



St. Mary's County Board of Library Trustees Meeting
3:00 PM Thursday, April 9, 2026
Lexington Park Library

The public may attend the meetings but should ask ahead of time if they wish to speak. Email mblackwell@stmalib.org or call 301-304-9048 to request time on the agenda. The public may view the meeting remotely on the [Library's YouTube channel](#). If In-person attendees need ADA accommodation, please email mblackwell@stmalib.org or call 301-304-9048.

Tour of Lexington Park Library

Call to Order, Establish Quorum

- I. Sharon Fitzsimmons (Chair), Bob Donaldson, Charles Stein, Dorothy Waters, Ramona Waul.
- II. Absent: John Johnston, Judith Gwynn

Approval of agenda

Sharon Fitzsimmons

- I. Discussion: Next meeting is May 14
- II. Motion: C. Stein; Second: B. Donaldson; Approved

Approval of February 2026 minutes

- I. Motion: R. Waul; Second: D. Waters; Approved
 - a. Abstained: C. Stein

Celebrations:

- I. Congratulations: Samantha Clary, Naomi Cole, Liv Smith completed Early Start LATI; Eleanor DePiazza completed Advanced LATI; University of Alabama MLIS scholarship award winners: Denise Varela – Bethel Fite Endowed Scholarship and Rini Nguyen – Corr Scholarship
- II. Milestones: Emma Rawlinson, Assistant Branch Manager Youth Services, 10 years
- III. Hip Hip Hoorays: Laura Boonchaisri -coordinating public budget advocacy; Cyrena Cervantes-fostering a positive work culture and promoting the Library; Volunteer Month: Volunteer Coordinators: Kimberlé Fields, Jake Parsons, Christine Biglin, Breanna Thorne, Conor Roberson, Rini Nguyen, Allison Guy, Samantha Clary, and All Library Volunteers

Treasurer's Report: end of 3rd Qtr FY2026

Judith Gwynn

SMRLA Report

John Johnston

- I. John Johnston absent

Director's Report

- I. FY26 Budget
 - a. Substitute salary line at 96% - used many this year.
 - b. OPEB line – Carefirst has overbilled us for retirees and the county has been assisting us to get a refund from Carefirst.
 - c. Health clinic admin fees – partially paid for by FY25 health refund. Waiting on FY26 health refund for remaining amount.
 - d. Lexi electric and Hall electric are over-as expected
 - e. Accounting audit will be over due to Bolton report
- II. FY27 Budget Request Update
 - a. Budget hearing April 21st at 6pm at Chopticon High School
 - b. M Blackwell will be requesting a little more from the county to cover the SRA fees that are being moved from the state to the organizations and the new cost of the FAML I act. Also requesting additional funds for collections.
- III. Library Legislation—state and federal
 - a. Funding for public libraries is still in place.
 - b. Bill for library workers to strike did not pass



- c. Student Board member for Library Board is waiting to be signed – was modified that allows boards to have a student member but does not require it.
 - i. Add this discussion to May board agenda
- d. LSTA federal act – current federal budget eliminates this. Waiting to see what happens.
- e. Federal bill to ban books in schools has gone to a committee.
- IV. Charlotte Hall Renovation Update
 - a. First draft of a plan – still in discussion
 - b. Request Ashley Teagle attend July board meeting to discuss the SMRLA facilities study
- V. 300 Years of Black Cooking copyright: counter-proposal and printing ourselves
 - a. Prints are ready to go. SMNHA purchasing 200.
 - b. Teandra Thompson will purchase 200.
- VI. Library insurance update
 - a. In discussion with agent about the needs of liability and creating the FY26 inventory.
- VII. What's Happening in the Library
 - a. Friends of the Library Book Sale at the fairgrounds April 24-26
 - b. Ink Knows No Borders Poetry program-community read, free downloads for patrons
 - c. Donated UV lights installed at LEXI
 - d. STEAM Day at Patuxent Naval Museum
 - e. Leonardtown copy center mural being painted
 - f. Lego Block Party
 - g. PreK expo with SMCPs

President's Report

Sharon Fitzsimmons

- I. Approval of Monthly Expense Ledger: 03/01/2026 – 03/31/2026
 - a. Discussion:
 - i. S Fitzsimmons-Amazon high this month is that collection.
 - ii. B Lloyd-Mostly supply and program needs. Fluctuates month to month based on needs.
 - b. Motion: D Waters; Second: B Donaldson; Approved
- II. Credit Card Reconciliation

Old Trustee Business

Sharon Fitzsimmons

- I. Review and Revision of Library Board of Trustee Bylaws
 - a. C Stein - Page 6, Who determines who needs to know?
 - i. Trustees and Library staff would make the determination on who needs to know.
 - ii. Request to add "as determined by the Director and/or Board of Trustees"
 - b. Motion: B Donaldson; Second: R Waul; Approved
 - c. Additional changes
 - i. Take out questions, Do we use Robert rules? Do we submit to County Commissioners.
 - ii. Motion: B Donaldson; Second: D Waters; Approved

New Trustee Business

Sharon Fitzsimmons

- I. Request for Summer of 2026 Intern
 - a. Motion to allocate \$3700 to pay summer intern: C Stein; Second: R Waul; Approved
- II. Use of OPEB Funding for FY 2027 Budget
 - a. Discussion: Consider waiting to withdraw fund when the market is up.
 - b. Motion for \$50,000 into OPEB: B Donaldson; Second: C Stein; Approved.
 - c. Add to June agenda to rediscuss OPEB.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, May 14, 3:00 PM, Leonardtown
Dates to remember: April 21, Public County Budget Hearing