



## LEAD THE LIBRARY INTO THE FUTURE; FOUR SEATS ON FRVPLD BOARD ARE UP FOR ELECTION

Library supporters who want to have a direct impact on the future of the Fox River Valley Public Library District are encouraged to run for a position on the Board of Trustees in the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election.

FRVPLD is at a crossroads. There are 340 library districts in the state of Illinois. FRVPLD is the seventh largest in population served but ranks only #313 in square feet per capita. The Dundee Library provides 30,000 square feet, with an additional 5,000 square feet at the Randall Oaks Library, a space leased from the Dundee Township Park District since 2012 that was meant to be a temporary solution to providing service to residents on the far west side of the district.

In November 2016, the library attempted to plan for an expansion of the Dundee Library location, as well as construction of a permanent library on the west side of the Fox River. However, the referendum to increase the PTELL limiting rate from 21 cents to 42 cents was defeated, making it the sixth failed attempt at a new tax-supported library building in the library's 150-year history. Voters in the district have never passed a library referendum that required tax-support.

In 2019, the library conducted a "Planning for the Future" survey which asked the public to rank four service options in order of preference. The results showed that two libraries (one on either side of the district) was the number one preferred option. The comments section of the survey was filled with suggestions that the library investigate the viability of the abandoned Dominick's building on Randall Road in Carpentersville. After dialog with the building's representatives, the board deemed the property too costly to pursue further.

With no viable plans to present to the public via a referendum in 2020 or 2021, FRVPLD must once again go back to the drawing board and come up with a plan to provide the best service possible. A Dundee Library renovation, extension of the Randall Oaks lease, and further consideration of a new building are all on the table.

Residents who would like to be part of that plan are encouraged to pick up an information packet at the Dundee Library which contains important dates, state guidelines, and blank forms. Trustees must reside in the Library District, and FRVPLD welcomes candidates who represent the diversity of the community. To run for a library trustee position, the state requires a minimum of 50 signatures from voters in the Library District. Please email [admin@frvpld.info](mailto:admin@frvpld.info) to arrange pick up of the packet.

The nominating petitions can now be circulated and must be filed December 14-21, 2020. Term of office is four years. By Illinois law, Library District Trustees serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed from district funds for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of duties.

Responsibilities include:

- Prepare for and attend monthly board meetings and ensure that accurate records are maintained. Review and approve annual budgets, appropriation, and tax levy.
- Establish and revise library policies.
- Provide the greatest benefit possible to the greatest number of library district residents and taxpayers.
- Conduct long range planning for library services in the context of established standards of service.
- Oversee maintenance of library facilities and plan for replacement or expansion as needed.
- Comply with all federal, state, and local laws pertaining to library districts and their officials.