

**City of Gilroy  
Library Commission  
Minutes  
Wednesday, May 13, 2026 | 7:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Commissioner Coverson-Baxter.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT**

Victoria Coverson-Baxter, Commissioner

Saied Nooshabadi, Commissioner

Christina Tovar, Commissioner

Joseph Coughlan, Commissioner

**ABSENT**

Jan Guffey, Commissioner

**3. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The meeting agenda was posted on May 8, 2026.

**4. INTRODUCTIONS**

Finance Director Cindy Murphy was introduced as the replacement for Assistant City Administrator Harjot Sangha.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Approval of the Minutes from the February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Library Commission**

Nooshabadi motioned to approve the minutes. Coughlan seconded. Motion passed 4-0-0.

**6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**7. LIBRARY STAFF RECOGNITION**

Librarian Wong was planning to introduce her recognized staff member, but she was unable to be present. Wong will introduce her at the next Commission meeting.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. Library Commission Workplan Updates**

**The following items were discussed:**

- **Study of community art installation or display at the Gilroy Library:** Wong presented various ideas about what other libraries do for displaying public art at their facilities. She recommended that the art work be

specific and space appropriate as well as consider all the logistics involved (e.g., mounting to a wall) in erecting it. There are three other branches which display art within the County Library system: Saratoga, Campbell, and Milpitas. The commissioners mentioned having local artists display their works, however, they should be in areas that are easily accessible to the public, such as a lobby. They also prefer to have young artists featured, possibly high school or Gavilan College students. With the remodel coming soon, Wong suggested that it could play a role in identifying future space to display artwork.

- **Provide recommendations to the City Council regarding capital improvements to the Gilroy Library to be funded by the unspent library bond proceeds.** Henig shared the updates he received from Public Works staff:
  - 95% plan set is complete
  - Plan set drawings are being submitted for Permit Review and Approvals this week by SVA
  - Plan is to issue bid proposals in July/August pending permit in hand
  - Construction would begin Fall 2026
  - The project is expected to be completed in Summer 2027.
- **Promote the commission's purpose and inform the Gilroy community of the Library Commission's presence and visibility:** Commissioners made the following suggestions:
  - Announcement over loudspeaker prior the Commission meeting.
  - On the survey the Library sends to users, they were asked if they could add a question about having attended a Library Commission meeting.
  - Creating an A-frame poster and displaying it in the lobby the week of the commission meeting.
- **Participate in the annual California Library Association (CLA) or the American Library Association (ALA) conference:** Henig mentioned that the Commission can select one commissioner to attend the annual CLA conference in Riverside this October. The City would cover the associated costs of up to \$2,500. Coughlan expressed interest but wasn't able to confirm. Nooshabadi motioned to select Coughlan to attend this year's conference. If he's unable to, Coverson-Baxter would attend. Tovar seconded. Motion passed 4-0-0.

**9. NEW BUSINESS – none**

**10. LIBRARY REPORTS**

**1. Santa Clara County Library reports: March 2026 through May 2026**

The following was mentioned by County Librarian Weeks:

- Gilroy Foundation is providing funds to support the Dolly Parton Foundation, which issues books to all children within the County from 0-5 years old. Currently, there are 16,500 children who have registered.

- The County Library is participating in the "One Book, One Coast" program, where everyone in the coastal states reads the same book, which will be *They Call Us Enemy* by George Takei.
- Families can pre-register for the summer reading program.
- Campbell Library recently reopened after four years of being under construction.

## 2. **Gilroy Library Report**

Gilroy Librarian Wong discussed the following:

- An update about the storywalk at San Ysidro Park.
- A new focus on teen space for pro-social activities
- The upcoming Summer Reading program
- Past library events such as a family picnic in the Paseo and ComicCon
- Statistics of patron usage at the Gilroy Library

## 11. **STAFF/COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commissioners mentioned that they were excited to get involved with the Library. Commissioner Tovar said she attended storytime and recommended the Library promote Libby on social media. Coughlan mentioned he led a storytime at El Roble Elementary School.

## 12. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## 13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Coverson-Baxter adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.