

## **BARRINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY Public Comment at Trustee Meetings Policy**

In accordance with RSA 91-A, also known as the Right to Know law, all Barrington Public Library Board of Trustee meetings where a quorum of the Board will discuss public business are open to the public.

The Board of Trustees, as part of its agenda, will provide time at each regular monthly meeting for comments from the public. The right of the public to attend a public meeting, however, does not include the right to participate in the meeting or address individual Trustees.

Speakers must be residents of the Town of Barrington, property owners in the Town of Barrington, and/or designated representatives of recognized civic organizations or businesses located in the Town of Barrington.

Each speaker shall be provided a single opportunity for comment, limited to three (3) minutes. The Public Comment portion of the agenda shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes.

In order to provide a fair opportunity to every person that desires to address the Board of Trustees, the following guidelines apply to public comments during Trustee meetings:

- All comments must pertain to the Barrington Public Library.
- All comments shall be made with civility and courtesy.
- All speakers will be asked to begin by stating their name and address.
- All comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole. Speakers are not to address nor engage in dialogue with any individual Trustee during the Public Comment period.

The Board of Trustees cannot answer specific questions in dialogue format. No action shall be taken during this portion of the meeting on issues raised by the public unless deemed an emergency by the Board. **The Board may or may not respond to or act upon comments during the meeting or in the future at its discretion.**

The public is not normally invited to participate or contribute to the discussion or business on the agenda of a Board meeting. However, a person may be invited by the Board (ahead of time or spontaneously) to speak, make a presentation, or in some other way provide information to the Board.