



Public Comment

Last modified JANUARY 17 2024

Meetings of the Rowan County Public Library (“the Library”) Board of Trustees are open to the public. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, any person may attend any meeting where a quorum of the Board will discuss public business. No person attending or addressing a meeting of the Board shall be required to provide personal information in excess of their legal name.

Although the right to attend a public meeting under the Open Meetings Act does not include the right to participate in or address a meeting of the Board, the Library recognizes the importance of public input. As part of its agenda, the Board may provide a period for public comment. Members of the public may address the Board only within the period of time indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board.

Comments by members of the public are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, which period shall be provided on a first come, first served basis and may be adjusted to accommodate the interval scheduled for the meeting, at the discretion of the Board. Members of the public wishing to speak are required to sign in upon arrival and make a note of the topic they intend to discuss. In any case of multiple speakers, the Board may assign numbers to maintain order, based upon topic and/or the sequence of arrival by the speakers. The Board has the authority to oversee the decorous conduct of comments by the public, including, but not limited to, extending or shortening the period of time allotted to and/or the arrangement of speakers, individually or as a group.

Public commentary must pertain to issues relevant to the Library, and should not be directed toward individual or specific members of the Board. Comments may not include language generally considered or which may reasonably be deemed offensive, harassing, threatening, or profane/vulgar. The Board retains and reserves the right to maintain order by methods including, but not limited to, the stoppage of commentary that is disruptive and/or unrelated to Library business.

Public commentary is an opportunity for community members to offer input, but is not a dialogue with members of the Board. Neither the Library nor the Board of Trustees makes any guarantee that matters brought forth by any person(s) in this fashion will be addressed by the Board. The Board may, at their discretion, refer any item raised during public comment to the Executive Director of the Library for further review or action.