



THE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 15, 2025
10:30 a.m. | 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219

Board Members Attending: Malfourd “Bo” Trumbo (Chair), Chris Braunlich, Peter Broadbent Jr., C. Paul Brockwell Jr., Robert Canida II, Chelle Davis, Kim Dove, Carol Finerty, Betsy Fowler (Vice Chair), Samuel Hayes III, Shelley Murphy, Mary Prentice, and Blythe Scott

Board Members Absent: Preston Bryant Jr. and Suzette Denslow

LVA Staff Attending: Dennis T. Clark, Librarian of Virginia; Daniel Hinderliter, Chief Operating Officer; Greg Crawford, State Archivist and Director of Government Records; Angela Flagg, Chief Communications Officer; Cindy Church, Interim Chief of Library Development; Sarah Falls, Chief of Researcher Engagement; Tracy Molnar, Executive Assistant to the Librarian; Dale Neighbors, Visual Studies Collection Coordinator; Roger Chrisman, Governors’ Records Archivist; Abigail Gump, Assistant Attorney General and Board Counsel

LVA Foundation Board and Staff Attending: Scott Dodson, Executive Director and Pia Trigiani, Board President

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Trumbo, board chair, called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and conducted a roll call.

Betsy Fowler – present	Suzette Denslow – absent
Chris Braunlich – present	Kim Dove – present
Paul Brockwell – present	Carol Finerty – present
Peter Broadbent - present	Sam Hayes – present
Preston Bryant – absent	Shelley Murphy – present
Robert Canida – absent	Mary Prentice – present
Chelle Davis – present	Blythe Scott – present

He welcomed the board’s new members and noted the presence of a quorum.

2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes:** Mr. Trumbo introduced the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes from an electronic meeting on 18 July 2025. He acknowledged that Robert Canida joined the board meeting via telephone and formed a quorum of the Executive Committee for the purpose of approving the committee meeting minutes. Mr. Brockwell moved to approve the committee meeting minutes, and Ms. Fowler seconded. The Executive Committee meeting minutes were unanimously approved. Next Mr. Trumbo asked for approval of the board meeting minutes from Monday, 23 June 2025. Mr. Canida moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Davis seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. New board members, Mr. Braunlich and Ms. Dove, abstained. Mr. Canida left the meeting.
3. **Consent Agenda:** Chair Trumbo asked for approval of the 2025-2026 slate of committees. Hearing no questions or concerns, Ms. Scott motioned, and Ms. Murphy seconded. The board slates were unanimously approved.
4. **Report from Partner Organizations:** Conley Edwards, president of the Friends of the Virginia State Archives, provided a brief report on the activities of the Friends. He noted that 25th Annual Richard Slatten Lecture series will be held on 8 November and former board member, Barbara Little, will be the key speaker.
5. **Presentation by Angela Flagg, Chief of Marketing & Communications:** Ms Flagg shared an overview of the team’s success in maintaining consistent visibility among earned media and increased reach

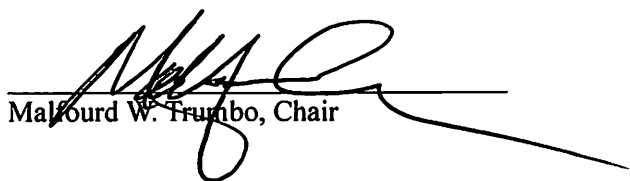
through organic social media. The Library saw increased followers on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Threads. The Library also expanded its reach through paid social media.


