

## From the President

Dear Friends,

Congratulations to everyone for their advocacy and support for the bond proposals that passed in the recent election. These projects will revolutionize the library experience for our readers and community. We know how vital libraries are to so many people, and it is gratifying to have the support of the voters for these projects.



In May, the Friends met hundreds of people at the San Antonio Book Festival, educating them about our mission and how we support the Library. As we spread the word about the Friends, more than 2 dozen people joined us that day! Thanks to **Karin Pedersen, Barbara Morrow, and Beth Graham** for their enthusiasm and time staffing our tent.

Part of our message included promoting the BookCellar and letting everyone know about all the treasures waiting for them. The BookCellar's sales during the Book Festival rivaled the first day we reopened last year. Even though Central is under construction, the BookCellar is open, and the volunteers are ready to help you find the perfect book.

The recent months have also seen the return of book sales at several branches, a welcome sign. As you'll discover in the branch reports, the public is thrilled to have book sales again.

Don't forget, Summer with SAPL is a great way to stay cool and have fun. The summer reading program has something for every age and every taste.

Happy reading!

**John Costello**

## BookCellar News

Pearl Banks, BookCellar Manager

We recently received a large donation of Classical CDs to add to our current collection of Classical, Rock, Folk, and Country-Western CDs numbering in the thousands. We sorted them into categories and launched them for sale June 16. We appreciate your interest in our upcoming sales.

Volunteers are vital to restocking and new presentations. We welcome new volunteers. All proceeds go to the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library to support the programs of the library.

**Donations are the only way the BookCellar receives books, CDs and DVDs.**

The donations include selections from the Central library, library partners, collections from private donors as well as ones and twos from friends. These gifts were important to the giver, and we treat them with great care as we prepare them for new homes. The books go through processing, cataloging if necessary, cleaning, and presenting. We have a division for Amazon sales run by **Iliana Poor**. As you know, the bookstore is operated by volunteers.



## How Books Are Still Relevant During the Pandemic

Iliana Poor

Book sales have soared since the pandemic. For those lucky enough to be able to stay home during the coronavirus pandemic, books have taken on a special meaning. Many people have turned to books for entertainment during lockdowns and periods of social restrictions. As the COVID-19 pandemic surged, our growing online platform has helped our community of book lovers endure shutdown. Book buyers will find it easier to support our local independent bookstore with direct-to-home online book shopping through our Amazon link, <https://tinyurl.com/FOSAPLBookCellar>.

As the pandemic has shown, reading is still an activity highly valued by millions of people. Our secondhand indie bookshop has made the leisure of self-selected, pedagogical, and recreational reading reachable in an increasingly digital world. Fellow bibliophiles know that great storytelling will never go out of style!



## From the Library Director



Greetings Friends,  
We're only a few weeks into the official summer season, although the early South Texas heat this year makes it seem like much longer since springtime ended. Late this spring came the in-person return of two highly regarded programs. The 10th annual San Antonio Book Festival returned to Central Library on May 21. Then May 28 saw the return of Pop Madness® to Igo Branch Library. Both events were well received and quite successful by all accounts.

These programs represent careful progress by SAPL and our partners to evolve our service model and prepare for the next phase of the pandemic. We continue to work tirelessly to create an environment where our patrons and staff feel safe in our spaces.

With the heat of the summer comes the San Antonio Public Library's annual Summer Reading Program. Summer with SAPL began June 1 and is in full swing through July 31. The schedule is full of programs, activities, and reading initiatives for all age groups. I invite each of you to take part by visiting any of our locations to register. Visit [guides.mysapl.org/summer](https://guides.mysapl.org/summer) to see how you can get started on your summer reading goals today.

As always, I'm so grateful to each of you for your dedication to the San Antonio Public Library. Thank you and I wish you a pleasant summer.

Respectfully,  
**Ramiro S. Salazar**

## Summer With SAPL!

It's that time of year! Are you ready for summer? San Antonio Public Library is planning loads of programs, activities, and events for kids, teens, and adults for added fun throughout the summer months. Join us beginning June 1 for Summer With SAPL! Visit [guides.mysapl.org/summer](https://guides.mysapl.org/summer) to learn more.



