

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

August 27, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held at the Central Library starting at 11:05 a.m. on the above-written date.

1. Roll Call:

Present:	President	Mayra Valadez
	Vice President	Linda Blank
	Commissioner	Kelly Besser
	Commissioner	Valerie Lynne Shaw
	Commissioner	Fabian R. Wesson
Absent:	Commissioner	Valerie Lynne Shaw

Also: City Librarian John F. Szabo, Assistant City Librarian Susan Broman, Deputy City Attorney Josh M. Temple, administrative staff, and members of the public.

- 2. Opening Remarks:** Board President Valadez welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared her enthusiasm to hear the Diversity and Inclusion Apprenticeship program (DAIA) presentation.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

- a. Regular Meeting - July 9, 2026

It was moved by Commissioner Wesson and seconded by Commissioner Blank to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meetings held on June 25, 2026. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Besser/Blank/Valadez/Wesson); Noes: 0. Absent: 1 (Shaw).

4. Public Comments on Matters Within the Board's Jurisdiction:

The Board heard three public comments from the following community members: Ben Eubanks, Glen Bailey and Molly Schiot.

- 5. City Librarian's Comments and Announcements:** City Librarian John F. Szabo reported on past and upcoming events.

6. City Librarian's Reports:

Consent Items

- a. **Acceptance of a gift of \$3,750 for the purchase of library materials to benefit the Westwood Branch Library received from the Friends of the Westwood Library.**

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended acceptance of a gift of \$3,750 for the purchase of library materials to benefit the Westwood Branch Library received from the Friends of the Westwood Library.

It was moved by Vice President Blank and seconded by Commissioner Besser to approve the following resolution. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Besser/Blank/Valadez/Wesson); Noes: 0. Absent: 1 (Shaw).

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2026-34

RESOLVED, that a gift of \$3,750 for the purchase of library materials to benefit the Westwood Branch Library received from the Friends of Westwood Library be accepted and deposited in Trust Fund 831, Account 340; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a letter of thanks be sent to the Friends of Westwood Library expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board for the generous gift.

b. Acceptance of gift of \$1,250 for the Octavia Lab at the Central Library from the Black Image Center.

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended accepting a \$1,250 gift for the Octavia Lab at the Central Library from the Black Image Center. The gift resulted from a successful partnership with the organization, which received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and made the donation in appreciation of its collaboration with the Octavia Lab and Central Library.

It was moved by Vice President Blank and seconded by Commissioner Besser to approve the following resolution. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Besser/Blank/Valadez/Wesson); Noes: 0. Absent: 1 (Shaw).

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2026-35

RESOLVED, That a gift to the Octavia Lab at the Central Library by the Black Image Center of \$1,250 be accepted and deposited in Trust Fund 831, Account 384; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to Astrid Kayembe of the Black Image Center for their generous support for the Octavia Lab.

c. Acceptance to the First Amendment to Contract No. C-200700, Consent to Assignment and Acknowledgment of Successor Contractor Perceptiv Holdings LLC.

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended approval to authorize the First Amendment to Contract No. C-200700, Consent to assignment and acknowledgment of successor contractor Perceptiv Holdings LLC. He noted that this action reflects a straightforward name change for the contracting entity.

It was moved by Commissioner Besser and seconded by Vice President Blank to approve the following resolution. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Besser/Blank/Valadez/Wesson); Noes: 0. Absent: 1 (Shaw).

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2026- 36 (C-31)

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2024, the Board approved the award of contracts to provide the Library with marketing and public relations consulting services as part of a list of pre-qualified contractors to 29 vendors, including Perceptiv, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2025, Contract No. C-200700 between the Library and Perceptiv, Inc. was executed for a term of three years; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2026, Perceptiv, Inc. was acquired by Perceptiv Holdings LLC; and

WHEREAS, Perceptiv Holdings LLC wishes to continue to operate in the position of Perceptiv, Inc. as a contractor pre-qualified to provide the services specified in Contract No. C-200700; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of the contract will remain the same;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board adopts the recommendations and findings of the City Librarian's Board Report and approves the First Amendment to Contract No. C-200700, Consent to Assignment and Acknowledgment of Successor Contractor; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the City Librarian and the City Attorney to make technical and clerical corrections, if needed, to the agreement.

d. Award of contract to CREATHELAB LLC dba Create TheLAB for audiovisual services for the Los Angeles Public Library.

