



# CITY *of* ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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November 13, 2025 at 4:00 PM  
**Council Chambers: 201 North Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025**

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## **WELCOME TO YOUR BOARD MEETING**

We welcome your interest and involvement in the legislative process of Escondido. This agenda includes information about topics coming before the board.

### **PRESIDENT**

Maribel Reyes

### **SECRETARY**

Giselle Luevanos

### **TRUSTEES**

Francis X. Bova III

Virginia Bunnell

John Schwab

### **ASSISTANT CITY CLERK**

Sarena Garcia

### **HOW TO WATCH**

The City of Escondido provides one way to watch a board meeting:

#### **In Person**



201 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025



# CITY of ESCONDIDO

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The City of Escondido provides two ways to communicate with the board during a meeting:

#### In Person



Fill out Speaker Slip and Submit to City Clerk

#### In Writing



<https://escondido-ca.municodemeetings.com>

### ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact our ADA Coordinator at 760-839-4869. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the city to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired – please see the City Clerk.



### ROLL CALL

### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Review and approve the minutes from the October 9, 2025 meeting.

### CURRENT BUSINESS

#### 2. Updates: City of Escondido

General updates from the City, including news related to the library infrastructure project.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Community Services Department: Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services)

Presenter(s): Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services

3. Discussion and Possible Vote to Augment the Library's Collection Budget from Trust Funds (January–June 2026)



# CITY of ESCONDIDO

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

Discussion and possible vote to authorize the use of Library Trust Funds to supplement the Library's collection budget for January through June 2026.

Staff Recommendation: Direction from the Board (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): John Schwab, Trustee

### STATISTICS REPORT

- [4.](#) Presentation of monthly statistical report.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

### LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- [5.](#) Presentation of monthly report and general library updates.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

### TRUSTEE LIBRARY USE REPORT

6. Reports by the Library Board of Trustees of their use of the library and its services.

### ADJOURNMENT

### UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

7. Unless otherwise noted, the Library Board of Trustees meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.



# CITY of ESCONDIDO

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

October 09, 2025 at 6:00 PM

### MINUTES

#### ROLL CALL

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Review and Approve the minutes from the September 11, 2025 meeting

Motion: Trustee Schwab

Second: Trustee Bova III

Vote: 5-0

#### CURRENT BUSINESS

2. **General updates from the City.**

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Community Services Department: Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services)

Presenter(s): Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services

3. **Authorization to Use Library Trust Funds for Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) for Library Infrastructure Project (Second Floor)**

Request the Library Board of Trustees allocate and commit \$60,170.25 of Library Trust funds to purchase unfunded furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) for the second floor of the library as part of the Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program state grant project.

Staff Recommendation: Approval (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director; Ed Vasquez, Project Manager; Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services

Motion: Trustee Bunnell

Second: Trustee Schwab

Vote: 5-0



# CITY of ESCONDIDO

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

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October 09, 2025 at 6:00 PM

### STATISTICS REPORT

#### 4. Statistical Report

Presentation of monthly statistical report.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

### LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### 5. Director's Report

Presentation of monthly report and general library updates.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

### TRUSTEE LIBRARY USE REPORT

#### 6. Reports by Board members

Reports by the Library Board of Trustees of their use of the library and its services.

### ADJOURNMENT

### UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

#### 7. Upcoming Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, the Library Board of Trustees meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

11/13/2025 - 4:00pm

12/11/2025 - 4:00pm



# CITY *of* ESCONDIDO

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

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October 09, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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DIVISION SUPPORT COORDINATOR



## STATISTICS REPORT

**Monthly Statistics 2025-2026**

		July	August	September
<b>CIRCULATION:</b>	Physical Materials	34,152	33,753	31,706
	Digital Materials	7,786	8,002	7,788
	Overdrive Libby	6,991	7,203	6,928
	Hoopla	520	566	561
	Total Circulation	41,938	41,755	39,494
	Holds Satisfied	1,586	1,711	1,659
<b>INTER-LIBRARY LOANS:</b>	ILLs Checked Out	-	3	5
	Link+ Items Borrowed (EPL patrons)	373	315	338
	Link+ Items Lent (to patrons at other libraries)	147	168	213
<b>POPULATION &amp; BORROWERS:</b>	Total Registered Borrowers	96,798	97,524	98,189
<b>REFERENCE QUESTIONS:</b>	Total Reference Transactions	8,424	7,335	6,769
<b>LIBRARY SERVICES:</b>	Public Service Hours	260	260	250
	Library Visits	23,796	22,570	22,196
<b>ELECTRONIC SERVICES:</b>	Users of Public Internet Computers	547	587	511
	Wireless Sessions	4,502	4,308	4,600
	Number of Website Visits	13,564	12,251	11,584
<b>VOLUNTEERS:</b>	Total Active Volunteers	55	50	36
	Total Volunteer Hours	660	529	398
<b>PROGRAMS:</b>	# of live, in-person programs	153	59	154
	Live, in-person attendance	2,049	654	2,097
	# of live, virtual programs	-	-	-
	Live, virtual program attendance	-	-	-
	# of pre-recorded programs	-	-	-
	# of views of recorded program content	-	-	-
	# of live, off site programs (outreach)	6	9	4
	Live, off site program (outreach) attendance	70	680	1,010
	# of take home kits given out	80	80	80
<b>PIONEER ROOM:</b>	Pioneer Room Visits:	550	550	550
	Digital Collection Items Accessed:	87	455	267
	On-Site Items & Resources Accessed:	90	100	101





## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### **Carnegie Corporation Gift**

Escondido Public Library has been notified that Carnegie Corporation of New York will award a \$10,000 gift to our library as part of its Carnegie Libraries 250 initiative commemorating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Corporation notes that Andrew Carnegie funded 1,681 free public libraries in the United States (1886–1917), based on his belief that libraries are “cradles of democracy.” As part of this initiative, the Corporation confirmed that about 1,280 Carnegie libraries—including ours—remain in operation and acknowledge their Carnegie heritage, making them eligible for this celebratory gift.

#### Timing and Process

- The Library can expect to receive the check in January 2026.
- Library staff are working with the City to coordinate the receipt and accounting for the funds.
- Because notification arrived late in the month, we were unable to place acceptance on this month's agenda. We intend to add an agenda item next month for the Board to formally accept the gift.
- Following Board action, the gift will be forwarded for City Council acceptance, per City policy.

#### Use of Funds

- The gift is unrestricted, provided it is used in support of the Library and its mission—for example, to celebrate the anniversary, further our strategic priorities, and benefit the community.

The Corporation expresses appreciation for the many ways libraries serve their communities and offers this gift as recognition of our work, Andrew Carnegie's legacy, and this national milestone. We will return next month with the recommended acceptance action and a proposed plan for use of funds.

### **Baker & Taylor Closure**

Baker & Taylor has announced it is winding down operations. While this change is significant for the library market, Escondido Public Library is not severely impacted because we already source materials from multiple vendors and wholesalers. Our diversified purchasing approach is allowing us to maintain continuity of service.

The primary local impact has been delays in receiving certain high-demand adult fiction titles, resulting in longer wait times for some holds. In addition, the closure ended our Baker & Taylor lease service. To mitigate this, we are retaining all materials that were on lease and adding them permanently to our collections. This decision







created a net gain for the Library: the cumulative replacement value of the leased items exceeds what we spent on the lease plan.

As a result of this positive balance, approximately \$5,000 is being reallocated to strengthen other print collections—primarily adult materials, which were the focus of the former lease program. Staff are actively redirecting orders to alternate distributors and monitoring title availability to minimize delays. We will continue to communicate with patrons about hold times and prioritize fulfillment of popular titles through our established vendor network.

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## OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

October brought strong seasonal engagement across the Library, with enthusiastic participation in Halloween-themed programs, hands-on learning opportunities for youth, wellness-focused adult offerings, and meaningful local history outreach. Collectively, these activities reflect our mission to provide welcoming spaces for discovery, creativity, and community connection.

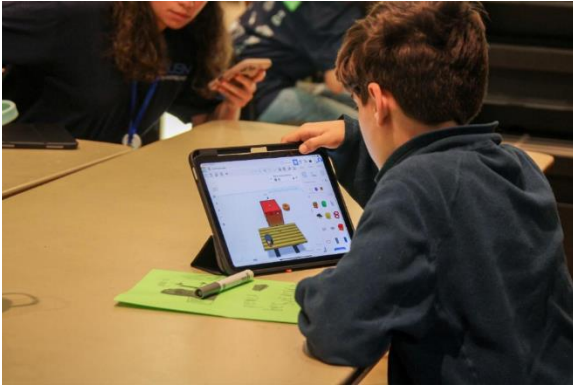
### Youth Services

Seasonal celebrations were a centerpiece for families this month. The Mershop's "Malloween" drew a remarkable 575 visitors to the Library over a two-hour window. In addition to trick-or-treating, families enjoyed themed crafts—flying bats and coloring sheets—which provided an easy entry point for creativity and conversation in the Library. The high turnout underscores the value of accessible, drop-in activities that invite families to explore the building and our services.



Our Día de los Muertos ofrenda served as a reflective and culturally affirming experience. This community altar offered a passive, interactive way for patrons to honor loved ones who have passed. We counted 230 contributions—paper butterflies and photographs—consistent with engagement seen in previous years at our primary location. The steady participation affirms the ofrenda as a cherished annual tradition that supports remembrance and community healing.





