

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
LIBRARY CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Chairman—Chad Scott (MBR 7)

Vice Chair—Michelle Dempsey (MBR 2)

MBR1—Nancy Bertels

MBR3—Aaron Malone

MBR4—Vacant

MBR5—Erik Palin

MBR6—Susan Hillman

ALT1— Camilla (Nan) Potts

ALT2— Sally Pollen



AGENDA

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS AND LIVE STREAMED

<https://www.youtube.com/user/matsuboroughvideo>

350 EAST DAHLIA AVE, PALMER

REGULAR MEETING

5:00 PM

May 12, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

A. April 14, 2025

VI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Hugh Leslie – Recreation & Library Services Manager

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – (2 Minutes Per Person)

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Materials Submitted for Reconsideration

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Maybe Now; Colleen Hoover | ISBN 1093389052 |
| 2. Verity; Colleen Hoover | ISBN 1791392792 |
| 3. Normal People; Sally Rooney | ISBN 1984822179 |
| 4. The Bluest Eye; Toni Morrison | ISBN 0307278441 |
| 5. What Girls Are Made Of; Elana K. Arnold | ISBN 0823445674 |
| 6. Water for Elephants; Sara Gruen | ISBN 1565125606 |

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Materials Submitted for Reconsideration

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic; Alison Bechdel | ISBN 0618871713 |
| 2. This Book Is Gay; Juno Dawson | ISBN 1492617830 |

X. NEXT MEETING

A. June 9, 2025

XI. MEMBERS, STAFF COMMENTS

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS AND LIVE STREAMED

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350 EAST DAHLIA AVE, PALMER

REGULAR MEETING

5:00 PM

April 14, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Called to order at 5:06 pm

II. ROLL CALL

A. Present: Michelle Dempsey, Nancy Bertels, Aaron Malone, Camilla, Potts, Sally Pollen (both alternates voting)

B. Absent: Chad Scott, Erik Palin, Susan Hillman

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

A. Agenda approved unanimously

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Pledge of Allegiance conducted

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

A. March 10, 2025 – Minutes approved unanimously

VI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Jillian Morrissey – Community Development Director – Ms. Morrissey delivered the final decision on The Haters, Damsel and Anne Frank's Diary The Graphic Adaption. They will remain in libraries of origin and shelved in the Adult Collection. Read into the record a memo informing the committee of the Strategic Plan project, the open survey targeted to parents with children who attend the Borough Libraries and assigning the Library Board new responsibilities which include reviewing materials the libraries intend to order.

- B. Hugh Leslie – Recreation & Library Services Manager – Mr. Leslie let the committee know that there are 6 available books to choose from. They may choose none, all or any combination thereof.

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – (2 Minutes Per Person)

- A. Mary Robinson – Ms. Robinson read a portion of an article relevant to the committee.
- B. Linda Spohn – Ms. Spohn gave her opinion on library materials and the committee’s vote on the last book.
- C. Mark Spohn – Mr. Spohn thanked the committee for their service and gave his opinion on how tax dollars should be spent for library materials.
- D. Jackie Goforth – Ms. Goforth spoke about the books that are in the queue.
- E. Jeanne Troshynski – Ms. Troshynski spoke about the choices people should have regarding materials.
- F. Karen Lewis – Ms. Lewis spoke about her opinion on library materials.
- G. Dee McKee – Ms. McKee spoke about her opinion on library materials.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. June – November 2025 Meeting Schedule
 - 1. Schedule approved unanimously
- B. Materials Submitted for Reconsideration
 - 1. Maybe Now; Colleen Hoover ISBN 1093389052
 - 2. Verity; Colleen Hoover ISBN 1791392792
 - 3. Normal People; Sally Rooney ISBN 1984822179
 - 4. The Bluest Eye; Toni Morrison ISBN 0307278441
 - 5. What Girls Are Made Of; Elana K. Arnold ISBN 0823445674
 - 6. Water for Elephants; Sara Gruen ISBN 1565125606
 - Ms. Potts motioned to review all the books presented in the order of the list, unanimously approved

X. NEXT MEETING

- A. May 12, 2025

XI. MEMBERS, STAFF COMMENTS

- A. Nancy Bertels – Ms. Bertels questioned why they are reviewing adult books.
- B. Camilla Potts – Ms. Potts asked which books are adult books in the adult section and spoke about her frustration with the money spent on certain library materials.
- C. Michelle Dempsey – Ms. Dempsey spoke about her discouragement of the committee’s impact on the reviewed materials.
- D. Sally Pollen – Ms. Pollen spoke about the Mat-Su communities.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Adjourned at 5:50 pm



Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Community Development Department

Library Material Staff Report

Title: Maybe Now

Author: Colleen Hoover

Library where this material is shelved: Big Lake Library in the Adult Section

Is the material in good condition or appearance?

It is in good condition.

Is the topic of the material a priority for the collection?

The book is the third novel in a series exploring the themes of love, friendship, loyalty and the complexities of relationships.

Is the format of the material a priority for the collection?

The material is a book format. Books make up the majority of inventory in all five of our public libraries.

Has the material been used frequently by patrons?

Added to the collection: Dec 2022 and checked out a total of 7 times. Which is a moderate rate of use.

Is the material factually accurate?

This is a fictional book.

Has the material been superseded by a new edition or a better source?

None have been identified.

Is the material relevant to the needs and interests of the community?

Fictional Adult Novels are a popular genre of materials checked out at Borough Libraries.

Can the material be easily borrowed from another source?

It is available at all the Borough libraries through our participation in the State Library Catalog as well as an E-Book through the Alaska Digital Library.

What is the literary, artistic, scientific, political, or educational merit of the material?

This is a fictional novel that explores mature relationships and chronic illness.

Does the material have positive review(s) in one or more appropriate professional journals?

Novels can be reviewed in professional journals, though it is not as common as review of scholarly research articles. However, *Maybe Now*, has many published book reviews available online.

Does the material have positive reviews from critics, patrons or staff members?

Source	Editor Rating	User Rating	# of reviews	Notes
Amazon		4.4 stars	32,171	
Barnes & Noble		4.2	27	
Goodreads		4.01 stars	274	

Are there sufficient materials available on the same subject?

There are many books in the Adult Fiction Section that cover the topics found in this novel.

Does the material have a reputation and/or significance of the author, publisher or producer?

In 2022, Hoover held six of the top ten spots on the *New York Times* paperback fiction bestseller list. Several of the author's books are being adapted for a movie or television program.