

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT **THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

What are the primary responsibilities of the Library Board of Trustees?

All Maryland County Public Library Systems are governed by a Board of Library Trustees, who are charged with certain duties, powers, and responsibilities in the [Maryland Education Article](#).

Overall, Trustees represent the perspectives and needs of citizens to the Library system and its stakeholders. They are charged with fiduciary and legal oversight, as well as participation in planning and policy setting with the Library Director. Most critically, Trustees are advocates for Library services and support at the local and state levels.

How many members are on the Board and how long do they serve?

State law requires that the Board of Trustees consist of seven members that represent the citizens of Cecil County. Trustees serve five-year terms and are eligible for reappointment. They may not serve more than two terms consecutively.

Who are the current Trustees for Cecil County Public Library?

Front Row: Ms. Joanne Morton (*Chair*); Ms. Tanya Area; Ms. Phyllis Kilby; Ms. Shirley McCrary-Simmons (*Vice Chair*)

Back Row: Mr. Jonathan Stauffer; Mr. Steven Pearson; Mr. Ravi Gupta (*Treasurer*)





How are Trustees appointed and selected?

When a vacancy occurs, the Trustees make a public posting and interview a diverse number of candidates. The Trustees then select and submit their nominee to the County Executive. Next, the County Executive recommends the nominee to the County Council for approval of a five-year term.

Are Trustees compensated for their service?

No, service is voluntary and Trustees receive no payment. All Trustees must comply with Cecil County's Board of Ethics disclosure process on an annual basis.

What support do Trustees receive for learning and development?

All new Trustees receive an in-depth orientation with the Board Chair and Library Director. In addition to regular education sessions and relevant information support from the Library Director and staff, Trustees are provided many opportunities for both in-person and online development and networking activities through organizations such as the [American Library Association's United for Libraries](#) division, [Maryland Library Association](#), and [Citizens for Maryland Libraries](#).

Do Trustees need to live in Cecil County?

Yes, in order to be eligible to serve, you must reside in Cecil County.

Are the meetings open to the public, and where are they held?

The Board of Trustees meets monthly from September-June on the third Monday of the Month at 4pm. In accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act, meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held in the Administrative Headquarters, located at the North East Branch Library. A virtual option is available upon request. For a list of upcoming meetings, please visit the [Board of Trustees page](#) of the Library's website.

Where can I read past agendas and minutes?

Agendas and minutes are posted to the [Board of Trustees page](#) of the Library's website.

How long are meetings, and do the Trustees have other obligations?

Monthly meetings are conducted over the course of approximately two hours. At some point, you may be asked to serve on a board committee, or invited to represent the library on a committee at the local or state level. In addition, Trustees are asked to commit to regular board education sessions (no more than one hour a month), county and state legislative and other events (2-4 times a year), and attendance at occasional Library programs and Friends Foundation events.





Who is the Library Director?

The Library Director is the chief executive officer of the Library system and is responsible for managing its operations and personnel in accordance with policies set forth by the Trustees.

In September, 2016, the Board of Trustees named Morgan Miller, MLIS, Library Director. She holds a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Drexel University and has served on the CCPL staff since 2005. She is currently the President of the Maryland Library Association. She represents the Library as a member of the Cecil County Economic Development Council and the Local Management Board. She also serves as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of Christiana Care at Union Hospital.

Is the Board of Trustees the same as the Friends Foundation?

The Board of Trustees and the Friends Foundation Board have different roles in supporting the Library system. The Trustees are a governing board that set the direction and Mission for the Library system. The Friends Foundation collaborates to raise funds and other support in order to help carry out and enhance the Library's Mission. The Board of Trustees makes appointments to the Friends Foundation Board.

If I have additional questions or I am interested in applying, what is the process and who do I contact?

Please contact Frazier Walker, Communications & Development Manager at (410) 996-1055 x1129 or email her: fwalker@cecilcountylibrary.org