

**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.**