



Belen Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Belen Public Library

February 6, 2025

5:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- A. **CALL TO ORDER**
- B. **ROLL CALL and INTRODUCTIONS**
- C. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**
- D. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
 - 1. Library Updates
 - 2. Friends of the Library/Books on Becker Updates
 - 3. Harvey House Updates
- E. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - 1. Strategic Planning Process - due June 2026
 - 2. Sustainability Initiative
 - 3. Advocating for Libraries
- F. **SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – Thursday, May 1st, 2025 at 5:00 pm**
- H. **ADJOURNMENT**

Members of the public who would like to have input with the Board of Trustees, please contact Kathleen Pickering at (505) 203-8862, Kathleen.pickering@belen-nm.gov

Belen Public Library

Board of Trustees

V. Sustainability Policies

3. Climate Resiliency and Programming

The Belen Public Library, the Library Board of Trustees, and the staff recognize the unique role of libraries in promoting community climate resilience. We are committed to maintaining our library as a public-serving space that serves our community year-round. It functions as a gathering place and as a critical safe space before, during, and after climate related disasters. This resilience hub and trusted staff are dedicated to offering workforce development and training opportunities related to sustainability and resilience. These opportunities are designed to equip community members with the skills and knowledge necessary to contribute to and benefit from resilience-building efforts, empowering them to take an active role in their community's resilience. We also play a significant role in preserving cultural practices and heritage at risk from climate threats, thereby contributing to the development of community identity. Our programming ensures access to stable lifeline services through acute and chronic climatic events.

Our commitment to providing access to community engagement and community building through our programming is unwavering. We understand that communities with strong civic engagement will be more resilient to climate threats, as a strong community identity fosters community-driven solutions. Our objective is to embrace the notion that a community's climate resilience is closely linked to its mental and social well-being. Investments in a community's social and mental health will improve community members' overall health and well-being during normal operations and their capacity to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from the compounding impacts of extreme weather events and long-term climate stresses. Some examples that cultivate opportunities and networks include partnering with the community, local schools, and organizations to expand civic engagement through:

1. the arts to harness community-based expertise to build climate-based innovation.
2. innovative mentorship programs to emphasize meaningful involvement and community engagement in public participatory approaches to drive implementation of resilience and adaptation programs and services.
3. STEM programs to provide access to foundational climate risk data sets that help our community assess climate risk at the local and regional levels more accurately to inform decision-making.

We are committed to actively ensuring, through our programming, that our library is not just a library, but a resilience hub that positions the well-being of individuals, families, communities, and society at the center of sustainability goals and solutions. Our programming will continue to consider the needs and perspectives of all community members, including those most vulnerable and historically marginalized or disadvantaged.

Emailed for Consideration 8/7/2024