



# MINUTES

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library System

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7.8.25 | 1 PM | Eastern Shore Regional Library & Heritage Center  
Parksley, VA

*Meeting called to order by* Chair, Janet Justis

### ATTENDANCE

***Present:***

Grayson Chesser, Dennis Custis, Joyce Holland, Janet Justis, James Lilliston (*non-voting; Zoom*), M.K. Miles, Maureen Teague, Director Christopher Pote (*non-voting*)

***Absent:***

David Poyer, Frank Russell

***In Attendance:***

Albert Baines, Kate Baird, Rishirio Blue, Tiffany Flores, Kasey Grier, Jamie Johnson, Jay Davenport, Paul Muhly, Colette Nelson, Charle Ricci, Reagen Thalacker (*Guest Presenter, LVA*)

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Janet Justis at 1PM. A quorum was present.

### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Joyce Holland moved that Reagen Thalacker's presentation be moved up to occur after the approval of the 6.10.25 minutes. Maureen Teague seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rishirio Blue of Blue Touch Cleaning Services spoke. She thanked the ESPL for the opportunity to clean the facility for the staff and public. She expressed her interest in rebidding their cleaning services for the coming year.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES [June 10, 2025]

Dennis Custis moved that the 6.10.25 meeting minutes be approved. Joyce Holland seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA PRESENTATION [R. Thalacker]

Reagen Thalacker presented legal information and resources pertaining to book challenges [A copy of the presentation is included in the minutes].

## OLD BUSINESS

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### FY26 Meeting Schedule

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Maureen Teague moved that the November BOT meeting be moved to 11.12.25 at 1PM at the Eastern Shore Regional Library & Heritage Center in Parksley so that it does not fall on the previously scheduled holiday of 11.11.25. Dennis Custis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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### NFL Renovation Process (C. Pote)

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**Christopher Pote shared the latest update on the Northampton Free Library Renovation Project:**

- At the direction of the Board, C. Pote contacted the Accomack County Administrator regarding potential Northampton Free Library renovation.
- Findings from C. Pote's meeting with Accomack County Administrator:
  - There doesn't appear to be anything that would indicate ESPL could use the current contract between HBA and Accomack County for a project in Northampton County;
  - It was recommended to start the conversation with county supervisors as soon as possible before any requests are made as a courtesy;
  - This board has been advised to have a plan to meet the proviso in the agreement that states "The Accomack Board and the Northampton Board shall cooperate with each other in planning for capital expenditures and improvements for the Library."
- Northampton County has approved the \$20,000.00 request to conduct preliminary work to determine the feasibility of the expansion of NFL.

Discussion ensued.

## FINANCIAL REPORT [C. Pote]

**Christopher Pote provided a snapshot of the System's finances:**

- The LGIP account gained \$267.10 in interest for a total balance of \$73,985.83.
- ESPL's FY25 operating budget finished in the black.
- C. Pote intends to submit a revised FY26 to the board now that FY25 has officially ended.
  - ESPL and the ESPL Foundation still need to settle FY25 reimbursements.

- The Supreme Court case challenging the constitutionality of the United Services Fund (USF), which would have greatly negatively affected our access to discounted internet service, ruled in favor of the USF and E-rate will continue for now.
- Q1 disbursement requests of both Northampton and Accomack County have been made.

*\*There were no objections to C. Pote bringing back an updated FY26 budget to the Board*

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## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S SYSTEM REPORT [C. Pote]

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### Summer Fest

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- Summer Fest was a success again this year, but we did not see the increase in turnout we were hoping for.
  - We are reassessing most aspects of the event, including location, to make it as impactful as possible;
  - Roughly 150 children have signed up for the summer reading program, which is the most in recent memory, and about double the number since Programs & Outreach Librarian Tiffany Flores has been with the system.

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### Heritage Center Collection Management Software

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- After months of research and testing, Heritage Center Archivist, Luke Kelly, and Director Pote entered into an agreement with Re:Discovery for their Proficio Elements archival collection management software.