## Brook Hollow

We welcomed two new members to our branch Friends at our June meeting, bringing our membership total to 76!

Saturday, July 23, 10-4, is our Back-to-School mini-sale. It will be in the meeting room and will feature lots of children's books, classics, reference books, study guides, workbooks, and history books. Tell all your friends and families, especially teachers, about the great bargains to be had, most of them for only \$1.

Saturday, Aug. 27, 11 a.m., is our next Friends meeting.

Saturday, Sept. 24, 10-4, we'll have a huge, sell-everything-we-have-in-our-storage-space sale of books, CDs, DVDs, and games. We'll need lots of

*Branch Leaves cont on p 4  
of PDF on [friendsofsapl.org](https://friendsofsapl.org).*

## 2022 FOSAPL Board Meetings

*All meetings start at 2 p.m.*

When held in person, meetings will be in the meeting rooms of the branches noted below.

July 17	Igo
September 18	Parman
November 20	Forest Hills

## Donations & Memorials

Sheila Figueroa

### Donations

Sylvia Zamarripa

### In Memory of

Charles Bowden, M.D.  
Virginia Bowden, Ph.D.  
Alice Kersnowski  
Jose Martinez  
Rowena Rodgers  
Tod Smutz  
Craig Zapatos

### by

Nancy Gandara  
Nancy Gandara  
Carol Reposa  
Sylvia Zamarripa  
Nancy Gandara  
Suki Smutz  
Nancy Gandara



The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, pro-

mote public use of the San Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community and encourage the extension and improvement of its services.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Costello	.....President
Nancy Gandara	..... Vice President
Karin Pedersen	..... Secretary
Barbara Morrow	..... Treasurer
Beth Graham	..... Immediate Past Pres

### MEMBERSHIP

SECRETARY..... Open

### BOARD MEMBERS

#### 2021-2023 Term:

Elena Brickman • Monica Brite • Don Castellano-Hoyt • Kim Cauthon • Barbara-Chavez • Linda Cheatum • Tony Moore • Ann Springer • Betty Walters • Jill Zimmerman

#### 2022-2024 Term:

Paula Allen • Marcie Anguiano • Kathy Bee • Julia Castellano-Hoyt • Katie Ferrier • Teresa Kilmer • Pat Mendiola • Edward Moreno • Napoleon "Eddie" Patino

### SAPLINGS

Managing Editor .....Alana Woods  
Newsletter is published every two months and can also be seen at [www.friendsofsapl.org](https://www.friendsofsapl.org).

Deadlines for submitting articles and photos are February 5, April 5, June 5, August 5, October 5, and December 5.

Submittals should be a simple text or a Word file with photos as large as possible emailed to [saplingseditor@gmail.com](mailto:saplingseditor@gmail.com).

Article contributions for the newsletter are always welcome!

# Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Minutes

Sunday, May 22, 2022 • Zoom • 2 p.m.  
Submitted by **Karin Pedersen**

**Call to Order** by President **John Costello**, at 2:01 p.m.

**Roll Call** by Secretary **Karin Pedersen**. A quorum was present.

**Members in attendance:** **Don** and **Julia Castellano-Hoyt**, **Elena Brickman**, **Jill Zimmerman**, **Kathy Bee**, **Kim Cauthon**, **Linda Cheatum**, **Marcie Anguiano**, **Eddie Patino**, **Pat Mendiola**, **Paula Allen**, and **Tony Moore**. Guests included **Pat Bjornson**, **Becky Benesh**, **Norma Haro**, and **Josie Martinez**.

**Approval of Minutes as printed in SAPLings May/June 2022 issue:** No corrections from the board. **Don Castellano-Hoyt** moved, and **Beth Graham** seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**President's Report** by **John Costello**

The Friends had a wonderful presence at the San Antonio Book Festival. We were joined by Friends from Las Palmas at our booth. Thanks to **Karin Pedersen**, **Barbara Morrow**, and **Beth Graham** for staffing the booth and educating so many people about the Friends and our mission.

A tremendous thank you to Nowcast for their generous donation of furniture to the Friends. With renovations starting on the 6th floor, Nowcast had to vacate their offices and gave us their surplus furniture.

