

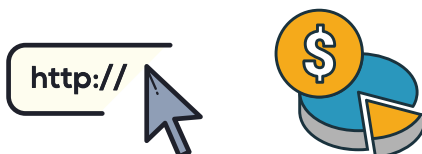
It's Budget Time...

Public library boards are legally responsible for the library's finances and financial management. Public and association libraries are required to prepare and adopt a written annual budget. The majority of our libraries follow a January–December fiscal year and should have a tentative budget prepared and ready to be voted on by their January meeting.

Directors should be full partners in this process as they manage the day-to-day running of the library, implementing programs that form the basis of your library's budget. During budget development, the director should work closely with the Board President, Treasurer, and/or Finance Committee. The entire board is then responsible for reviewing and discussing the budget before it is approved. Remember, a budget is a flexible and fluid document.

Circumstances change throughout your fiscal year and your board has the authority and responsibility to revise it to meet unplanned or new situations.

[The Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State](#) is an excellent resource on budgets. If you have any questions on library budgets, tax cap levies, referendums, or would like our staff to look over your budget please feel free to [reach out to us](#).



Your budget is required to be easily accessible to the public and posted on the library's website.



FLLS 2019 Annual Meeting held at the Shepard Hills Country Club in Waverly, NY. We are hopeful that next year we'll be able to meet in person.

Annual Meeting 2021 Recap

The 63rd Annual Meeting of the Finger Lakes Library System was held virtually on Friday, October 15.

Executive Director Sarah Glogowski reviewed federal updates on the CARES Act and ARPA funds along with changes at the state level regarding minimum standards on open hours. She also thanked exiting FLLS Board Member Deb Lewis for all her hard work and dedication to our libraries over the last 5 years.

Sarah shared the slides and recording in an email to all trustees. Our 2020 Report to the Community is available on our website at:

<https://www.flls.org/about-us/>

November/December 2021



Jenny, our Outreach and Continuing Ed Librarian, made a new friend at the Tompkins County SPCA. FLLS staff chose the local shelter as part of their Great Give Back project.

Great Give Back October 16

This year over 250 libraries in NYS participated in [The Great Give Back](#), a day of opportunities for public library patrons to participate in meaningful, service-oriented experiences.

Over a dozen of our member libraries joined in with food drives, clothing collections and more.

FLLS staff had fun shopping for items on the Tompkins County SPCA's wish list. We delivered the goodies to our canine and feline neighbors.

Trustee Education Law Passes

On October 8, Governor Hochul signed the trustee education policy initiative into law. Trustees will be required to complete a minimum of two hours of trustee education annually. This takes effect January 1, 2023.

FLLS is working to create new learning opportunities and workshops for trustees in the new year.

Open Meetings Law Update

On October 19, 2021, the Governor signed S1150A/A1228A into law. Now Chapter 481, this change requires that open meeting documents be available upon request or posted to the public body's website at least 24 hours prior to the open meeting at which the documents will be discussed. [Read more here](#) for some insight from Stephanie "Cole" Adams regarding this and related questions.

Technical Amendments Pass

On November 3, Gov. Hochul signed into law Chapter 563 of the Laws of 2021. The text of this new law is available on the State Library's [website](#).

Two pieces of this new law affect our libraries and FLLS:

State Aid for Library Construction: Permanently extends the time period for State Aid for Library Construction project completion from three years to four years. This new provision applies to those construction projects funded as part of the State FY 2020/2021 budget and all future funding cycles.

Streamlining and Modernizing Library Aid
Public library and library system aid formula language has changed to provide greater flexibility and will ease program and reporting requirements, improve efficiency, and reflect changes in the way library and information services are now delivered. The amendments include:

- Consolidation of central library development aid and central book aid to create a central library services aid program.
- Streamlining of public library system basic aid formulas by combining per capita funding streams.
- Elimination of the separate adult literacy and family literacy grant programs and consolidation of those funds into the public library system coordinated outreach services program formulas.

We are especially excited for a modernization of central library services that is more reflective on how libraries are currently used. Watch for updates.

Trustee Handbook Book Club

There are still two sessions remaining in the 3 part Book Club series with co-authors of the Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State Jerry Nichols and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich.

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 from 5:00-6:30pm: Library Board Meetings | [Register Here](#)

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 from 5:00-6:30pm: Personnel | [Register Here](#)