

BY-LAWS  
of the  
FINGER LAKES LIBRARY SYSTEM

ARTICLE I

Name

This organization shall be known as the Finger Lakes Library System, as specified in the absolute charter granted April 23, 1965.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the Finger Lakes Library System shall be to expand and improve public library service in the counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Seneca, Tioga and Tompkins in the State of New York.

ARTICLE III

Members of the System

SECTION A - Charter Members are as follows:

Cayuga County	--	Moravia Poplar Ridge Union Springs Weedsport	Powers Library Association Hazard Library Springport Free Library Weedsport Free Library
Cortland County	--	Marathon	Peck Memorial Library
Seneca County	--	Lodi Waterloo	Lodi Whittier Library Waterloo Library and Historical Society
Tioga County	--	Berkshire Candor Nichols Owego Spencer Waverly	Berkshire Free Library Candor Free Library George P. and Susan Platt Cady Library Coburn Free Library Spencer Library Waverly Free Library
Tompkins County	--	Groton Ithaca Newfield Trumansburg	Groton Public Library Cornell Library Association* Newfield Public Library Ulysses Philomathic Library

\*Now the Tompkins County Public Library.

SECTION B - Any public or association library of Cayuga, Cortland, Seneca, Tioga or Tompkins counties may apply to the Board of Trustees of the System for membership by the procedure set forth in the Education Law.

SECTION C - Members that joined the System after August 1958 are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Seymour Library, Auburn	May 11, 1960
Cato Free Library	May 11, 1960
Aurora Public Library	November 4, 1960
Interlaken Public Library	February 10, 1961
Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, Ovid	February 10, 1961
Tappan-Spaulding Memorial Library, Newark Valley	May 12, 1961
Mynderse Library, Seneca Falls (an Associate Member)	April 12, 1963
Lamont Memorial Free Library, McGraw	June 8, 1964
Kellogg Free Library, Cincinnatus	November 23, 1964
Cortland Free Library	August 17, 1967
Phillips Free Library, Homer	September 23, 1974
Fair Haven Public Library	September 23, 1977

SECTION D - Members joining the System in 1999:

Port Byron Library	October 19, 1999
Southworth Library Association, Dryden	November 26, 1999

SECTION E -- Members joining the System in 2008:

Lansing Community Library Center	April 30, 2008
Apalachin Library Association	June 16, 2008

## ARTICLE IV

### Board of Trustees

SECTION A - The governing body of the System shall be a Board of Trustees of eleven members. Each county shall have two Trustees with one Trustee-at-large.

SECTION B - The Board of Trustees shall formulate policy, administer funds, guide the direction of the system's affairs, appoint the director and staff and delegate to them the necessary authority to manage and operate the system.

SECTION C - Trustees shall be elected at the annual meeting for five year terms beginning January 1. Trustees shall be elected for shorter terms to fill vacancies. No Trustee shall hold office for more than two full terms. Two Trustees are elected each year with three elected every fifth year.

SECTION D - Eligibility - Any person residing in the area served by the System is eligible to hold the office of Trustee, except salaried staff employees of the System, of a member library, or a member of a County legislative body.

SECTION E - Should a vacancy occur during the year, the Trustees may appoint an eligible person to serve until the end of the calendar year.

SECTION F - If a Trustee fails to attend three consecutive meetings, the Trustee shall be deemed to have resigned. The Board has authority to reinstate said Trustee upon acceptance of justification for the absences.

## ARTICLE V

### Officers

SECTION A - The officers of the Board of Trustees shall be the officers of the System and shall be President, Vice-President and Secretary. A candidate for each office shall be selected by a Nominating Committee appointed by the President two months prior to the end of the calendar year. Trustees will be notified of the Committee's nominees ten days prior to the November meeting. Officers shall be elected at the November meeting by a majority vote of Trustees present and take office on January 1 for a term of one year. No Trustee shall be eligible to serve more than three consecutive terms in the same office.

SECTION B - The duties of all officers shall be such as by custom, law and rules usually fall upon such officers in accordance with their office.

## ARTICLE VI

### Committees

SECTION A - The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Finance Committee Chair and the past President or other elected Trustee.

SECTION B - The Board's standing committees shall be Finance, Personnel and System Services. The in-coming President shall appoint committee members prior to the beginning of the calendar year.

SECTION C - Special or other standing committees may be appointed by the President as the Board deems necessary.

SECTION D - The President shall be ex-officio a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

SECTION E - The Finance Committee members will comprise the System Audit Committee. October 11, 2000

## ARTICLE VII

### Meetings

SECTION A - Meetings of Trustees - Business shall be conducted in accordance with the accepted rules of parliamentary procedure. A majority of the members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum. All meetings are open to the public.

SECTION B - Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or at the request of any three Trustees. Trustees will be notified of such meeting at least five days in advance. Special meetings shall be for the transaction of only such business as stated in the notice.

SECTION C - The annual meeting of the System shall be held in October and shall be called by the Secretary by notice in writing to the Trustees of member libraries at least one month prior to the scheduled date. The Board of each member library shall designate one of their number as voting Trustee. This meeting is open to the public.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Amendments

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the total number of Trustees. Notice of any proposed amendment shall be given to each Trustee in writing at least two weeks before the meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

Revised October 2000.

Revised June 2008.