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### Northampton Free Library Renovation Project

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- C. Pote shared under Old Business.

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### Parksley Projects Update

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- New Teen Room shelving is scheduled for installation on Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.
- The new furniture that was purchased in partnership with the Foundation is tentatively scheduled to arrive next week.
  - Most other items the Foundation has supported have been delivered including a new privacy pod, a parent and child carrel, as well as furniture for our nursing mothers' space/children's study room.

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### Parksley Site Visit

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- The Facilities Committee conducted the Parksley site visit at the end of June, and no major concerns were found. There are two issues that C. Pote would like to address:

- Use of parking lot by non-library staff or patrons. C. Pote is seeking counsel and assistance from Mayor Frank Russell to remedy;
- C. Pote will be seeking a quote from the current alarm contractor for additional security cameras for several areas that are lacking;
  - C. Pote has spoken to the network contractor who confirmed that the current network can accommodate additional cameras.

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### Director's Annual Review

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- David Poyer shared with C. Pote his completed annual review worksheet at lunch on 6.23.25;
  - C. Pote thanked the Board for taking the time to complete the annual review and for providing him with helpful feedback.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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### Finance Committee (G. Chesser)

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No report.

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### Personnel Committee (M.K. Miles)

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No report.

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### Trustee Training Committee Report (J. Holland)

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Joyce Holland suggested that at the August Meeting, if the new Northampton seat has been filled, the Board could benefit from a conversation on the relationships within the system and to review the agreements between each library location.

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### Facilities Committee Report (D. Poyer)

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No report: David Poyer absent; Christopher Pote reported on the latest update on the potential NFL renovation during old business, and the Parksley site visit under the Director's report (see above).

## BRANCH AND FRIENDS REPORTS

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### Cape Charles Memorial Library

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Included in the written Library Director's System Report.

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### Chincoteague Island Library

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Included in the written Library Director's System Report.

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### Northampton Free Library

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Included in the written Library Director's System Report.

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### ESPL Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library

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Friends President, Kate Baird shared the update from the Friends. (Report attached).

## ESPL FOUNDATION

At the prompting of Dennis Custis (*Former ESPL Foundation Liaison*), Foundation President Kasey Grier shared that the drawing for the electric bike is July 15th.

The Foundation is working on a couple of long-term projects along with the annual appeal:

- Sustaining member program (for as little as \$5 per month);
- Legacy Giving campaign;
- In October they're planning an event that will bring financial advisors, estate planning lawyers, etc. to cover the highlights of the Heritage Center and the library system to help people consider ESPL in their estate planning;
- The annual appeal will take place in November.

## NEW BUSINESS

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### Trustee Roster

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Christopher Pote asked that all the Trustees review the updated roster to make sure no edits are needed.

Maureen Teague moved to accept the updated trustee roster with Janet Justis's term date amended to 2028. Dennis Custis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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### Trustee Training

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Reagen Thalacker's presentation was moved up in the agenda and was presented after the approval of the 6.10.25 minutes.

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### CLOSED SESSION pursuant to VA Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1) - Personnel

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Joyce Holland moved that the Board enter closed session to discuss the annual performance and review of the System Director as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1):

"Public bodies may hold closed meetings only for the following purposes:

Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public

officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals.”

[Frank Russell arrived during closed session.]

Role call vote in the affirmative from all members certified closed session, except F. Russell abstained as he arrived late.

M.K. Miles indicated that the majority of the Board agreed to a 3% COLA as well as a bonus for Director Pote. M.K. Miles then moved to approve. Joyce Holland seconded. Motion carries.

## **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

No additional comments.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 8.12.25 at 1PM | Eastern Shore Regional Library & Heritage Center, 24313 Bennett Street Parksley, VA 23421

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Frank Russell moved to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Custis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:17pm by Janet Justis.

