

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, not to exceed two terms.

Who are the current Trustees for Cecil County Public Library?

Ms. Joanne Morton (Chair); Ms. Shirley McCrary-Simmons (Vice Chair); Mr. Ravi Gupta (Treasurer); Ms. Jennifer Borro; Ms. Erin Dymowski; Ms. Alix Gilbert





How are Trustees appointed and selected?

When a vacancy occurs, the position is posted publicly, and the Trustees interview a number of eligible 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 do not receive payment. Annually, all Trustees must complete a Conflict of Interest statement and comply with Cecil County's Board of Ethics disclosure process.

What support do Trustees receive for learning and development?

All new Trustees attend an in-depth orientation with the Board Chair and Library Director. In addition to regular education sessions and Library updates from the Library Director and staff, Trustees have opportunities for both in-person and on-line development and networking activities through organizations, such as [United for Libraries](#), [Maryland Library Association](#), and [Citizens for Maryland Libraries](#).

Do Trustees need to live in Cecil County?

Yes. You must reside in Cecil County to be eligible to serve.

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 5pm, unless otherwise indicated due to holiday closures. In accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act, meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held in the Community Meeting Room, located at the North East Branch Library. 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 last approximately two hours. Trustees may be asked to serve on a Board committee or invited to represent the Library on a local or state committee. In addition, Trustees may be asked to attend regular Board education sessions, county/state events, or 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 February, 2025, the Board of Trustees named Rachel Wright, MLIS, Library Director. She holds a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Florida State University and has served on the CCPL staff since 2009. She represents the Library as a member of the Cecil County Economic Development Council and the Local Management Board. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Harford and Cecil Counties.

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 Mary Culver, Administrative Assistant at (410) 996-1055 x1122 or email her: mculver@cecilcountylibrary.org