

Nominations & Elections Committee

Monday, April 28, 2025 | 1:30pm

1. Roll Call

- ✓ Janet Schnitzer, Chair (C)
- ✓ Kenneth Goldberg (U)
- Barbara Swanson (G)
- ✓ Carla Taylor (P)
- ✓ Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (Staff Liaison)

2. Chair's Comments

- 3. The Committee reviewed its charge and recommends no changes:** *"Presents, at the September meeting, a slate of Executive Committee members for the following year's board of trustees. The officers are elected at the December meeting. The Chair of this committee will also prepare and conduct the election of trustees at the annual meeting. The committee upholds the MHLS core values of equity, diversity, and inclusion in its work. The committee is preferably comprised of a representative from each county."*

- 4. The Committee reviewed the [Board Election Timeline and Process](#) and recommended no changes.**

- a. All county chairs have been notified of upcoming vacancies on the MHLS Board and the intentions of those trustees eligible to run again for open seats.
- b. By mid-May a memo will go out under the Nominations & Elections Committee chair's name to all member library directors and board presidents in counties with a planned vacancy with a request to send their county's nominee to Rebekkah by mid-July.
- c. 2025 Seats
 - i. Planned:
 - 1. COLUMBIA: Jill Leinung – eligible for one more 5-year term
 - 2. DUTCHESS: Barry Ramage – not eligible for another term
 - 3. GREENE: Barbara Swanson – eligible for two more 5-year terms
- d. The Committee reviewed the two handouts that go with the memo: Trustee Information, a description of the role and responsibilities of system trustees and "Achieving Diversity on the Board of the Mid-Hudson Library System" to help encourage nominees that represent the demographics of each county adequately.

- 5. The committee reviewed the timeline and procedures for board officer nominations and confirmed the following timeline and procedures for this year:**

- a. Committee Chair reviews term limits of current officers and speaks to each eligible officer to gauge their interest in continuing on in their role;
- b. Committee Chair emails an open call for nominations including self-nominations for all Board Officer positions at the May meeting;
- c. Nominations due to Committee Chair by the July board meeting: July 18, 2025
- d. Post-July 18: Meeting of the Nominations & Elections Committee to select and recommend Board Officers

- e. August: Committee Chair confirms candidates selected by the Committee agree to serve if elected
- f. September Board Meeting: Committee proposes 2026 slate of Board Officers to MHLS Board
 - i. After the nominating committee has presented its report and before voting for the different offices takes place, the chair must call for further nominations from the floor...nominations from the floor are called for immediately after the presentation of the nominating committee's report – while the election is pending or earlier."
 - ii. The sample wording provided goes position by position:
 - 1. "CHAIR: For President, Ms. A is nominated by the Nominating Committee. Are there any further nominations for President? [If a member nominates another person, the chair repeats the name of that nominee.] Mr. B is nominated. Are there any further nominations? [PAUSE] If not [PAUSE] nominations are closed."
 - 2. After the President formally closes nominations, it would take a majority vote of the board to reopen them.
 - iii. December Board Meeting: MHLS Board elects 2026 Board Officers

The meeting was adjourned at 1:51pm.