

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

CANDACE VESSELLA
CELESTE McTIGHE
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MARY HOLLOWAY



Sussex County

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**Sussex County Library Advisory Board (LAB) Meeting
Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 17, 2025
10a -11:30a**

West Complex Meeting Room Virtual participation is available.

Email Rachel Lynch at Rachel.lynych@sussexcountyde.gov for login information.

Attendees: Candace Vessella (CV), Rachel Lynch (RL), Celeste McTighe (CM), Alison Miller, Carol Fitzgerald

Virtual Attendees: Sandy Winterbottom (SW), Catharine Kramer, Melissa Johnson, Mary Brittingham, Sue Keefe, Katie McDonough, Lea Rosell, Lisa Petrecca, Annie Norman, Gail Bruce, Jessica Webb, Jill DiPaolo

Call to Order & Adoption of the Wednesday, September 17, 2025, Agenda. 10:01 am

Motion: CM Seconded: SW

Approval of August minutes

Motion: CM Seconded: SW

Announcements:

Passing of HB 119 Freedom to Read

- Candace met with representatives Matt Lloyd for Advisory Board position
 - Matt will provide names/suggestions
 - Brief discussion about funding for Sussex libraries
- Staffing update
 - Seaford has new director – Rachel Lawson (from Bridgville Library)
 - Laney Hassett chosen for Outreach position in Library Admin. She previously worked at Seaford Library

Sussex County Libraries

- System Updates
 - Presentation from Dawn Mitchell at
 - BDO update – unable to complete final statement because of unanswered questions concerning ransomware attack. County will accept BDO drafts
 - BDO being replaced with Loft
 - Preparing advocacy for how much it costs to run library services and building
 - Discussion about DDL IT systems and technology for all libraries
 - Independents met with consultant for fair and equitable funding formula
- Library Advisory Board (LAB) updates
 - CV – Matt Llyod discussion
 - CM -- none
 - SW – Libraries fundraising.



Sussex County Libraries

- Council on Libraries report
 - Bond Bill Funding Library Presentations
- Consortium Director's Meeting report (in place of Public Library Steering Committee Meeting)
 - Investigation of new Intergrated Library System
 - Created Policy task force to review current policies
 - Possible committee for 125 Delaware Libraries celebration

Questions/Concerns about CV reaching out to Matt Lloyd and advocacy. Goal for LAB moving forward to be more active with county council on behalf of all Sussex Libraries

Next meeting date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 10:00am West Complex 1st Floor meeting room. Virtual participation is available.

Adjourn at 10:15

Motion: CM Seconded: SW

This Agenda is subject to change to include the addition or deletion of items, including Executive Sessions, which arise at the time of the Meeting. Agenda items listed may be considered out of sequence.