6. Committee/Division Reports:

- a) **Archival, Collections, and Records Management Services Committee:** Greg Crawford provided updates on the work of the Government Records Services Division including the use of Microsoft Purview to ensure a smooth and accurate appraisal of Governor Younkin's electronic records as they transfer to the Library. He shared details of the 4th Floor Storage Project funded by a \$350,000 NEH grant to replace cantilever bookshelves with archival shelving, nearly doubling storage capacity and improving long-term preservation outcomes. In closing, he noted the Virginia Untold project continues to digitize and index Free Black registers from across the commonwealth. Its work receives strong support for expanding access and strengthening preservation of these historic documents.
- b) **Legislative and Finance Committee:** Dan Hinderliter, Chief Operations Officer, provided an overview of the Library's financial condition and recent expenditures.
- i. He outlined the impact of recent directives from the Finance Secretariat to stop payment of expenditures over \$50,000 and to suspend prepayments to other state agencies. This policy change resulted in \$1.7 mil unspent funds returned to the administration from the Library budget. Positive discussions with the Department of Planning & Budget offer hope that the funds will be returned to the Library for use in the upcoming fiscal year.
 - ii. Mr. Hinderliter reminded the board that the Library uses Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) funds for economy-of-scale purchases like subscriptions and to partially fund several support positions. The LSTA budget is governed by a Five-Year Plan approved by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal agency. Chair Trumbo noted that the LSTA budget came to the full board with the committee's recommendation to approve, therefore no motion is necessary. The Board approved the LSTA budget.
 - iii. Finally, he shared the Library's upcoming Decision Packages (One time Budget Requests) including
 - AI for Records Redaction – processing governor's records
 - Library Specialist Pay Realignment – realignment with similar institutions
 - IT Staffing Requirements - addressing single points of failure
- c) **Public Library Development Committee:** Ms. Cindy Church, the acting chief of the Public Library Development Branch, provided a detailed update on the activities of Virginia's public libraries. She reported that data collected through the Bibliostat system showed significant growth, with library visits surpassing two million in the past year and digital borrowing continuing to rise. Although statewide broadband access is expanding, she noted that public libraries remain an essential source of internet connectivity for many communities. Emphasizing the importance of public awareness, Church introduced a new brochure highlighting the broad range of library services, such as meeting spaces, Wi-Fi access, and hotspot lending.
- d) **Researcher & Public Engagement Committee:** Sarah Falls, Chief of Researcher Engagement, reported committee members discussed strategic goals, program updates, and upcoming events related to the VA 250 commemoration. Key topics included the use of legislative petitions in exhibitions and programming, signature events such as the Battle of Great Bridge, and new ideas like developing annual Constitution Day programs leading up to 2031. She highlighted the upcoming VA 250 exhibition in partnership with Old Dominion University, where student artists are creating works inspired by legislative petitions. This collaboration is seen as a model for future higher education partnerships and regional outreach efforts. The committee also reviewed the popular VA 250 booklets, with a second run planned for broader distribution through libraries and higher education institutions. Finally, Ms. Falls emphasized the importance of expanding structured internships and continuing to build strong educational and regional collaborations to support public engagement.

e) **Library of Virginia Foundation:** Pia Trigiani, Foundation Board President, described the history and progress of the Foundation, a separate 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting the Library. She was followed by Executive Director Scott Dodson who reported strong fundraising and outreach efforts. He announced over \$630,000 has been raised this year, with investments exceeding \$8 million and the capital campaign for renovations at 44% of its five-year goal. Key activities include the sold-out Literary Awards Gala, a \$16,000 silent auction, and the Mary Lynn Kotz Award for Literature honoring Deborah Parker. The Foundation continues to support Library programs, statewide engagement, and preservation initiatives.

7. **Report of the Librarian:** Mr. Clark reported that the Library of Virginia receives about \$4.3 million annually through the IMLS Grants to States program, representing 16 percent of its budget and providing stable funding for statewide library services through FY25–26. Leadership updates included the hiring of Scott Weingarten as Chief Technology Officer, ongoing recruitment for the Chief of Library Development, and a national search to fill the Deputy State Librarian for Collections and Archives position. Construction on the State Records Center expansion is on schedule and within budget, adding 32 miles of high-density shelving with advanced retrieval systems, and discussions continue with VCU and other universities about housing portions of their collections there. Renovation planning is also progressing, with an architectural firm selected and the project scope expanded to include the fifth floor, enabling greater flexibility for public engagement; a budget request will go to the General Assembly in FY26.
8. **Report of the Chair/Executive Committee:** Chair Trumbo reported the Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Library Board pursuant to its bylaws, voted to award an honorary degree of letters to composer, baritone, and conductor Damien Jeter. Mr. Jeter was recognized for his significant contributions to Virginia’s cultural life, including his work on the opera *Loving v. Virginia*, commissioned by the Richmond Symphony and Virginia Opera, as well as his two-year tenure as artist-in-residence with the Richmond Symphony. The Board also adopted a resolution commending former Chair C. Paul Brockwell, Jr., for his outstanding service to the Library. The full text was read to the board and is recorded in the minutes as an addendum.
9. **Old or New Business:** Hearing no further business, Chair Trumbo asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Murphy motioned, and Mr. Bryant seconded. The meeting concluded with a unanimous motion to adjourn.

Chair: 
Malfourd W. Trumbo, Chair

Secretary: 
Dennis T. Clark, Librarian of Virginia

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, MINUTES ADDENDUM: RESOLUTIONS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

A COMMENDING RESOLUTION OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Honoring the Outstanding Contributions of C. Paul Brockwell Jr.

