

## FLLS 66th ANNUAL MEETING IN REVIEW

The 66th Annual Meeting of the Finger Lakes Library System was held on Friday, October 18 at the new Ithaca Downtown Conference Center. Almost 100 library directors, staff and trustees joined us to learn, share ideas and network.

Three trustees were elected to the Finger Lakes Board.

- Stevan Knapp – At-Large trustee.
- Cynthia Mannino – Tompkins County trustee.
- Kristina Furi – Cortland County trustee

Their terms of office begin on January 1, 2025.

Our speaker, Matthew Burr, is a human resources and operational consultant, and the owner of Burr Consulting, LLC. His presentation, “Human Resources Basics for Directors and Trustees”, offered tips for onboarding new staff, how to make sure you are meeting HR compliance requirements, items for a library’s personnel manual, and how to make sure policies are up to date.



*Matt Burr answering HR questions posed by libraries.*

## SMART PROGRAM RISK MANAGEMENT



### When Topics Are Sensitive



**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2024**  
**10: 00 AM TO 11:30 AM**  
**VIRTUAL AND NOT RECORDED**

### LIBRARY PROGRAM CHALLENGES ARE REAL.

Come hear seasoned speakers address four challenge situations and the library’s preparation and response. You’ll leave with key strategies that will help build your library’s resistance to program challenges.

### FEATURED SPEAKERS

- GEOFF KIRKPATRICK, DIRECTOR  
MARK KISSINGER, BD PRESIDENT  
**BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY**
- SARA HOPKINS, DIRECTOR  
ALIX DUGGAN, BD PRESIDENT  
**BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY LIBRARY**
- BETH BERMEL, DIRECTOR  
**SCARSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY**
- ANNALEE DRAGON, EXEC. DIRECTOR  
**NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

### REGISTER HERE



Continuing education credit available upon request.

**Sponsored by the**  
**Chautauqua Cattaraugus,**  
**Finger Lakes, Mid York,**  
**Onondaga County, Upper**  
**Hudson, and Westchester**  
**Library Systems**

## Upcoming Workshop: Navigating Program Challenges

Books aren’t the only things challenged in libraries. Programming on sensitive topics has also drawn criticism. Hear how three NYS libraries navigated recent challenges to library and community sponsored programs.

While programming decisions are the responsibility of the director and staff, trustees should be aware of the library’s policies and their legal implications.

Hear a trustee from the Bethlehem Public Library discuss how their board handled two different challenges.

## Library Trustee Associations

Libraries in New York have several networks they can reach out to for guidance and resources. The Finger Lakes Library System is your library's local support. At the state level, the [Division of Library Development at the New York State Library](#) (DLD) offers guidance and oversight of all chartered libraries. FLLS works with the DLD on your library's behalf.

Professional organizations such as the American Library Association's [United for Libraries](#) and the [New York Library Association](#) (NYLA) have sections dedicated to different interests, including trustees.

Trustees are encouraged to consider joining [NYLA's Library Trustee Association Section](#) (LTAS). LTAS works to connect, educate, and recognize library trustees across the state.

New York State  
Library



United for Libraries  
Association of Library Trustees,  
Advocates, Friends and Foundations

A graphic element for the United for Libraries logo, consisting of a stylized blue book icon with several red stars of varying sizes floating above it.

### Upcoming Workshops

**Friday, November 22, 2024**

**10:00 am – 11:30 am**

Unlocking the Mysteries of Directors & Officers Insurance for Libraries, Museums and Other Cultural Organizations

Online | [REGISTER](#)

**Tuesday, December 10, 2024**

**10:00 to 11:30 am**

Smart Program Risk Management:  
When Topics Are Sensitive

*See full description on front page of newsletter*

Online | [REGISTER](#)

### Evergreen Resources:

#### Trustee Handbook Book Club Archive

The Mid-Hudson Library System archives sessions of this popular and informative program. <https://midhudson.org/trustee-handbook-book-club-archive/>

### Ask the Lawyer

Attorney Stephanie "Cole" Adams answers questions specific to libraries in the *Ask the Lawyer Service*, including copyright, labor rights, safety plans, service animals in the library, employee rights, and most recently, book challenges. Please check here for [Recently Asked Questions](#).

Missed a webinar? You can view [the recordings for past Ask The Lawyer webinars here](#).

*This service is offered by the South Central Regional Library Council in collaboration with the other nine councils comprising the Empire State Library Network. FLLS is a member of the South Central Regional Library Council.*

