



# BPL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

*Ben Bradlee Jr, Committee Chair*

*4.13.22*

Members of the Public may sign up for Public Comment via the CHAT by 9:00 a.m.  
Comments left in the chat will not be acknowledged. written comments may be submitted to the Clerk of the Board, [pcarver@bpl.org](mailto:pcarver@bpl.org)

# BPL OPENING STATEMENT

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The Trustees of The Boston Public Library reaffirm our commitment to racial equity and to principles of diversity equity and inclusion, more broadly.

The Library is formally committed to becoming an anti-racist organization in response to systemic racism, inequity, and injustice prevalent in our society.

We acknowledge also that the Boston Public Library's Central Library stands on land that was once a water-based ecosystem providing sustenance for the indigenous Massachusetts people *and is a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange among nations*. We are committed to land acknowledgements for all locations at which we operate.

*We reaffirm this commitment to set the context for our planning, deliberations, and public engagement so that they take place from the spirit of welcome and respect, found in our motto 'free to all.'*

*Taken from the Institutional Statement Ratified by the Board of Trustees for the Boston Public Library on September 29, 2020.*

# SPECIAL COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

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Ben Bradlee Jr, Committee Chair

- Welcome Remarks
- Roll Call of Committee Members
- Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 15, 2021

# Principles

Reviewed, refined, & reordered

Michael Colford

*Director of Library Services*

- Becoming an anti-racist organization and building a culture of respect
- Programs & services that build and maintain equity
- Build, maintain & activate collections
- Expand our reach, awareness and impact; with fiscal sustainability
- Inspiring spaces, well maintained and modern infrastructure
- Create patron and staff connections & services through technology
- Expect the unexpected

# BPL Special Collections Charter & Principles

(Revised Draft)

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Beth Prindle, Head of Special Collections

# BPL Special Collections Committee Charter & Principles (Draft)

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## ***BPL Mission Statement:***

*“The Boston Public Library provides educational and cultural enrichment, free to all, for the residents of Boston, Massachusetts and beyond, through its collections, services, programs, and spaces.”*

## **Composition:**

Individuals from the community at large, the President of the BPL and Trustees or designee will serve on the Special Collections Committee consistent with our goal of increasing governance transparency and the breadth of citizen input. The appointment of committee members and the selection of committee Chair and Vice Chair are made by the Chair of the Board. The President of the Library will be a voting member of the committee. Additional staff roles will be appointed as non-voting ex-officio members.

## **Process requirements:**

The Committee shall report at least once annually to the Board of Trustees on its activities. The work of the Committee is intended to guide the Library’s Special Collections work and related activities only in matters of governance, policy, and strategy.

# BPL Special Collections Committee Charter & Principles (Draft)

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## PURPOSE:

1. To advocate for BPL's special collections, their long-term care and activation and for their centrality in the execution of the BPL's overall mission.
2. To review and advise on all relevant policies that affect stewardship of and access to special collections.
3. To receive reports on and recommendations for issues affecting special collections and comment as appropriate.
4. To work to foster and enhance alignment between special collections, library services, and the needs of BPL's communities of users.
5. To support and promote greater access to and engagement with special collections in accordance with approved BPL strategy.
6. Provide recommendations to the Board of Trustees on special collections matters requiring full board approval.
7. To advise of potential new funding and/or partnership opportunities in support of special collections stewardship and outreach.
8. To acknowledge and foster affiliate and strategic partnership relationships that have a focus on advancing the library's priorities for and work with Special Collections.
9. To support the development of a long-range strategic plan for the Special Collections Departments, consistent with the library's overall strategic planning documents and processes.
10. To advocate for and support capital project initiatives in service of the Special Collections.

# New Business

**BOSTON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**



*Ben Bradley Jr, Committee Chair*



# Public Comment

**BOSTON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**



- If follow up is required, please send your contact email or phone number to the Clerk of the Board at [pcarver@bpl.org](mailto:pcarver@bpl.org)
- People will be chosen in the order they were received and allowed 2 minutes to speak.
- The Moderator will unmute your mic when you are called on.
- Comments made in chat during meeting will not be acknowledged.