

Trustee Bios

Ann Axtell - I'm Annie Axtell and I'm asking to be considered for my first term as Trustee for the Lansing Community Library. I am a strong believer in the transformational power of books and reading, and of the importance of libraries in building strong communities. When my husband Aaron and I bought our house in Lansing in 2008, one of the first places I visited was the Lansing Community Library, and I've been a regular patron ever since.

My husband Aaron and I are graduates of the ESF-NYS Ranger School, and together own Cascadilla Tree Care. Cascadilla Tree Care has sponsored the Summer Reading Program at the Lansing Town Library since 2016. We are also a sponsor of the Lansing Theater and Performing Arts Booster Club (LTAPA) and the Lighthouse 5K. Individually, I am on the book fair committee at RC Buckley Elementary, and have volunteered as a coach for my sons' baseball and soccer teams.

I am excited to do what I can to help the Lansing Community Library as it continues to grow and find new ways to serve our community over the next few years. Thank you for your consideration.

David Dier - In 2007, I became a homeowner in Lansing where I spent weekends and holidays and then moved permanently to that home in 2019.

Since 1985 I have served on nine volunteer boards. Those boards began with United Way and most recently with FoodNet Meals on Wheels where I was Chair of the Board for 3 years, navigating the Pandemic and change in Executive Director. For five of those boards, I served as treasurer.

Professionally, I am a semi-retired accountant and worked in corporate accounting from 1980 through 2002 in the Ithaca and Boston areas. From 2002 through 2019 I was partner in the William Henry Miller Inn in downtown Ithaca (doing everything from the books to baking all of our breads!) Since 2019 I have worked parttime as a bookkeeper for three local not for profit entities.

I have been a fan of the Lansing Library since at least 2007. The staff is always welcoming! I am an avid reader, so this library is my 'go to' place. I believe in the value of local libraries (growing up in a very small town in northern New York, the librarian was always looking for books that would interest me) and want to do my part to keep our library vibrant.

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Margaret Shackell - I am an associate professor of accounting at Ithaca College. In tenth grade, I knew that I wanted to be an accounting professor, so I am living my high school dream. I earned my Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1999. My husband, Glen, and I raised our three kids in Lansing, and we have been an active part of the community since we arrived over 16 years ago. I have previously been on the boards of the Hangar Theatre, LTAPA, PTSO, Sports Boosters, and the CDC. I am currently on the session (i.e., governing body) of the First Presbyterian Church in Ithaca. I would like to be on the library board because I believe that literacy is vital to success and a gathering place is vital to community.