# BOARD SUCCESS

## Part 3: Legal Information

Eastern Shore Public Library  
July 8, 2025

Reagen A. Thalacker, MLIS  
Public Library Consultant  
Library Development  
Library of Virginia



# Who are we?





# Current Issues: Legal Information Regarding Book Challenges





## CURRENT ISSUES

### Legal Information to Be Aware of Regarding Book Challenges

- This is **legal information only** and not legal advice.
- Theresa Chmara, Legal Counsel for the Freedom to Read Foundation, compiled and initially shared the following information.
- For any formal legal questions, please consult your local legal counsel.



# CURRENT ISSUES

## First Amendment

- States that “Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech.”
- Applies to the States through the Fourteenth Amendment.
- Applies to adults as well as minors.
- Protects the right to speak as well as the right to receive information.
- Applies to government entities, not private entities.
- Applies to all speech unless designated an unprotected category by the US Supreme Court.



# CURRENT ISSUES

## Book Challenges & the Law

- Unprotected Categories of Speech
  - *Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15 (1973)

The United States Supreme Court has held that the First Amendment does not protect obscene material. In determining whether material is obscene or not, a court must find that the material meets **all three parts of the test**:

1. Whether the work depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct specifically defined by the applicable state law;
2. Whether the average person, applying *contemporary community standards*, would find the work **as a whole** appeals to the prurient interest; and
3. Whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, *or scientific value*.



## CURRENT ISSUES

### Book Challenges & the Law

- Viewpoint Discrimination
  - *Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of Univ. of Virginia*, 515 U.S. 819, 829 (1995)

The First Amendment does not permit viewpoint discrimination. The United States Supreme Court has held that “[v]iewpoint discrimination is....an egregious form of content discrimination.”



## CURRENT ISSUES

### Book Challenges & the Law

- Viewpoint Discrimination / Book Removal
  - *Board of Education v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 852 (1982)

In the context of determining whether a school library board impermissibly removed books from the collection, the United States Supreme Court held that if the library “intended” by removing books to bar access to ideas with which they disagreed, then the removal is unconstitutional.



## CURRENT ISSUES

### Book Challenges & the Law

- Viewpoint Discrimination / Book Removal
  - Building off of Pico
  - *Mainstream Loudoun v. Board of Trustees of Loudoun*, 2 F. Supp. 3d 783 (E.D. Va 1998)

The court held that “the First Amendment applies to, and limits, the discretion of the public library to place content-based restrictions on access to constitutionally protected materials within its collection.”

...”a public library, ‘like other enterprises operated by the State, may not be run in such a manner as to prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion or other matters of opinion.’”



## CURRENT ISSUES

### Book Challenges & the Law

- Segregation of Materials Burdens First Amendment Rights
  - *Sund v. City of Wichita Falls*, 121 F. Supp. 2d (N.D. Tex. 2000)

The district court held that forced removal of books from the children's room to the adult section of the library placed a "significant burden on Library patron's ability to gain access to those books."





## CURRENT ISSUES

### Book Challenges & the Law

- Segregation of Materials Burdens First Amendment Rights / Parental Rights
  - *Sund v. City of Wichita Falls*, 121 F. Supp. 2d (N.D. Tex. 2000)

In response to the argument that parents have the right to remove material with which they disagreed, the district court stated that “if a parent wishes to prevent her child from reading a particular book, that parent can and should accompany the child to the Library, and should not prevent all children in the community from gaining access to constitutionally protected materials.”



