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**From:** Caroline Mandler <[cmandler@wiltonlibrary.org](mailto:cmandler@wiltonlibrary.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 11:10 AM  
**To:** Vanderslice, Lynne  
**Cc:** Carol Johnson  
**Subject:** Public-Private Partnership Proposal & 12/19 Meeting

**CAREFUL** - From outside - CHECK before you CLICK.

Dear Lynne,

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, thank you for inviting us to attend the Board of Selectmen meeting on Tuesday, December 19th.

At this meeting we plan to review the most recent Library financials (as of 11/30/23) and present our proposed changes to the Public-Private Partnership. A summary and our rationale for these changes is below, and we also explain in greater detail on the 19th.

In January 2023, Wilton Library completed a [Strategic Plan for 2023-2026](#). One of the objectives in the plan centered around Governance, and specifically how to "Streamline the Board's work to capitalize on the time and talent of its committed members."

As part of this objective, we researched current best practices around board governance and conducted a peer scan of 10 neighboring libraries and nonprofits to determine factors such as size of the Board, meetings per year, number of committees and types of committees, attendance expectations, and the Board's role in fundraising.

The end result culminated in several key changes for the Library Board as a whole, including:

- 6 vs. 10 full Board meetings
- A range of 20-24 trustees rather than a fixed number of 24
- 5 committees vs. 11
- A more intentionally-structured executive committee - still 7 members - but now composed of the 4 officers and 3 additional committee chairs
- Clearer definition of roles and responsibilities of trustees facilitating the nomination process, onboarding and engagement
- A repositioning of Board responsibilities to focus on fundraising, therefore strengthening our contribution to the private side of the public/private partnership

For the Public-Private Partnership, the following changes are proposed:

- A range of 3-4 Board of Selectmen appointees total vs. 6
- 1 BOS appointee serving on the executive committee vs. 3

- A way to include the Library in the nomination process of BOS appointees, so that we may approve the candidates according to the same process as our other trustees

Thank you for considering our proposal. We look forward to presenting on December 19th, and are happy to provide additional information and answer any questions before that time as well.

Caroline

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