

Friends of the South Coastal Library
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, April 26, 2024, 7:00PM
President's Report

Special: Is it possible there is anyone who doesn't know that our own Kathy Green was honored with the prestigious 2024 Governor's Volunteer Service Award in a Dover ceremony earlier this month? Let's give Kathy a red carpet welcome and Hip Hip Huzzah at our meeting this week. We are all so proud of Kathy and grateful for her deep knowledge of everything library in Delaware, and her stewardship of the Beach and Bay Cottage Tour.

Reminder: I ask that you please read all Board Reports prior to the meeting so that Committee Chairs and Officers can speak to the highlights, then respond to questions. No point (and no time) for anyone to read their reports or list their activities aloud. Much appreciated.

Also in the interest of avoiding run-on meetings, please take care not to repeat questions or points that have already been made, and remember that a comment should contribute to discussion rather than simply state your position or opinion. I understand this is very "Girl Boss" of me (age notwithstanding) but I trust you will appreciate it and forgive me when you get to go home at a reasonable hour. I need everyone's help to keep the meeting in bounds and if I can't achieve that then you should ditch me 😊

Board Nominations and Treasurer: Our Bylaws state that our Board must be no fewer than 11 members and no more than 19. We are currently 17, with Lisa Saxton, Steve Embrey and Connie Dierman completing their first of two possible terms, and Lawrence Mayer rotating off. Many thanks to all Board members who have spread the word, particularly Lisa S and Edie who have each brought us a well-qualified candidate for Treasurer. Fingers-crossed that we receive an application submission from BOTH of them!

Cottage Tour: Tickets went on sale April 1st. Woo hoo! The season is officially underway.

Friends of Delaware Libraries (FODL): The FODL annual meeting took place April 8, 2024 at the Georgetown Public Library. Presentation topics were on recruiting new board candidates and on developing and completing grant applications. There were some useful tips from this as I developed a FoSCL/School Partnerships presentation folder and worked with Lisa H and Kathy G on The Freeman FACES site visit. Great, big waves of kudos to Connie who QB-ed an application that got us through the first round. Likewise to Lisa S who made us look really, really good for our site visitor in so many ways, and Kathy G who always represents us with expertise and passion. This is so big for FOSCL!



ad hoc Development Committee: This group is on the move. In addition to the multiple new giving opportunities established for FoSCL, and the two grant applications developed and submitted, the group is closing on an agreement for a Cooking For A Cause event this Fall. I joined them for a meeting with Megan Allen, Marketing Manager & Jeffrey Osias, Chef & Owner from Difebo's to explore the idea. More on that from the ad hoc committee!

Advocacy: I sent a message on behalf of FOSCL in favor of Increasing Library Standards Funding for Delaware Libraries in FY2025.

<https://www.delawarelibrarychampions.org/statefunding>

The Delaware Council on Libraries made a case before the Joint Finance Committee to increase the Library Standards budget by \$2,255,000 for the fiscal year 2025. This boost will raise the Library Standards budget line to a much-needed \$8.5 million. Despite substantial capital improvements in our public library infrastructure over the past decade, state funding for library operations has not kept pace. This [discrepancy threatens to undermine](#) the value of our investments and limits the potential services that our libraries can offer. The proposed increase is [more than a number](#); it's about sustaining a thriving library system across all three counties. HB299, the Delaware Libraries for All Act, is about literacy, learning, and personal growth for all our neighbors.

FOSCL Identity Items: With the funding approved in the FY 2024 budget (\$1,680.00), we moved forward on a few of the FOSCL "identity" items: I updated the rack card and we have 2000 in the FoSCL office; Kathy G designed and ordered one logo tablecloth (we need a total of six for the 2024 in-person Tour homes and will also use them for the Book Sale, places we exhibit, etc.) and we now have plain white pocket folders with logo stickers for presentation meeting situations such as prospective Tour homeowner visits, grant applications and site visit, etc. Our opportunities have expanded, and we will need a budget supplement in order to replace the banners that hang in Bethany Beach during July, for the additional tablecloths to help Tour goers better understand the relationship between FoSCL and the Tour, for a retractable vertical banner to draw attention to our exhibit, and for the purchase of some small give-away FoSCL item(s) when we exhibit at places such as the Boardwalk Arts Festival, community events at nearby towns, etc.

Looking Ahead: Please take a look at the meeting schedule at the end of this report, add them to your calendar and make every effort to be with us. I know you do, and want to remind you how very much that is appreciated.

What to expect at the April meeting: Please let me know of any errors/ omissions noticed in this report. The Meeting Agenda follows this report in a separate email.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Calkins

2024 Meeting Schedule

(January - no Board meeting)

(February - no Board meeting)

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

(May - No Board Meeting)

Tuesday, June 25, 2024 (Nominations Meeting)

(July - No Meeting)

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 (Annual Meeting open to the public)

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 (New Board Member Orientation Meeting)

(November - No Meeting)

Monday, December 2, 2024 (Annual Budget Meeting) Please note the **MONDAY** date!

Parking Lot of Ideas for Future Discussion

- FOSCL Social Media Presence
- FOSCL Board Strategic planning meeting
- I am keeping a running list of bylaws corrections/additions for future attention. Please let me know if you notice anything. Thanks!
- Add additional Board Meeting to the calendar going forward