

I'm a Trustee

Now What?

What does it mean to be a library trustee?

- Being a library trustee means that you have been entrusted with the welfare of an important community institution capable of serving everyone in the community.
- Being a library trustee means your first loyalty is to the library and the community it serves.

What should a trustee know?

- The organization of the board and general rules of order
- Be familiar with the mission and bylaws of the library
- Library services and resources available
- Who uses the library and who does not
- The needs and interests of the community
- Be familiar with library law and legislation
- Have e-mail capabilities

What is the Library Board's Job?

- Supporting the library and the services it offers
- Strategic planning for growth within the community
- Advocate with the community and elected officials
- Establish, review and revise board policies and procedures
- Strive to maintain satisfactory public financing
- Recruit, appoint and review the performance of the director

Relationships within your library

- Board – Director
- Board – Council
- Director – Employee
- Who is the spokesperson for you library?

What is a library trustee's job?

- Be an active member of the board.
- Contribute to making decisions and accept compromise when needed
- Generate support and enthusiasm among the public
- Give the time and attention the job requires
- Insist that the board be as professional as the staff it hires

What is a trustee expected to do?

- Support the library and the library director
- Attend all regular and special meetings of the board
- Take the time to read the agenda and materials provided for each meeting
- Accept assignments for committee work and give the time required to accomplish goals
- Work well within a group
- Continuing education
- Be an advocate for the library at all times