

**OAXACA LENDING LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2025**

DRAFT Minutes

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 am

Present: Gail Ament, Bonny Weil, Carol Ringold, Marirose Lescher, Ralph Gault, Ian Hawley, Abraham Torres

Absent: Viviana Ruiz Boijseauneau, José Luis Zárate

GUESTS: Doug Long

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- How can OLL capture African American community interest through ongoing programming?
This item will remain on the agenda going forward.

APPROVAL OF NOV. 20 MINUTES

- Approved with revisions regarding budget items and a correction to read “African Americans on the board.”
- Motion: Ian Second: John. Vote: None opposed

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The AGAM takes place on Sunday, February 15th at 11:00 a.m.

- Finance will have numbers ready for presentation.
- Board members were reminded that new recruits will be needed for the nominating committee next year.

The annual bazaar will take place on Dec 21st.

Treasurer Update

- The Board discussed the treasurer position. The matter will be addressed through formal election at the upcoming AGAM.

Finance and Budget Overview

- Finance has received preliminary 2026 budget projections from multiple committees.
- Next board meeting, finance will lead a discussion on the proposed budget including all committee inputs.
- The board noted that increased fundraising will be required going forward.

The new bookmark: It was noted that the new bookmark had already been sent to the printer.

- The Spanish version has been adjusted to suit local usage.

Use-of-space policy: The Board reviewed upcoming public events at the library:

- Marga Shubart’s 100th birthday on Jan. 16 at 10:30 am.
- Eshkie Zachai’s celebration of life on February 19th
- Psychedelic Forum Oaxaca: Adam Miezio.

- The policy governing use of the OLL space by outside groups is published under “Hours and Policies” in the “Library” section of the OLL website (<https://www.oaxlibrary.org/hours-policies>).

TREASURER’S REPORT: Interim treasurer: Marirose Lescher

- There are two designated donation funds: the 60th Anniversary Celebration, and Together for Tomorrow (TFT).
- November contributions totaled \$4,896.01usd
- Year to date net income is \$46,288.96 mxn.
- Fundraising is needed every year in order to meet our increased expenses, grow our programs, do more for the community, and build a reserve fund.
- Reviewed Sandra Thompson’s graph on the lifecycle of a non-profit institution. See **Addendum #3**. According to these metrics, the OLL is extremely vital.
- Motion to approve monthly treasurer’s report: Abe Torres, Second: John Hunter. Vote: None opposed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

What makes OLL unique among libraries: We Lend books, are a community cultural center, run continuing education programs through terrace talks, house special interest groups.

- Our community support and volunteer interactions enhances people’s lives.

Policy on receiving packages for members. The current fee is \$20 pesos to pick up pkgs.

- The Board discussed the current package receipt practice for members and will continue reviewing whether this service should remain a library function.
- OLL IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR DELIVERIES. IF YOUR PKG IS VALUABLE, INSURE IT.

All donors to receive thank you notes.

Niños/Jóvenes Adelante: Due to limited cash flow, the board will hold off on enlarging this program for now.

Linda Farthing’s focus group:

- Additional evening programming is planned to accommodate working participants.

OLD BUSINESS

Donataria Autorizada

- The Board referenced a legal update regarding Donataria status

Update from Fundraising Committee: Carol Ringold

- As of today, we’ve raised close to \$15,000 usd.
- Monthly fundraising posters are planned. We will also have a poster showing donation levels.
- Volunteers will be recruited to staff a fundraising/membership desk.
- Those volunteers will be able to attend terrace talks for free.

Update from 60th Anniversary Celebration Task Force: John Hunter

- See handout. (**Addendum #4**).
- The 14th of January event is listed on the website. We are getting a lot of enthusiastic support from the community.
- About 30 people are involved with John’s team.

NEW BUSINESS

Election Nominating Committee

- The board reviewed the nominating committee report. There were 20 applicants. Six were interviewed for the 4 positions.

Budget 2026:

- Preliminary budget planning is underway and will be reviewed in greater detail at the January Board meeting.

2026 Salaries:

- Minimum wage increases were reviewed. Proposed staff adjustments will be discussed further at the next meeting

Tech Committee Initiative:

- The Board discussed volunteer capacity, technology needs, and recruiting additional support, including a possible January workshop.
- Videotaping presentations and archiving them online has paid for itself, but hasn't been lucrative.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Committee chairs are expected to submit written reports by email by the third Sunday of each month to allow for timely distribution prior to regular Board meetings.