The Little Libraries Project has been tabled by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee met with San Antonio Public Library Director **Ramiro Salazar** to discuss how to strengthen the relationship

between the Friends and the Library administration.

A candidate for Membership Secretary has been contacted and we are awaiting an acceptance from them.

Also discussed were potential fundraising events during the SAPL Summer Reading Program, highlighting children's programming to parents and a plan to sell BookCellar bags once restocked.

**Treasurer's Report** by **Barbara Morrow**. All financial records have been reviewed and will be filed for audit.

Kudos from **Don Castellano-Hoyt** and **Pat Mendiola** to **Barbara Morrow** for her efforts.

**Financial Records Review** by **Barbara Morrow**

The board discussed potential courses of action regarding the unclaimed bank deposits and reviewed the standing rules regarding unclaimed deposits.

A motion was presented to move the unclaimed 2021 funds to general fund and give the individual branches a one month notice for unclaimed 2022 funds from publication date of the next *SAPLings*. **Beth Graham** so moved, **Don Castellano-Hoyt** seconded, and the motion passed.

## Liaison Reports

**Board of Trustees:** **Juspreet Kaur** reported the city bond cycle has been completed, and the next meeting will be hybrid.

**Library Administration** member could not be in attendance. **John Castellano** noted multiple bonds have passed so improvements will be coming.

**BookCellar: Pearl Banks** gave her thanks to **Tony Moore** for the Apple gift card donation and to **Jessica Zurita** for support. The Book Festival was a wonderful event, and the BookCellar raised more than \$1,500 that day. The BookCellar filled requests from Las Palmas branch library and St. Philips Church and gave 1,200 children's books to Highland Hills Elementary School for their students' summer reading program.

The BookCellar recently received a large collection of music, and the June sale will be focused on media. Eleven new volunteers have recently joined the team. The BookCellar is open Thursday to Saturday, 11-4.

**Online Sales: Iliana Poor** was unable to attend. **Linda Cheatum** presented on her behalf and reported more than \$2,000 in sales last month. **Nancy Gandara** reported Iliana has also improved the shipping process.

**Membership Secretary:** Interim **Barbara Morrow** reported that as of May 11, there are 620 active members after 145 were purged due to non-renewal.

## Committee Reports

**Financial Review Committee:** **Barbara Morrow** gave her report earlier in the meeting.

## Old Business

**Consideration of Approval of the Financial Review Committee Report:** The committee, consisting of **Don Castellano-Hoyt**, **Julia Castellano-Hoyt**, **Pat Mendiola**, **Eddie Patino**, **Kim Cauthon**, and **Jill Zimmerman** met May 11,

with each committee member having two months to review. A motion to accept the reports was moved by **Eddie Patino** and seconded by **Don Castellano-Hoyt**. There were no questions from the board, and all board members in attendance were in favor.

## New Business

**Appoint Chair and Members of the Arts & Letters Committee:** Nominated are **Beth Graham**, **Emerson Stuckart**, **Anne Hohenberger**, **Beth Lowell**, and **Marcie Anguiano**. Chair is pending.

Adjournment moved by **Don Castellano-Hoyt** and seconded by **Beth Graham** at 2:51 p.m. All were in favor.

## Have you tried the Sora app?

Have you heard about the Sora app by Overdrive? San Antonio Public Library and OverDrive, SAPL's eBook provider, have joined forces to ensure that students have more access to resources than ever before. Students at participating schools now have complete access to age-appropriate items in SAPL's Digital Collection, whether or not they have a SAPL card. All students need are their school credentials to unlock the vast selection of digital material provided by SAPL. To see if your student's school is eligible, visit [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com).

help on Saturday and also on Friday and Sunday when we set up and then clean up.

Finally, Thursday, Sept. 29, we plan to have a Staff Appreciation/Get to Know You dinner. Before Covid, this was a yearly event, and both staff members and Friends enjoyed this time of food and fellowship. The place, time, and cost are yet to be determined, but put the date on your calendar now.

Don't forget to watch **Jeannette Davies'** "Noon Time Helping of Cooking" twice a month on Thursdays. Check the library web site for the link.

