings** please visit: [SFPL Commission Meeting](#)

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, 6th 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. 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).