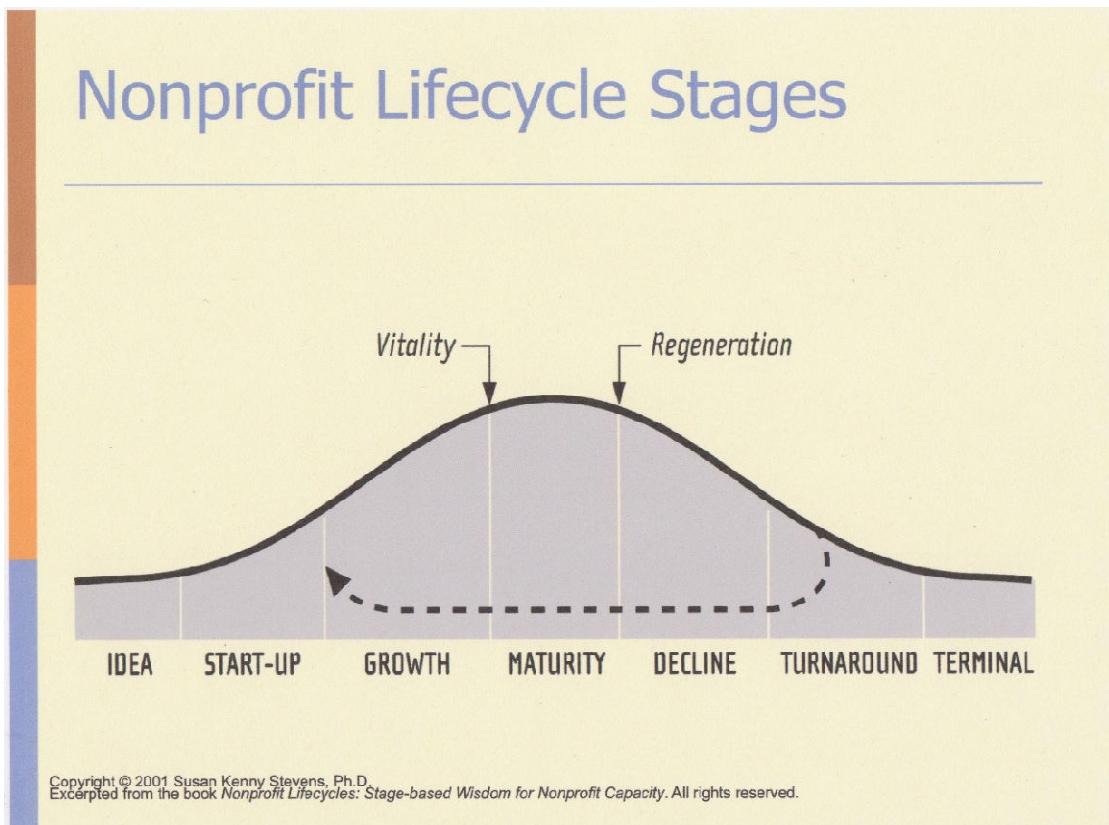
ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ralph. Second: John. Vote: None opposed.

Meeting adjourned at: 1:25 p.m.

ADDENDUM #3

Graph on the lifecycle of a non-profit



ADDENDUM #4

Apertura / Kickoff OLL 60th Anniversary Celebration
(See following page)

Apertura/Kick-Off
Oaxaca Lending Library/La Biblioteca OLL
60th Anniversary Celebration

Friday, 23 January 2026
10 am to 9 pm
OLL Terrace (Unless otherwise noted)

10 am:	Information Tables: Fundraising, OLL Events, 60th Celebration
	Open House with Tours
12 pm:	Food and Beverages
1 pm:	Welcome, President of OLL
	Clowns in Performance for Children
3 pm:	Danzón Group Dance Performance
4:30 pm:	Calenda Literaria (Santo Domingo to Llano Park and OLL)
	Puppet Show, Llano Park
7pm:	Music Concert - Raices, son jarocho

Saturday, 24 January 2026
10 am to 9 pm
OLL Terrace (Unless otherwise noted)

10 am:	Open House with Tours
	Intercambio, Niños Adelante, Jóvenes Adelante
1 pm:	Information Tables: Fundraising, OLL Events, 60th Celebration
	OLL Staff Acknowledgments
	Food and Beverages
2 pm:	Clowns in Performance for Children
7pm:	Music Performance - Sur En La Piel - Cumbia