*Pat Bjornson*

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## Carver

The Carver Branch Friends and community celebrated the 7th annual Pan-African Cultural Festival on May 14, with an estimated 300 people in attendance. This was a welcomed crowd as restrictions for the pandemic have lifted.

The celebration kicked off with the Pan-African conversation featuring **Dr. Marc Perry** of UTSA's Department of Race, Ethnicity, Gender and Sexuality Studies. Dr. Perry has conducted extensive research centering on the African Diaspora. Performers for this year's event included **Milton Wilson's** Sequential Drums, percussionist **T-Bow Gonzalez**, and a robust Capoeira demonstration led by **Michael Pleasants** of Capoeira Luanda. Fashions, jewelry, food, books, and more were offered to the revelers.

Carver Friends President **Kathy Bee** and Friend **Baba Aundar Ma'at** presented Branch Manager **DL Grant** with the "Thinking Man" statue for earning his PhD. We are grateful and proud to have this wonderful man as our branch manager. He cares about this community, and it shows.

Special guests in attendance included SAPL Director **Rami-**

**ro Salazar**, Board Trustee **JoAnn Harris**, Public Service Administrator **Jacob Odland**, and Executive Director Assistant **Edward Mayberry**.

With Summer vacation approaching for our youngsters, **DL Grant**, Teen Librarian **Shannan Prukop**, and Children's Librarian **Lisa Ramirez** visited area schools in the Carver service area to promote San Antonio Public Library's Summer Reading Program. They enjoyed connecting with the students and sharing activities for them to get involved with during their summer break.

The Carver Friends, equally eager about this year's Summer Reading Program, voted to assume the cost of festive blue t-shirts promoting the program for all staff members. Thank you, Carver Friends!

*Angelia Hall Johnson*

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## Encino

The Friends of the Encino Library (FOEL) met April 24 and selected a new Vice President – **Judith Dienst**.

The FOEL funds continue to support Encino activities through the purchase of gift cards. Snacks and drinks are provided for both Summer Sing Along movie series for kids and Teen Club Tuesdays

In May, the adult felt flowers program used the Cricut machine purchased by the Friends to make poppies, lavender, and carnations out of felt. Friends funding purchased children's mustaches for the mustache story time where all kids were invited to wear a sticker mustache and listen to silly mustache picture books.

In June and July the Friends supported multiple programs including both the adult/teen Retro Crafts series and Tweens Create (bead crafts, sand art crafts, and shrinky-dink crafts). June Children's Art Time used

spray bottles, purchased by FOEL, to make watercolor art. Other Children's Art time activities included clay sculptures (clay purchased by FOEL) and mini canvas art (canvases purchased by FOEL). The FOEL also purchased stickers for the Pirate Fish display for Summer Reading.

We at the FOEL are excited that all programming has restarted and are proud to be able to fund needed supplies. The next FOEL meeting will be August 8 at 6 p.m.

*Carla Pomager*

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## Igo

The Igo Friends book sale will be Saturday, July 30, 10–5, and Sunday, July 31, 12–3. We will have a special sale on Sunday, July 31. This is always one of the best book sales of the year because it is a great opportunity for patrons to start a new author or genre.

In addition to the book sale, the Friends are sponsoring two wonderful events for children – Happy Tails Petting Zoo and Last Chance Forever. The love of animals tends to bring out the joy in all of us. The petting zoo brings different varieties of animals. Seeing the smiles upon so many faces keep us wanting to bring the petting zoo back to the library each year.

Last Chance Forever takes care of injured birds; while the birds are mending Last Chance Forever displays them to organizations and teaches about the different habits of the birds – owls of many shapes and sizes, falcons, and hawks. This is very educational for all the participants.

The Igo Friends will purchase benches for the front of the library. The benches will be a nice addition to be used by all while visiting the library.

Come enjoy the fun July 30 and 31. Help support the Igo Friends in their efforts to raise

funds to help support the Igo Library. We hope to see many participants enjoying all of the planned activities this last weekend of July.

