



# Finger Lakes Library System

## TRUSTEE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2 Issue 6

NOV/DEC  
2023  
**65**  
1958-2023

Friday, October 13th, turned out to be an auspicious autumn day in Auburn for our 65th annual meeting. We welcomed over 80 guests from our library communities at the first in-person session since 2019.

Two new FLLS Board trustees were elected; Priscilla Berggren-Thomas will represent Cortland County and Kasia Maroney will represent Tompkins County. Their terms start January 1, 2024.

Our engaging guest speaker, [Darcy Lipp-Acord](#)'s *Librarians Under Scrutiny: Steps to Staff Empowerment* presentation was timely and generated several thoughtful questions from the audience and much conversation. Presentation slides have been emailed out.

If you attended the session you can receive credit towards the [Trustee Education requirement](#). Certificates were available at the meeting. If you need a certificate, please contact Sarah or Heidi.

Not able to make it? View our [Annual Meeting Summary](#) and [Annual Report to the Community](#) to learn more about the work FLLS does.

---

### NYS Pay Transparency Law

The New York State Pay Transparency Law took effect on September 17, 2023. This requires NY businesses, including libraries, with four or more employees to include compensation ranges in all advertisements for jobs, promotions and transfers. For more information, please see the attached flyer or visit:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-celebrates-new-yorks-statewide-pay-transparency-law-groundbreaking-legislation>

<https://dol.ny.gov/pay-transparency>

<https://dol.ny.gov/pay-transparency-act-frequently-asked-questions>

---

## FLLS 65th Annual Meeting in Review



---

Darcy Lipp-Acord speaks from experience about challenges at her library.

## Board Calendar

### New York State Library

- **E-Rate for Libraries Webinar**

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 10 am [REGISTER](#)

The New York State Library is hosting a free E-Rate training session for libraries. From cybersecurity to wi-fi on school buses to simplifying the application process, it has been a very busy and confusing year for E-Rate! Learn about changes, updates, deadlines and more for the 2024 E-Rate cycle.

### Trustee Handbook Book Club:

- **Financing & Managing Construction Projects**

Tuesday, December 19, 2023 | 5:00-6:30pm [REGISTER](#)

---

## Board Best Practices: Ready for Your Board Meeting?

Agenda drafted and sent out? *Check.*

Board meeting notice readily available to public? *Check.*

Board packet documents online? *Check.*

Quorum? *Check.*

Read the board packet?

One of your duties as a trustee is to review (and be prepared to comment on/discuss) any materials in the board packet. The expectation is that members have read the board packet *before* the meeting so business can be tended to and the meeting can run effectively and efficiently.

Don't worry...there's not a pop quiz, but it is important to remember that you are responsible for understanding (and questioning, if appropriate) the information contained within the documents.

**BIG LIBRARY READ**  
November 2-16, 2023

**ARTIE AND THE WOLF MOON**  
OLIVIA STEPHENS

*"A breath of fresh air. . . Full of robust characters, dynamic panels, and immersive landscapes, this coming-of-age story of family and the supernatural is one any reader will have a hard time putting down."*  
—Shannon Wright, Twins

**Libby.**  
The library reading app

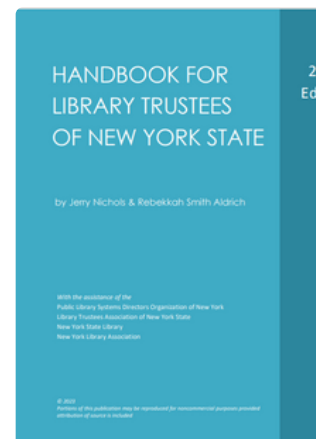
More of a fiction fan?  
Check out this season's  
[Big Library Read from OverDrive](#). Borrow on demand .

---

## New Release: Trustee Handbook 2023

The new trustee handbook has been published and will soon be available. Stay tuned for more details on its release and how to get your copy.

“Trustees are operating in an increasingly complex environment, said co-author Rebekkah Smith Aldrich. “...Our hope is that this new edition empowers boards to create the libraries their communities will depend on for a bright future.



### Highlights of the 2023 edition:

- Integration of issues surrounding equity, diversity and inclusion as well as sustainability
- Significant upgrades to the Planning and Evaluation and Board Development chapters, including info about the new Trustee Education requirements
- An introduction to Board Committees
- Surfacing of intersections with programming and display policies in the Intellectual Freedom, Censorship and Privacy chapter
- Clarifying reserve fund and fundraising issues
- Intersections with the new [Public Library District Toolkit: Strategies to Assure your Library's Legal and Financial Stability](#) from the New York State Library
- Updated explanation of the current state of the NYS Open Meetings Law
- New appendices on hiring a new director, sustainability as a core value, and PILOT payments
- Upgrades to the sample bylaws and Civil Service 101 appendices
- Updated policies checklist and glossary