

1. **Full Name:** Cathy McCauley

2. **Town where you live:** Lake Zurich

3. **I have been a resident of the Ela Area Public Library District since:** 2015

4. **Do you have a library card? What do you like to use it for:**

Yes! Adult fiction and non-fiction print books and audio books, event registration, games and Library of Things items. I also use it for my kids' books when they forget their own cards!

5. **Why are you interested in becoming a library trustee:**

Currently I serve as an Ela Library trustee, and it has been an honor to participate on the board. I want to serve another term to continue to advance the library's mission, ensuring it remains a vibrant and essential community space that provides access to information and services for all.

6. **Briefly describe any qualifications (work experience, education, leadership roles, attributes, skills/training) that you feel would provide positive input to the work of the library board.**

My career choices have been diverse, providing me with a wide range of skills and qualifications. As a journalist, I developed my curiosity, the ability to listen intently and to ask difficult questions. I also got lots of practice at meeting tight deadlines. In the non-profit sector, I worked with manufacturing and distribution executives on multiple boards, learning about business best practices and managing project timelines and budgets. As a massage therapist for more than 10 years, I built strong client relationships. My most recent work includes public art, activism and tending to the Earth. I am a passionate and dedicated individual committed to making an impact in my community and beyond.

7. **Please describe any former or current public service activities and accomplishments, especially if they are related to libraries and library service, in the community (school groups, service clubs, other boards or commissions).**

For the past four years, I've been an Ela Area Public Library trustee, taking on increased responsibilities, first as secretary and now as vice president. Prior to joining the library board, I volunteered with the Isaac Fox PTO, organizing events like Walk to School Day and the fun fair. Prior to moving to Lake Zurich, I volunteered in various roles for several community organizations in Chicago.

**8. What do you see as the library's role in the community now and in the future?**

The Ela Library plays an essential role in the community today, offering unique access to knowledge, resources and services. The library is truly a hub - a place to learn, play, gather, create, access technology and more. As we move into the future, I see the Ela Library continuing to innovate and effectively meet the community's needs both virtually and in person. As technology quickly evolves, I see the library adopting new ways of offering digital information, services and outreach. The library maintains a beautiful, efficient building. In the future, I see the Ela Library re-imagining and adapting its physical space for learning, creating and gathering so that it remains a cornerstone for the community for many more years.

