

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

CANDACE VESSELLA
CELESTE McTIGHE
SANDY WINTERBOTTOM
MARY HOLLOWAY



Sussex County

DELAWARE
sussexcountyde.gov

(302) 855-7743 T
(302) 855-7895 F

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

**Wednesday, November 19, 2025
10a -11:30a**

West Complex Meeting Room Virtual participation is available.

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

Attendees: Candace Vessella (CV), Carol Fitzgerald (CF), Rachel Lynch, Alison Miller
Virtual: Celeste McTighe (CM), Melissa Johnson, GRJC, Mary Brittingham, Lisa Petrecca,
Lea Rosell, Gail Bruce, Katie McDonough, Annie Norman, Kelly Kline, Jessica Webb, Lauren
McCauley, Bonnie Elliott, Jill DiPaolo

Call to Order & Adoption of the Wednesday, November 19, 2025, Agenda. 10:01
Motion: CF Seconded: CM

Approval of October minutes
Motion: CM Seconded: CF

Announcements:

- Welcome Carol Fitzgerald as District 1 LAB member

Sussex County Libraries

- System Updates
 - Candace visited to discuss library advocacy campaign
 - Talked about Library Town meeting and the planning of the event
 - Focus: Literacy through a lifetime and how libraries are essential for that.
 - Kelly Kline, Hilary Fudge, and Jill Dipalo (back-up) volunteered to be part of panel discussion
 - Website ADA compliance. Bridgeville shared vendor for updating websites. Applicable to non de.us websites
 - Family Leave discussion
 - Question about annual appeals
 - Round Robin
- Library Advisory Board (LAB) updates
 - Welcome (back) Carol
 - CM – no report
 - CV – reach out to directors to verify statistic and financial numbers for campaign.
 - Preliminary value added of libraries: \$45M
 - Question: Build year & staffing of current building; build year & staffing of building for establishment of Library Tax? Send responses to CV
 - Include Covid impacts on staffing



DDL/Steering/DE Libraries/COL

- Council on Libraries report
 - Planning discussion on Library Town Meeting
 - OMB hearing representation
- Consortium Director's Meeting report (in place of Public Library Steering Committee Meeting)
 - Collection Policy discussion
 - B&T
 - Chromebook and Hotspots
 - Library Stories
 - 125th booklist
 - ADA website compliance
 - ILS review

Other

- None

Next meeting date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 10:00am West Complex 1st Floor meeting room. Virtual participation is available.

Adjourn at 10:29

Motion: CF Seconded: CM

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.