



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Thushan Amarasiriwardena, President  
Debbie Gibbons, Vice President  
Anita Battle, Board Member  
Dimple Kanji, Board Member

Absent: Sara Strickler, Board Member

Staff: Mike Eitner, Library Director  
Lori Amaya, Recording Secretary

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so enacted or approved on the Consent Calendar

- \*A. Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of January 14, 2026
- \*B. Financial Report Reflecting FY25/26 January & February Expenditures by Fund
- \*C. Bills for Ratification for the Months of January & February 2026

President Amarasiriwardena thanked Director Eitner on behalf of the Library Board for his contributions while serving as Library Director, and for setting a professional, high-level tone for the library, stabilizing how the organization works, making hard decisions, and setting up the Library for the future.

Board Member Kanji moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Vice President Gibbons seconded the motion, which passed with a 4-0 vote.

## REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

### A. Receive a Report from Library Director

Director Eitner reported on Library activities from January and February 2026, and Library statistics through February 2026. The Library's new event calendar will launch on April 1, as well as the new online platform for study room reservations. New furniture for the Teen Center will be delivered next Thursday. Updates on the transition plan for a new Library Director will come from the City Manager's Office, although nothing has been confirmed yet. Director Eitner's last day is March 24.

## BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Vice President Gibbons attended the Friends' De-escalation Training and thought it was enlightening. She received feedback from the Friends volunteers and learned they would like Library staff to know their names and suggested introducing new staff members to them as they're hired. The Friends Volunteer Recognition Celebration is on Saturday at the Harbor Bay Community Center. Director Eitner explained the email included in the Agenda is for the Board's information and should be discussed now to determine whether they would like the Library to take any action. Any action will be brought back as a future agenda item.

## STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

## NON-AGENDA PUBLIC

None.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Eitner, Library Director and  
Secretary to the Alameda Free Library Board