*Al Rakus*

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## Landa

Seventy-five years ago, on April 1, 1947, the grand home of **Harry and Hannah Mansfeld Landa** was transformed and opened to the public as the Hannah Landa Memorial Branch Library. On April 2 of this year, the library held an activity-filled garden party for hundreds of guests who enjoyed commemorative speeches, children's and adults' activities, tours of the building, music and treats, and a pop-up book sale hosted by the Landa Friends. The Friends supported the celebration with funding for musicians and cupcakes.

The anniversary book sale raised \$1,158 for the library. On April 29 and 30, the Friends held our larger bi-annual book sale where we raised a little more than \$3,000. The Board purchased an inexpensive tablet and Square credit card reader to use at the book sales, and it has proved a very worthwhile investment! Sales at our book cart remain strong – in January 2022 we raised our book prices to \$2/hardback and \$1/paperback and monthly sales have increase from \$100–\$135 to about \$250.

The Friends were happy to purchase t-shirts for each Landa staff member as they kicked off the Summer Reading Program, which is back after two years of pandemic interruptions!

*Mary Kay Bailey*

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## Las Palmas

The Friends book bags/totes fundraiser has gone well, and, of course, once pandemic restrictions eased and patrons

*Branch Leaves cont on p 5.*

came back in the Library, Book Cart sales continue to provide some income. Our group may consider another possible fundraiser before the library closes for renovation.

Yes, instead of starting in June (as reported previously), the Las Palmas Library's renovation under the City's 2017–22 Bond is now projected to start later this year. As a result, the Summer Reading Program had its kickoff on June 6. Our Friends group funded snacks and a program from All Things Balloon for this event and, after the Library's full calendar of planned Summer with SAPL activities, will also sponsor a face painting program that will add to the activities for the SRP closing, SummerFest, on July 25.

*Delia Ramirez Trimble*

## Mission

Mission Library Community Garden had the first of four garden workshops on May 14. It was called "Pollinators in the Garden" and was attended by 17 gardeners to share how pollinators help a garden blossom and natural ways we can get rid of pests without harming the pollinators. The workshop was led by President **Terry Ybanez** and garden stewards **Sally Fierros** and **Defranco Sarabia**. Sally has been a garden steward at Mission Library Community Garden since 2017 and has nurtured our garden to produce vegetables, herbs, and flowers. After the sharing of information, Terry led an art make and take to create clay artwork that reflected on butterflies, bees and hummingbirds using a relief method on the clay's surface. Defranco has led a vertical garden project and is also a member of the Padre Park Food Forest. He also cares for the 9 fruit trees in our garden.

Our next workshop was on June 18. This workshop was

"Cooking in the Garden with Herbs." We learned how to use the herbs that we grow in a variety of ways – in salads, vegetables, and meats – and guests were able to taste what was cooked. The workshop also presented how to grow herbs in beds or pots and where to place particular herbs, in part shade or full sun. Our workshops are free, and everyone is welcome to attend.

*Terry Ybanez*

## Parman

The Friends of Parman Library held a book sale on April 30, which was a great success in raising funds to help support our busy library. We also implemented an online (via QR code) payment option to our book nook, and it has been used many times. Giving an option to pay online for books is increasingly important as many people don't carry cash.

We donated 25 boxes of books to NEISD for their book sale, and our book closet has never looked better! The closet is so well organized that it makes stocking the book nook shelves and setting up a big book sale a breeze. Big thanks to **Leslie Cavil Burns** for all her hard work on this project!

We are excited to help with Parman's Summer Reading programming by supplying craft materials to decorate the library and flamingos for each summer reading participant. We are also providing funds for a Foam Party, Happy Tails Rodeo show and Petting Zoo, and an appearance by **Lucas Miller**, the Singing Zoologist. Finally, **Tom Kinsey** of Learn Nature will bring a "Wizard Animal" Show and Tell to the Parman Library this summer.

At our last meeting, **Carolyn Watson** resigned and **Ally Hamner** was elected Vice-President.