# CURRENT ISSUES

## Book Challenges & the Law

- Attorney's Fees

Current case in Llano County, Texas litigation has paid over \$220,000 due to challenge materials as of October 2024 (taxpayer funds)

If a library or other state entity is sued for a violation of First Amendment rights and the plaintiff is successful in winning the case, the state entity could be liable for not only the costs of the litigation and payment of fees for its attorneys, *but the court also can order that the state entity pay the attorneys' fees of the plaintiffs who instituted the litigation.*

42 U.S.C. Section 1983



# CURRENT ISSUES

## Some Current Cases

- Crawford County, Arkansas
  - Fayetteville Public Library v. Crawford County
    - Arkansas Act 372, Sections 1 and 5
  - Virden v. Crawford County
    - Board action to remove certain books to another area
- Campbell County, Wyoming
  - Criminal complaint alleging that the library was disseminating obscene materials



# CURRENT ISSUES

## Some Current Cases

- Llano County, Texas
  - Little v. Llano County (ongoing)
    - Board action to remove 17 books from the shelves that were found to be offensive
    - Has the potential to upend everything that libraries are based on

# RESOURCES

Trustees Page - InfoCenter - Library  
Development (LD)

<https://vpl.virginia.gov/tff/trustees/>

Library of Virginia – Records Management

<https://www.lva.virginia.gov/agencies/records/>

American Library Association

<https://www.ala.org/>

United for Libraries – Virginia has a  
statewide membership for staff and  
stakeholders

<http://www.ala.org/united/trustees>

Virginia Library Association

<http://www.vla.org/>

Trustees, Friends, & Foundations monthly  
newsletter from the Library of Virginia

# Questions?

# Thank You for Your Service to Your Library and Your Community!

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## Board Success – Part III: Legal Information

### Eastern Shore Public Library – July 5, 2025

Notes from the “Current Cases” Section:

- **Fayetteville Public Library v. Crawford County (Began in 2023) –**
  - Arkansas Act 372
    - Section 1 – imposes criminal penalties on librarians, booksellers, or anyone who “makes available” materials that are deemed “harmful to minors”
    - Section 5 – mandates a challenge procedure for public libraries that would result in making materials “inaccessible” to minors if deemed “inappropriate” by the local governing body
  - Plaintiffs: Public Libraries, librarians, patrons, booksellers, AR Library Association, Freedom to Read Foundation, and other associations representing booksellers, publishers, and authors
  - December 23, 2024 – Federal district court struck down both sections as unconstitutional, rejecting the argument that the library collection is government speech
  - Status: On appeal to the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit
  - **While it initially failed, there are other bills like this in Arizona, Georgia, North Dakota, and multiple bills in Texas**
  
- **Virden v. Crawford County (Began in 2023) –**
  - Board action – directed librarian to move books in the public library with LGBTQIA+ themes to a “Social Section”, including picture books and YA books
  - Plaintiffs: Library patrons
  - District court granted a summary judgment to the plaintiffs, holding that the removal was unconstitutional because it places a burden on the patrons’ First Amendment rights (barriers to access) and rejects the argument that library collection is government speech
  - Crawford County has to pay roughly \$113,000 in fees and costs after losing the case, though they’re battling that out
  
- **\*Crawford County Costs (As of October 2024)**
  - **Fayetteville Public Library case** -- \$165,696.06 in legal fees (still ongoing)
  - **Virden Case** -- \$219,605.05 in legal fees
  - *Also, the then Director who resigned in February 2023 after pressure from those opposing LGBTQIA+ materials, received a severance of \$40,687.50*
  - TOTAL: \$426,561.61 (almost half a million dollars as of October 2024)
    - <https://talkbusiness.net/2024/10/judge-rules-against-crawford-county-librarys-social-section-censorship/>
    - Another more recent headline from April 2025 puts the number beyond \$575,000 (The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette)



- **Campbell County Public Library in Gillette, Wyoming (Began in 2021)—**
  - A criminal complaint was filed against the library alleging that the Campbell County public librarians were engaged in criminal activity by making certain books (those primarily discussing reproduction, sex education, and LGBTQIA+ issues) available to young library users – stating that the librarians were disseminating “obscene” materials
  - Claim was dismissed by the special prosecutor as they determined that the books in question were not obscene and no evidence existed to support any other criminal charges
  - “The books in question do not, when applying contemporary community standards, criminally describe sexual conduct in a patently offensive manner and they may have scientific value. Accordingly, since these materials are not ‘obscene’ as defined by Wyoming Law, the State of Wyoming could not commence criminal charges.”
  - While the criminal charges have been dropped, the former library director filed a defamation lawsuit against the family who originally filed the charges, claiming that they had engaged in a campaign to discredit her and to pressure the library to remove the books. The defamation lawsuit is still ongoing.
  
