

## Edith B. Ford Memorial Library

### TRUSTEE ORIENTATION & CONTINUING EDUCATION POLICY

The Board of Trustees of the Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, Ovid will adhere to the document:

**Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State, 2016 edition**  
<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/trustees/handbook/index.html>

From the Preface:

“Library trustees play a special, keenly important role in shepherding the dedicated and prudent use of library resources. Always striving to provide the best service which benefits and supports the entire community, trustees must make policy, personnel and fiscal decisions crucial to a positive direction for the library. While delegating the day-to-day activities to competent staff, the library trustees must always be mindful of how their decisions impact the lives of people and the future of their community.

Library trustees are responsible to the library and to the public it serves. Trustees must fulfill the duties commonly referred to as “care, loyalty, and obedience” and must be tireless advocates for improving library services. Forward-looking, informed trustees are needed to guide their libraries in the Information Age. Reinforcing the traditional services of libraries and welcoming the new, expanded opportunities of broadband internet access, trustees must position their libraries as essential and vital resources for individual and community success.”

Bernard A. Margolis, State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries, 2010

To orient new Trustees and provide continuing education to continuing trustees, the Executive Committee will provide:

- 1) An orientation for new Trustees in February of each year.
- 2) Continuing Education at a minimum of 4 regular board meetings throughout the year.

All Trustees are also encouraged to attend relevant trainings and workshops at the Finger Lakes Library System, the Library Trustees Association of New York State (LTA), and from local, state, and national organizations which provide continuing education for Library Trustees.