

**BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
POLICIES**

**SUBJECT: Board of Library Trustees Vacancies
Policy**

ORIGINAL DATE:	05/04/2022
BOLT Resolution #:	R22-025
REVISED DATE:	12/06/2023
BOLT Resolution #:	R23-056
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I. PURPOSE

Pursuant to Section 30 of the Charter of the City of Berkeley (the “Charter”), “five Library Trustees shall be appointed and may be removed by a vote of five members of the Council and one of such trustees must be appointed by the Council from its own members.”

When a Board of Library Trustees (“BOLT”) vacancy has occurred or is planned to occur, the Board of Library Trustees can assist the City Council by facilitating a nomination process. This policy enumerates that process.

II. POLICY

- A. **Ad-hoc Trustee Nominating Sub-committee** - When a BOLT vacancy has occurred or is planned to occur, the President of BOLT will appoint an ad hoc trustee nominating sub-committee to identify candidates. The Library Director as Secretary to BOLT will assist the sub-committee.
- B. **Candidate Search Objectives** - The sub-committee’s purpose will be to ensure that nominations are inclusive and broadly represents the diverse perspectives of the community. The sub-committee will seek candidates with varied backgrounds, knowledge, abilities, expertise, and networks that can advance the Mission and Vision of the Library. The search objectives include finding candidates able to carry out the trustee role, functions, and duties, as described in the BOLT Bylaws.
- C. **Search Process** - The sub-committee will convene to take account of current BOLT needs and to schedule the process for its purposes. The process will include the creation and posting of a vacancy announcement, the application period, the review of candidates, the recommendation to BOLT, and action taken by BOLT.
- D. **Vacancy Announcement** - The sub-committee will write an announcement that BOLT is seeking interested parties, including the requirements thereof, the manner and form of applying, and the due date for submission of applications; the sub-committee, working with the Library Director and the City, and with the approval of BOLT, will advertise the call for interest.
- E. **Application Procedure** - For consideration, any applicant must be a resident of the City of Berkeley, California. Applicants must submit a resume and a supplemental statement of interest that addresses questions or topics enumerated by the ad hoc trustee nominating sub-committee.

- F. **Review of Candidates** - The sub-committee will review each application based on the applicant's submitted information. The purpose of the review is to identify nominees that meet the search objectives, will be able to carry out the duties and functions of the Trustee as stated in the Bylaws, will advance the Vision and Mission of the Library, and will be a resource for collaboration and partnerships on behalf of the Library.
- G. **Nominations** – The sub-committee will provide a summary of its process, evaluation, and recommendation of no more than five candidates to be interviewed by BOLT for action and furtherance to the Council. The vote on candidates for nomination will take place at the meeting following the meeting during which the candidates are interviewed. A recommendation from the ad hoc trustee nominating sub-committee or the full Board is not binding.


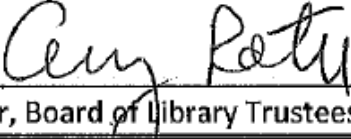
In the event that BOLT votes on multiple candidates, the voting will proceed as follows:

1. The President calls for nominations for the Trustee vacancy. Every Board member has the opportunity to share their nomination for the vacancy at this time, in the beginning of the process. No one is required to make a nomination.
2. A random voting order for each name is established.
3. Each Trustee receives one vote per round.
4. When each name is called, Trustees may vote yes, no, or abstain.
5. Any candidate that receives three votes will be the nominee for the BOLT vacancy that will be submitted to City Council.
6. The candidates that follow the candidate having received three votes will not be the nominee.
7. If no one receives a majority of the votes, the President will call for nominations for a second round.
8. A random voting order for each name will be established again.
9. The process will continue until a candidate receives a majority (three) of the votes.

If BOLT is voting on a motion to nominate a single candidate, the standard procedures to vote on a motion will be followed.

- H. **Inability to Serve** - Should the recommended nominee be unable to serve, BOLT will follow the following procedure:
1. The President appoints a new nomination subcommittee
 2. Staff sends a letter to all current applicants (or a specific subset) and asks if they would like to be considered again, due to the change in the original recommendation
 3. The new Subcommittee reviews the applicants still in the pool, and either:
 - a. Recommends up to five for consideration by the full board - OR -
 - b. Recommends that a new process be initiated, that would allow both past applicants, and new applicants, to participate

- 4. On the basis of the recommendation by the subcommittee, the staff either coordinates interviews for the next possible BOLT meeting, schedules a special meeting to conduct interviews, or reinitiates the recruitment process from the beginning.

Reviewed by:		12/12/23
	Director of Library Services	Date
Approved by:		12/12/23
	Chair, Board of Library Trustees	Date