

**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 21<sup>st</sup>.

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 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Jan. 16 at 10:30 am.
- Eshkie Zachai’s celebration of life on February 19<sup>th</sup>
- 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 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Task Force: John Hunter

- See handout. **(Addendum #4)**.
- The 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

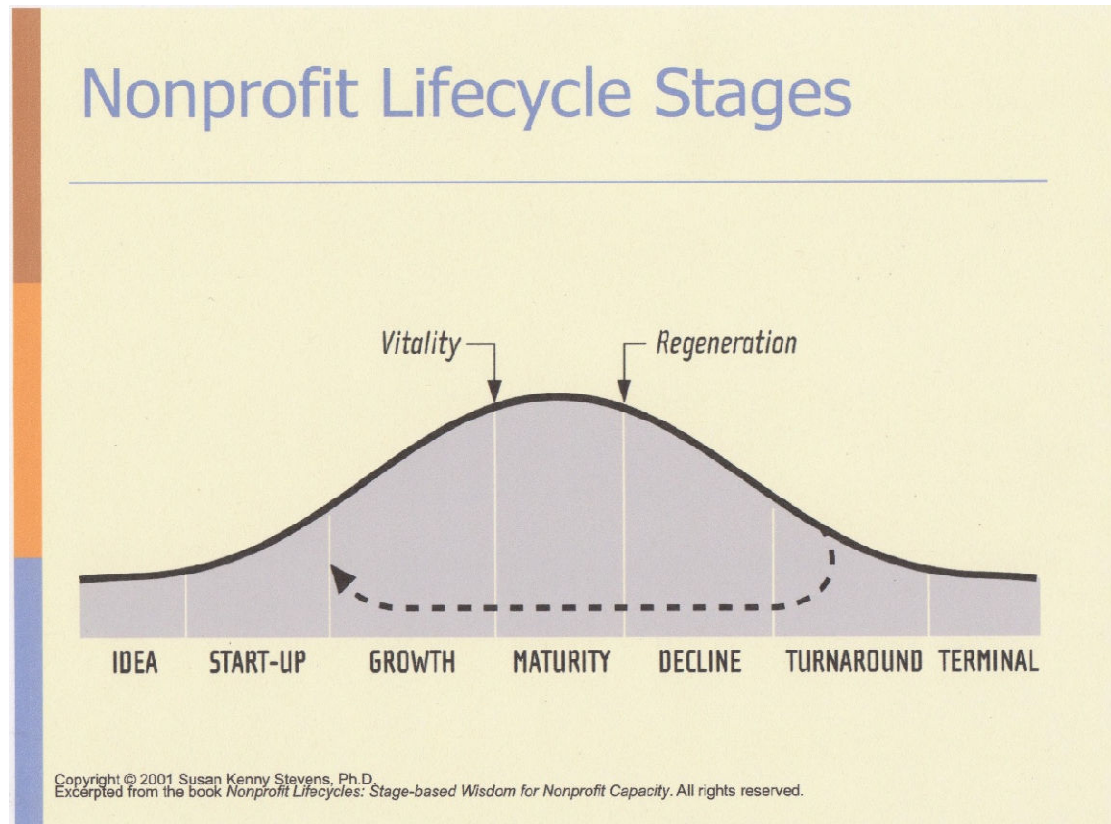
## ADJOURNMENT

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 60<sup>th</sup> 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