



April 17, 2026

Melissa Cordeiro, Town Clerk
Town of Bristol, Rhode Island
10 Court St
Bristol, RI 02809

Dear Ms. Cordeiro:

At our regularly scheduled monthly meeting on April 16, 2026, the Board of Trustees of the Rogers Free Library voted to recommend the following candidate for appointment to complete and fill the term for one vacant Board positions. The candidate is recommended based on criteria and interviews by the Trustees. The selection committee interviewed two candidates for the vacant seat.

The candidates were Kaitlyn Carmody and Christina (Tina) Palmer

Both candidates would make excellent trustees and the committee put a lot of thought into the order of recommendation.

Both candidates:

- Have legal experience which is something we don't have on the board currently.
- Are familiar with the library
- Are willing to serve on any committee that needs them.

Kaitlyn was very thoughtful with her answers and wants to observe and learn. She brought an interesting young parent perspective to her interview and with her questions for the committee. Tina was very articulate and prepared and is very involved with Library adjacent projects.

The committee is endorsing Kaitlyn Carmody as their first choice because she fills a demographic that we don't currently have. Specifically, a young parent with young children. While Tina is a strong candidate the demographic she fills is already present on the board.

The vetting of candidates was conducted by a committee of three Trustees: Marie Knapman (chair), Samantha Faria and Cara Cromwell.. Attached are the selection criteria and conflict of interest approach used by the committee

We ask you to make your appointment expeditiously, hopefully, at the May Town Council meeting so we may restore our Board to its full complement of seven members as quickly as possible.

We would be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Silvia
Chair, Board of Trustees
Rogers Free Library
525 Hope St., Bristol, RI 02809
asilvia@rogersfreelibrary.org

cc: Mary Parella, Town Council/Library Liaison
Marie Chapman: Chair, RFL Selection Committee

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**TRUSTEE SELECTION CRITERIA,
EVALUATION RUBRIC,
AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST APPROACH
TRUSTEE SELECTION COMMITTEE
ROGERS FREE LIBRARY
April 2026**

Selection Criteria

- 1) Knowledge of/experience with Rogers Free Library
- 2) Capacity (i.e., time) and commitment
- 3) Potential to strengthen and balance the board: talents, field of expertise and ability to represent/reflect the Bristol community

Evaluation and Scoring Rubric

Points (per criterion)

Yes: 4 Points

No: 0 Points

Maybe: 2 Points

Maximum points: 12

Conflicts of Interest: Approach and Discussion

We agreed to disclose to each other any potential conflict of interest such as a family or business relationship or friendship. We also disclosed whether we had recruited an applicant in response to the board chair's request to all trustees, and we agreed that recruitment, if disclosed, did not pose a barrier, given the chair's charge to build an applicant pool. We then went applicant by applicant to mention any of the above relationships.