- **Llano County, Texas**
  - **Beginnings**
    - Summer 2021 - 3 residents met with a Llano County judge about several new picture books purchased – “I Need a New Butt!”, “I Broke My Butt!”, and “My Butt is So Noisy!” – claiming they promoted predatory grooming – requested that the judge allow them (the citizens) to approve all future purchases – judge declined
    - Rumors spread that the library was circulating “pornography.”
    - Numerous public complaints later, the judge and now a commissioner began pressuring the library director to pull certain books in the Summer and Fall of 2021 – “until further notice” or “for now”
    - November 2021 – one citizen provided a list of 850 books and demanded they be removed from the children’s section of the library --- a former state representative had compiled list, reasons given mirrored language in a new Texas law targeting classrooms (public libraries are different than schools) – citizen called the books “pornographic filth”, “CRT and LGBTQ book(s)” – wanted them moved to the adult section
    - The library director pulled all the books and removed them from the catalog
    - In the end, 17 titles were fully removed
    - Llano County also suspended access to the digital borrowing service OverDrive (we can’t remove specific titles the vendors offer)
    - A County Commissioner then replaced several members of the advisory library board with those in favor of book removals – a move intended to “balance the group.”
    - January 2022 – The commissioner instructed the library director to send a book purchase list to the board for review

- April 2022 – 7 library patrons sued the county, the library director, and 4 members of the library advisory board, accusing them of engaging in viewpoint discrimination
- **As of 2025:**
  - District court - preliminary injunction granted that the library board had to return the books to the shelves
  - Appealed to the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court (Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit panel (3 judges randomly assigned):
  - Affirms the preliminary injunction that the plaintiffs have a right to receive information in the library, viewpoint-based removal is unconstitutional, and the library collection is not government speech
  - Motion vacated by majority of the judges at the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, petition for an en banc rehearing granted --- “en banc” = session where all the judges of the court sit to hear a case, in this case, all 17
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit en banc:
    - Decision came down in May 2025
    - Reversed the panel decision (10 to 7) – stating that “plaintiffs cannot invoke a right to receive information to challenge a library’s removal of books” – CONTRADICTS ALL PRECEDENTS
    - Also, “a library’s collection decisions are government speech and therefore not subject to Free Speech challenge” – CONTRADICTS ALL PRECEDENTS – not sure how this works
    - This overrules their own 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit decision from Campbell v. St. Tammany Parish School Board from 1995 in which a school board removed a book on voodoo from school libraries in a Louisiana parish – they held at the time that the book removal violated students’ right to receive information – the en banc court stated that the old decision “was based on a mistaken reading of precedent” and “wrongly decided” 30 years ago.
    - Dissent notes that this impacts all libraries in the states in the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court – concerned that public libraries could become “propaganda centers, with their contents dictated by the political and religious whims of the local elected officials. In Llano, that may mean that there will be no books discussing LGBTQ characters or acknowledging our country’s history of racism. But in other places, that may mean there will be no books about Christian values or celebrating conservative politicians. No citizen should be happy about a decision that lets their government remove books with which the current political climate disapproves.”
  - Current status: Plaintiffs are deciding whether to petition the US Supreme Court for review (writ certiorari)
    - If granted, this case would be on the docket in October. If upheld, it will forever alter the way libraries operate. The entire Library Bill of Rights becomes null and void, and the library will no longer be for everyone