WHEREAS C. Paul Brockwell Jr. was appointed to a five-year term on the Library Board in 2018 by Governor Ralph S. Northam and reappointed to the Board by Governor Glenn Youngkin in 2023; and

WHEREAS since his appointment Mr. Brockwell has been an active and hardworking member of the Board and has provided his Board colleagues and Library staff with excellent advice based on his experience within state government, his work with the MCV Foundation, and his volunteer service with several other community and cultural organizations; and

WHEREAS during his tenure Mr. Brockwell has served on all four of the Board's standing committees as well as the Nominating, Bylaws, and Executive Committees and represented the Library Board on the Library of Virginia Foundation Board from 2020 to 2025; and

WHEREAS Mr. Brockwell was elected vice chair of the Library Board by his peers in June 2021 and elected chair of the Board in June 2022 and re-elected for two additional terms, serving as chair through June 30, 2025; and


WHEREAS as chair Mr. Brockwell provided guidance and leadership on a variety of important issues, revitalized the honorary Patron of Letters degree as an annual award, and supported a robust series of events commemorating the Library's 200th anniversary; and

WHEREAS as chair Mr. Brockwell led the Board through a successful national search to hire the 10th Librarian of Virginia, filling the position with a highly accomplished leader with the vision to move the Library forward in its third century; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Library Board on this 15th day of September 2025 that the Library Board recognize and thank C. Paul Brockwell Jr. for his dedicated and thoughtful leadership of the Library Board and for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and that a copy of it be given to C. Paul Brockwell Jr. as a token of the Board's gratitude for his service to the Library and to the Commonwealth of Virginia.


MALFOURD TRUNIBO
CHAIR


DENNIS T. CLARK
LIBRARIAN OF VIRGINIA



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

A Resolution of The Library Board of the Library of Virginia

WHEREAS Section 42.1-3.1 of the Code of Virginia authorizes The Library Board to confer an honorary Patron of Letters degree upon any individual who, in the Board’s opinion, has made an outstanding contribution in the realms of arts, history, humanities, or information, library, or archival science; and

WHEREAS Damien Geter was born in Petersburg, Virginia, raised in Chesterfield County, and graduated from Matoaca High School in 1998; received his bachelor’s degree in music education from Old Dominion University in Norfolk in 2002; and earned his Master of Music degree in conducting from Indiana State University in 2004; and

WHEREAS Mr. Geter is a celebrated bass-baritone, known for his rolling, resonant voice, with recent performances including his commanding Metropolitan Opera debut in the Grammy Award–winning production of *Porgy and Bess*; portraying abolitionist and historian William Still in Paul Moravec’s oratorio *Sanctuary Road* with Virginia Opera; and performing the title role in the world premiere of Errollyn Wallen’s *Quamino’s Map* with Chicago Opera Theatre; and

WHEREAS as a conductor, Mr. Geter has led performances of opera and oratorio with Portland Opera, as well as appearances with Symphony New Hampshire, the Carmel Symphony, and the Redlands Symphony, and, in 2025, was named Music Director of Portland Opera; and

WHEREAS Mr. Geter is an acclaimed American composer whose rapidly expanding body of work includes chamber, orchestral, and operatic compositions, and who currently serves as Composer-in-Residence with the Richmond Symphony Orchestra, among many other honors; and

WHEREAS Mr. Geter was commissioned by Virginia Opera and the Richmond Symphony to compose the score for Jessica Murphy Moo’s libretto *Loving v. Virginia*, which set as opera the saga of Richard and Mildred Loving that culminated in the 1967 Supreme Court decision prohibiting laws against interracial marriage, and which has been hailed as “nothing short of a masterpiece” and “one of the most important operas of the decade”; and

WHEREAS Mr. Geter’s distinguished work as a composer, performer, and conductor has advanced music as a vital part of American culture, and his creation of new musical works that blend diverse genres and voices powerfully reflects the complexity, richness, and dynamism of contemporary society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Library Board on this 15th day of September 2025, that The Library Board hereby recognizes Damien Geter’s outstanding contributions to the arts by conferring upon him the honorary Patron of Letters degree; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and that the Patron of Letters degree be presented to Damien Geter by The Library Board at the Library’s annual Virginia Literary Awards Celebration on September 20, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Trumbo', written over a horizontal line.

MALEOURD TRUMBO
CHAIR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Clark', written over a horizontal line.

DENNIS T. CLARK
LIBRARIAN OF VIRGINIA