

CITY OF SPANISH FORT
LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
AGENDA

December 1, 2025

Spanish Fort Community Center, 3:15 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Invocation
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Library Board Meeting:
May 5, 2025
6. Public Participation
7. Old Business
8. New Business
 - a. Librarian Report
 - b. Library 10th Anniversary Recap
 - c. Library Operations & Service Update
 - d. Discussion of Facility and Service Improvements
 - e. Discussion of Future Programming, Book Store, Fundraisers
9. Executive Session as Needed

Minutes, Spanish Fort Library Board, Monday, September 15, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Library Board of the City of Spanish Fort, Alabama, met Monday, September 15, 2025, at 3:05 p.m., at the Spanish Fort Community Center, that being the scheduled date, time and place of such meeting.

The following Board of Directors were present: Curt Smith, Shane Perry, Stephen Winn and Mary Brabner. Director Carl Gustafson was absent. Mayor McMillan, City Attorney David Conner, Librarian Shanavia Spencer and City Clerk Rebecca Gaines were also present.

Chairman Smith gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the prior meeting of May 5, 2025, meeting, were distributed to each member, and Chairman Smith called for any corrections. Chairman Smith announced that the minutes were approved as submitted.

Public Participation

Chairman Smith opened the floor to public participation. There was none.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Librarian Report

Chairman Smith called upon Librarian Shanavia Spencer who presented the Librarian's Report. Ms. Spencer stated the Summer Reading theme for 2025 was "Color Our World". There were 12,500 visitors to the Library in June and July. 760 people signed up to participate in the Summer Reading program. Over 288 reading logs were turned in, and 115,940 minutes were read during Summer Reading. The Library ran 92 programs in June and July, and over 4000 patrons attended those programs.

Ms. Spencer thanked the City for its support of the Library and thanked the Public Works and Parks and Rec employees who helped set up for programs and assisted in other ways. Ms. Spencer also thanked Toomey's Mardi Gras and Gulf Coast Dance Alliance for their support for the Glow Party Summer Reading kickoff event. Ms. Reed thanked those who helped present adulting classes and other programming, including Ace Hardware, Cadence Bank, Newk's Eatery, Andrews Auto Care, Classical Ballet Theater and Academy, Daylight Tees & More, Jammin' Piano Kids from the Steinway Academy, California Dreaming, Half Shell Oyster House, Eastern Shore Lanes, Build-A-Bear, Mobile Nature Preserve, Joe's Pizza, Chick-Fil-A, Beef O'Brady's, Cracker Barrel, Logan's Roadhouse, Texas Roadhouse, Tortuga Adventure Golf, Premiere 14 Eastern Shore, Sonic, Blakeley State Park and Big Hit Sports Cards.

Ms. Spencer informed the Library Board that there were 31 volunteers in the Library during the summer, most of the volunteers being teenagers. The volunteers were treated to a tie-dye shirt party and pizza party as a thank you for their volunteer efforts.

Ms. Spencer also thanked the Friends of the Library for their support of all things involving the Library.

The Library implemented new programming over the summer, including the “Color Your Plate” program, highlighting meals and food from various countries around the world. The Library also implemented Chess, a new Saturday Story Time program and a Wind Down/Relaxation program with reverse coloring.

The Friends of the Library are developing a bookstore in a small corner of the Library.

Library Operations & Service Update

Ms. Spencer commented on the two part-time temporary employees added while the Library was short-staffed due to extended absences of two employees. Ms. Spencer noted the Library operated more smoothly with the part-time employees present and informed the Board the part-time employees were developing programming for the Library, including a historical fiction book club, a mystery book club and a book club aimed at after-school teens. Ms. Spencer requested that she be allowed to keep the part-time temporary employees permanently.

Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Director Perry and seconded by Director Brabner to make a recommendation to the City Council to extend the part-time employees through December 31, 2025. Discussion followed. Chairman Smith called for a polling of votes. Voting in favor of the motion were Directors Brabner, Perry, Winn and Chairman Smith. Voting against the motion were none. Chairman Smith announced the motion carried.

Library 10th Anniversary Celebration

Ms. Spencer noted the Spanish Fort Public Library will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary. As part of the celebrations, local author Paul Brueske will be coming to speak on his books on Civil War History in Spanish Fort on October 10, 2025, including his latest book, “Digging All Night and Fighting All Day”.

Also, NAMI will present a program on Mental Illness on October 11, 2025. There will be a program on October 13, 2025, on book character painting on pumpkins. The Library will be providing equipment for an upcoming Junior City Council movie night. Also, there will be a celebration of the Library 10th Anniversary during the October 6, 2025, City Council meeting, with the Friends of the Library providing a cake.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Adopted and Approved this _____ day of December, 2025.

Rebecca A. Gaines
Secretary