*Cory Taylor*

## Semmes

Springtime ushers in a theme of rebirth and growth; both can be seen at Semmes Library. Despite many past efforts to repair the irrigation system for the inside gardens, the chronic issues that have kept the gardens from thriving have recently been corrected. The gardens are doing well! In the last *SAP-Lings* issue we welcomed **Geno Becket**, the resident reading gnome, for whom the Friends had provided passage to his new home. Word has gotten around and he now enjoys the company of woodland friends who appear to enjoy listening to **Geno** read stories to them. If library visitors want to chill and not disturb **Geno** and friends, the back garden provides a nice Zen environment. Thanks to Library Manager **Jorge Chavez** for his persistent passion for plants and the gardens and the Friends for facilitating the arrival of **Geno**, friends, and the Zen Garden accoutrements

Even though the summer is sure to bring very, very hot and dry days, we're looking forward to the second Plant Swap sometime in July. Semmes Library put on the first ever swap at the end of April. Friends and staff brought plants for this event. It was such a success that a second swap is planned for a day in July (date TBD). I missed the first swap but am busy splitting plants and potting "volunteers" for this next event. I'm looking forward to what I may find! Check the SAPL newsletter for the swap date.

The Semmes Friends book cart was a very good activity to undertake! We are grateful for the donation of quality books of interest to our library patrons that provide a steady income from cart sales while we build our inventory for the next book sale (date TBD).

*Christie Smith*

## Thousand Oaks

Thousand Oaks Friends held our annual summer book sale on June 5, which had much better response than our December sale. We almost hit our pre-COVID average goal. We talked to many patrons about joining our Friends, and gave many of them the application envelope. One new applicant helped us with the packing up after our sale. Fingers crossed we get some additional responses. The Children's Librarian will be starting in-person programs soon, and we plan to be involved both financially and personally. Our May meeting was a luncheon at Pompeii restaurant where we made plans for the book sale. Our goal as always, will be to increase membership in our little Friends group.

*Pat Peak*

## Tobin Library at Oakwell

The Summer Reading Program is in full swing at Tobin Library at Oakwell! Thanks to the generosity of Tobin Friends, balloon art, a petting zoo, and snacks were provided for the Summer Reading kickoff on June 4.

Our Tobin Friends had a pop-up Book Sale that coincided with the kickoff, with generous book donations from community members. Thanks to Tobin Friends **Pat DePasquale**, **Karen Sebesta**, **Susan Durrett**, **Susan Jetton**, **Ruth Sagebiel**, and **Suki Smutz** who volunteered to make the sale a success, as well as library staff, who are always accommodating.

Weekly Teen Hang Out and Kids Time continue to be hosted by library staff throughout the summer, as well as the popular in-person Read-to-a-Dog program. Tobin Library at Oakwell is a fun place to visit this summer!

*Alethea Bugg*



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The weather is heating up and SAPL is gearing up for another year of Summer with SAPL! SAPL's annual summer program offers people of all ages opportunities to read, learn, explore, and connect each year. This year's program, taking place June 1 - July 31, will include programs, events, activities, reading, and more!

## CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES & SPECIAL EVENTS

*Because dates and times change occasionally, please call to verify information.*

- |               |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|
| <b>Jul 17</b> | <b>FOSAPL Board meeting, Igo, 2 p.m. (if in person)</b>  |  |
| Jul 23        | Brook Hollow back-to-school book sale, 10-4  |  |
| Jul 25        | Las Palmas SummerFest  |  |
| Jul 30-31     | Igo Friends book sale, Sat. 10-5, Sun 12-3, Happy Tails Petting Zoo and Last Chance Forever birds of prey. |  |
| Aug 6-7       | Maverick Friends book sale, 10-4.  |  |
| Aug 8         | Encino Friends meeting, 6 p.m.   |  |
| Aug 27        | Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 11 a.m.  |  |
| Sep 24        | Brook Hollow sell-everything-we-have-in our-storage-space sale   |  |
| Sep 29        | Brook Hollow Staff Appreciation/Get to Know You dinner   |  |

Brook Hollow Library  
530 Heimer Road, 78232  
210-207-9030

Carver Library  
3350 E. Commerce St, 78220  
210-207-9180

Encino Library  
2515 East Evans Road  
210-207-9250

Igo Library  
13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249  
210-207-9080 (also TTY)

Las Palmas Library  
515 Castrovilla Road, 78237  
210-207-9200

Note: Each branch Friends group has a designated representative to the Board. However, these Board meetings are open to the general membership. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.