Tweens had multiple opportunities to build skills and connect with peers. On October 21, our STEM program—presented in collaboration with California State University San Marcos’ Center for Research & Engagement in STEM Education—hosted 20 participants working on TinkerCAD projects. This partnership continues to provide an approachable pathway into design thinking and digital creation. The Tween R.E.A.D. Book Club welcomed 10 readers for a lively discussion of *The Pumpkin Princess and the Forever Night*, fostering reading confidence and critical thinking

while building a sense of belonging among middle-grade readers.

Teen programming emphasized creativity and personal expression. In Cathy’s Teen Art Studio, four participants designed “Goth Garden” planters and personalized them with a take-home succulent. While intimate in size, this workshop model remains effective for cultivating one-on-one mentoring, encouraging teens to experiment with materials, and ensuring each participant leaves with a completed project and new skills.

## Adult Services

We expanded our “Healthy You” series with the launch of a monthly Zumba class on October 19. Led by NASM and AFAA-certified trainer Myriam Santos Galvin, the session drew 19 attendees. The high-energy class—set to a playlist spanning reggae, cumbia, merengue, Top 100 hits, and Mexican-American classics—offered a fun, judgement-free way to incorporate movement into busy lives. Feedback was positive, and the recurring format will help participants build routine while creating community through wellness.



To celebrate the Halloween season, we hosted “Horror Jeopardy: Trivia Terror at the Library” on October 29. Twenty participants on four teams competed across categories—from international horror cinema to cursed video-game adaptations—in a fast-paced, good-spirited evening. The event continued the momentum from last year’s successful trivia night and highlighted the Library as a space for cultural engagement and lighthearted competition. We extend special thanks to the North County Mall’s Lush store for donating







first-place prize packs featuring full-size products; the local partnership elevated the event experience and helped us recognize the winning team in style.



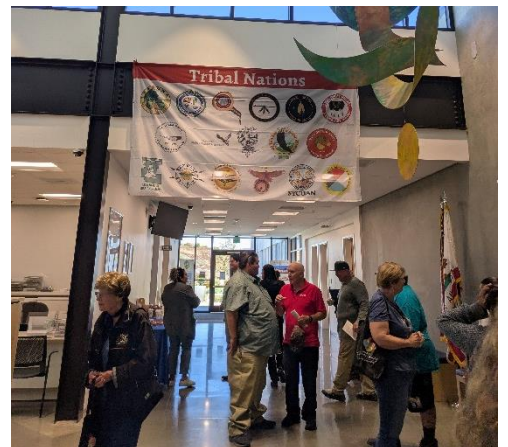
Craft programming also embraced the season's creative spirit. Early in the month we offered a "constellation pumpkin" workshop for adults, with 16 participants transforming black foam pumpkins using paints, powders, and inks. By piercing patterns and adding interior string lights, each participant created a personalized starfield that casts a cozy, celestial glow—an especially popular theme as cooler weather arrived. The hands-on activity provided a relaxing, social environment while introducing simple techniques patrons can replicate at home.

## Pioneer Room

The Pioneer Room continued to connect residents with local history and heritage. In October, staff served 46 patrons in the archives and engaged 35 community members through offsite outreach.

As part of American Archives Month 2025, staff attended the San Diego County Clerk's event at the East County Office and Archives in Santee, learning directly from members of local tribal communities. This engagement strengthens our cultural competency and informs the ways we preserve and interpret regional history.

We also visited the Rancho Bernardo Historical Museum at the Bernardo Winery alongside fellow members of the Council of Interpreting North County History (CINCH). Collaboration within this network helps align outreach strategies, share resources, and amplify awareness of North County's many cultural heritage centers. The Pioneer Room continues to invite residents to explore local history further—brochures highlighting nearby institutions are available for visitors who wish to plan their own heritage tours and deepen their connection to place.





## Library in the Community (Outreach)



Youth Services extended early-literacy and family engagement beyond Library walls with two notable outreach programs. Baby Storytime at the Children’s Museum of Discovery welcomed 50 attendees, reinforcing our commitment to early learning and parent/caregiver education in a playful, developmentally supportive setting.

In addition, the Library was honored to be invited to the 22nd anniversary celebration of Queen Califia’s Magic Circle, the celebrated sculpture garden by artist Niki de Saint Phalle. Our two

storytime sessions led by Eveleen reached 66 attendees in total and included many familiar faces from the Library. The event spotlighted the intersection of arts, literacy, and public space—and opened the door to a potential ongoing partnership with the City’s Public Arts program to participate annually.