- **Monetary Damages:**
  - Llano County, Texas has spent over \$220,000 in taxpayer money on legal fees to defend its decision to remove books from the public library system, and is continuing to pay legal fees during the appeal (As of October 2024)
  - The library was also required to defend itself against a wrongful termination lawsuit by a librarian who alleged she was fired for refusing to remove books. The library paid her \$225,000 to settle the lawsuit after a federal judge refused to dismiss her suit and ruled that she plausibly asserted that she was fired for opposing orders to improperly pull books.
- **Non-monetary Damages**
  - Frayed community ties
  - Damaged the public library's reputation
  - Harmed staff morale, physical and mental health
  - No new books purchased in 3 years

**ESPL Board of Trustees  
2025-2026 Meeting Schedule**

July 8, 2025

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

August 12, 2025

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

September 9, 2025

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

October 14, 2025\*

Cape Charles Memorial Library at 7:00 p.m.

November 12, 2025 – Please note this is a Wednesday this month

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

December 9, 2025

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

January 13, 2026\*

Northampton Free Library at 6:00 p.m.

February 10, 2026

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

March 10, 2026

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

April 14, 2026\*

Chincoteague Island Library at 5:00 p.m.

May 12, 2026

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

June 9, 2026

Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center at 1:00 p.m.

\*Indicates evening meetings not held at ESRL&HC, Parksley

Approved by ESPL Board of Trustees June 10, 2025

Revised and Approved by ESPL Board of Trustees July 08, 2025

## Eastern Shore Public Library Board of Trustees Roster, 2025-2026

Chairwoman: Janet Justis  
Vice Chairwoman: Maureen Teague  
Treasurer: James Lilliston  
Secretary: Christopher Pote

Dennis Custis [2<sup>nd</sup> term, ends June 30, 2028]  
6 Lake Street  
Onancock, VA 23417  
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Moody "M.K." Miles [1<sup>st</sup> term, ends June 30, 2027]  
P.O. Box 37  
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Maureen Teague [1<sup>st</sup> term, ends June 30, 2028]  
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Joyce Holland [2<sup>nd</sup> term, ends June 30, 2027]  
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Grayson Chesser [1<sup>st</sup> term, ends June 30, 2027]  
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Captain David Poyer, USNR (Ret.) [2<sup>nd</sup> term, ends  
June 30, 2028]  
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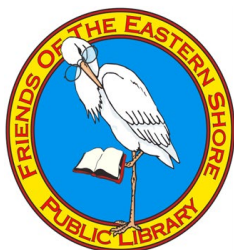
Frank Russell [1<sup>st</sup> term, ends June 30, 2026]  
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James Lilliston  
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Christopher Pote, System Director,  
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VACANT Position  
Northampton County Appointee

\* Trustees serve 4-year terms.



# FRIENDS OF THE EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Acting PRESIDENT

Kate Baird

## SECRETARY

Maureen Teague

## TREASURER

Carol Callander

## BOARD MEMBERS

Pat Bloxom

Liz Bochicchio

Margaret Donahue-

Lynch

Sharyn McQuaid

Judy Malarkey

Betsy Reich

Susan Vreeland

Janet Rochester,

*President Emeritus*

Ann Scott

*Emeritus*

July 2025

To: Board of Trustees

Submitted by: Kate Baird – Acting President - Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library

Greetings from The Friends.

## Upcoming Annual Meeting

The Friends will be holding their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, 23 July 2025 at 10:15am in the Lecture Hall at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library and Heritage Center. It is an open meeting and all are welcome!

Our agenda will include elections for the offices of President (Kate Baird) and Vice President (Sharyn McQuaid). Secretary (Maureen Teague) and Treasurer (Carol Callander) are in place and will continue their two-year terms.

