

Whipple Free Library Alternative Trustee Policy

The NH General Court and the Whipple Free Library Board of Trustees recognize that occasional conflicts will occur to prevent an elected Trustee from attending a meeting of the Board. For this reason, up to three (3) Alternate Trustees may be appointed to the Board for continuity and stability of process (per RSA 202-A:10).

Purpose

An Alternate Trustee is a resident of New Boston who is officially appointed to serve by the Select Board, upon being recommended by the Trustees, for a one-year term. An Alternate Trustee has the same powers to attend and speak at all regular meetings as the elected and appointed Trustees.

Policy

Alternate Trustees do not vote except in the absence of a quorum (4 members present). If two or more Alternates are present, the most senior one will vote. Alternates are excused from all non-public sessions for confidentiality reasons.

An individual interested in an Alternate Trustee appointment is best served, and best able to serve the library, when fully informed of the parameters of the work of the Board of Trustees. To this end the Board of Trustees may require applicants to submit a completed questionnaire and attend three (3) consecutive Board meetings before being recommended to the Select Board for appointment.

Until the Alternate Trustee candidate has been appointed by the Select Board and sworn into office by the Town Clerk, candidates are considered members of the public and abide by those constraints.

Once appointed, the Alternate Trustee is expected to attend all Board meetings. If an Alternate board member misses three (3) consecutive Board meetings, they will be removed. The Alternate will be placed on all Board email distributions and is strongly encouraged to read all emails and correspondence to stay abreast of ongoing Board business. Alternate Trustees are encouraged to serve on committees of the Board where they have the same duties and rights as elected or appointed Trustees.