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended approving the contract award to CREATETHELAB LLC (dba Create TheLAB) for audio-visual services for the Los Angeles Public Library. This follows an RFP approved on May 4, 2026, and issued on May 20, 2026, with a pre-proposal conference held on June 3, 2026. Four submissions were received and evaluated by a panel of library staff who work with AV contractors. The opportunity was broadly advertised, and the recommended contractor is a verified local small business.

It was moved by Vice President Blank and seconded by Commissioner Besser to approve the following resolution. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Besser/Blank/Valadez/Wesson); Noes: 0. Absent: 1 (Shaw).

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2026-37 (C-32)

WHEREAS, the Library requires the professional and technical services of a qualified entity to manage, direct, plan and coordinate the audiovisual, lighting, and other aspects of meetings and productions staged in the Central Library Mark Taper Auditorium, Rotunda, Courtyards, meeting venues, and other library facilities; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2026, the Board approved the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select a qualified and experienced entity to provide professional and technical services to manage, direct, plan and coordinate the audiovisual, lighting, and

other technical aspects of meetings and productions staged in the Central Library Mark Taper Auditorium, Rotunda, Courtyards, meeting venues, and other library facilities (Library Resolution No. 2026-20 [C-20]); and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2026, the RFP for audiovisual services was released;

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2026, the Library received four proposals. Library staff reviewed the proposals and found all four to be responsive to the RFP submittal requirements. An evaluation panel of Library employees reviewed and evaluated the proposals and determined that the proposal submitted by Contractor best met the needs of the Library; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Charter Section 1022, the Board has found the services to be provided are professional, expert, and technical services of a temporary and occasional nature, and that is more feasible to have this work performed by an independent contractor than by City employees;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board adopts the recommendations and findings of the City Librarian's Board Report and authorizes the award and execution of a contract for audiovisual services for the Library on an as-needed and as-requested basis to CREATETHELAB LLC dba Create TheLAB; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the City Librarian and the City Attorney to make technical and clerical corrections, if needed, to the agreement.

7. Presentation: Diversity and Inclusion Apprenticeship (DAIA)

Madeline Peña, Director of the Engagement and Learning Division, introduced the team behind the Diversity and Inclusion Apprenticeship (DAIA) Program: Program Coordinator Melanie Corral, Volunteer Engagement Librarian Aldrich Linton, and Senior Librarian Jennifer Siron, who provided an overview of the program. Apprentices from the 2026 cohort—Tony Santiago, Heather Yang, and Lynn Marshall—presented summaries of their Capstone Projects and work in the program, emphasizing the significant impact it has had on their professional development.

Board President Valadez thanked the group for their presentation and commended their hard work and dedication to the program and library.

8. Commissioners' Announcements and Comments

- Board President Valadez announced that this would be her final meeting as commissioner, and called it the honor of a lifetime to work with John, Susan, and library staff. She stated that the goal is always to leave a place better than found and keep doors open for young and underrepresented people. As a first-generation daughter of Mexican immigrants whose first language is Spanish, the library meant a lot throughout her life—from spending time at the Pacoima branch as a youth to applying for college, writing papers, and working from home at the Lakeview Terrace branch. She looks forward to bringing her future children there, calling the library an incredible city asset. Concluding her remarks, President Valadez thanked everyone for the privilege of leading the Board over

the past year, extended her deep gratitude to Mr. Szabo for his leadership, and offered best wishes to the incoming commissioner.

Next Board Meeting Notice: The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 10 , 2026, at 11:00 a.m., and will be held at the Central Library.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kelly Besser
President

Lynda Achi
Secretary to the Board