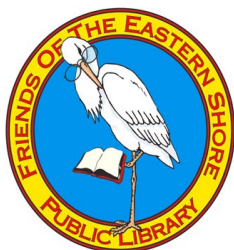
We will also be voting on our 2025-2026 budget. Our budget contains expenditures for programming assistance and the purchase of a wide variety of materials for the library including but not limited to books, manipulatives and online resources. We are also in conversation with Director Christopher Pote and Collections Management and Acquisitions Librarian Charle Ricci for additional ways we can be of assistance to the library. We also allocate monies for administrative use such as our newsletter, mailings, supplies for Better World Book processing and the Bookshop, advertisements and a Post Office Box.

Along with preparing for our annual meeting the Friends have been busy with regular tasks such as shelving and covering, reading for the Saturday Story Time, processing books for the Bookshop and Better World Books and restocking our outreach locations. We remain very pleased that our Bookshop, after almost 2 years, continues to average \$100 per week in sales.

## Meet the Board Members of the Friends

**Sharyn McQuaid** - has lived on the Shore for 22 years and been a Friend for 21 of those years. She has chaired the Santa book giveaway for 17 years, assists with shelf reading and balancing and has held the President, VP and Secretary positions. Her favorite reads are regencies, mysteries and Young Adult books.

**Liz Bochicchio** – has been on the Shore for 18 years and a Friend for 14. She held the Treasurer's position for 10 years. Liz enjoys the camaraderie while working for the good of the library. Favorite reads include fiction, mysteries and historical.



FRIENDS OF THE  
**EASTERN SHORE**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Susan Vreeland** – has lived on the Shore for 15 years and been a member of either the ESPL Friends or Northampton Friends or both for 13 years. Susan enjoys sorting donations for the Bookshop and keeping the Book Club Bags up to date. Favorite books are modern and historical British mysteries.

**Betsy Reich** – has been on the Shore for 23 years and a Friends member for 11. She enjoyed working the Firecracker Book Sales in Accomac, is the lead for Better World Books and helps straighten the Bookshop keeping it inviting to potential buyers. Betsy's favorite reads include romance, regencies, mysteries and cookbooks and anything by Janet Evanovich and Donald E Westlake.

**Carol Callander** – came to the Shore 18 years ago but was actually a member of the friends in 2005, before becoming a full time resident thanks to her sister in law! She has served on the executive board, always enjoyed the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event in Accomac and liked seeing the look on patrons' faces when they first walked into the new library in Parksley. Personal favorite author is Nora Roberts but from working with the discards she has also enjoyed novels by other authors.

**Maureen Teague** – moved to the Shore in 2021 and joined the Friends in 2022. Maureen finds leading the Saturday morning early literacy story and play times rewarding as was the process for applying for (and receiving) grant monies. She mostly listens to books on Audible and enjoys all genres, particularly suspense and historical fiction.

**Judy Malarkey** – came to the Shore in 1999. In 2005 as part of the team to restart the Friends group, she took on Membership and has been doing that ever since. Along with others, Judy helped organize The Foundation in 2009 to help build the new library. Judy has been the editor of the Bookworm, did donation sorting for the book sales in Accomac, and now sorts and stocks the Bookshop as well as scans for Better World Books. Her favorite reads are English mysteries, American west mysteries and spy stories.

**Margaret Donahue Lynch** – has been on the Shore for 4 years and a member of the Friends for three. Margaret enjoys working on the Bookworm and the website. She enjoys her audio books and streaming Kanopy.

**Dan Sossaman** – moved to the shore in 2021 and has been an active member of the Friends since 2023. He is a faithful attendee of our "open to all" Board Meetings. Dan makes deliveries to our outreach locations including the Northampton Jail. He is an avid reader of Maisie Dobbs, Maggie Hope and Agatha Raisin.

**Kate Baird** – came to the shore in 2018 and began volunteering at the library in 2019 and became a member of the Friends in 2021. She enjoys just being at the library, whether it is shelving, reading on Saturday morning or working an event. Her favorite activity is covering the new books as they come in. Favorite genres include historical fiction, non-fiction nature and 'cozy' mysteries.