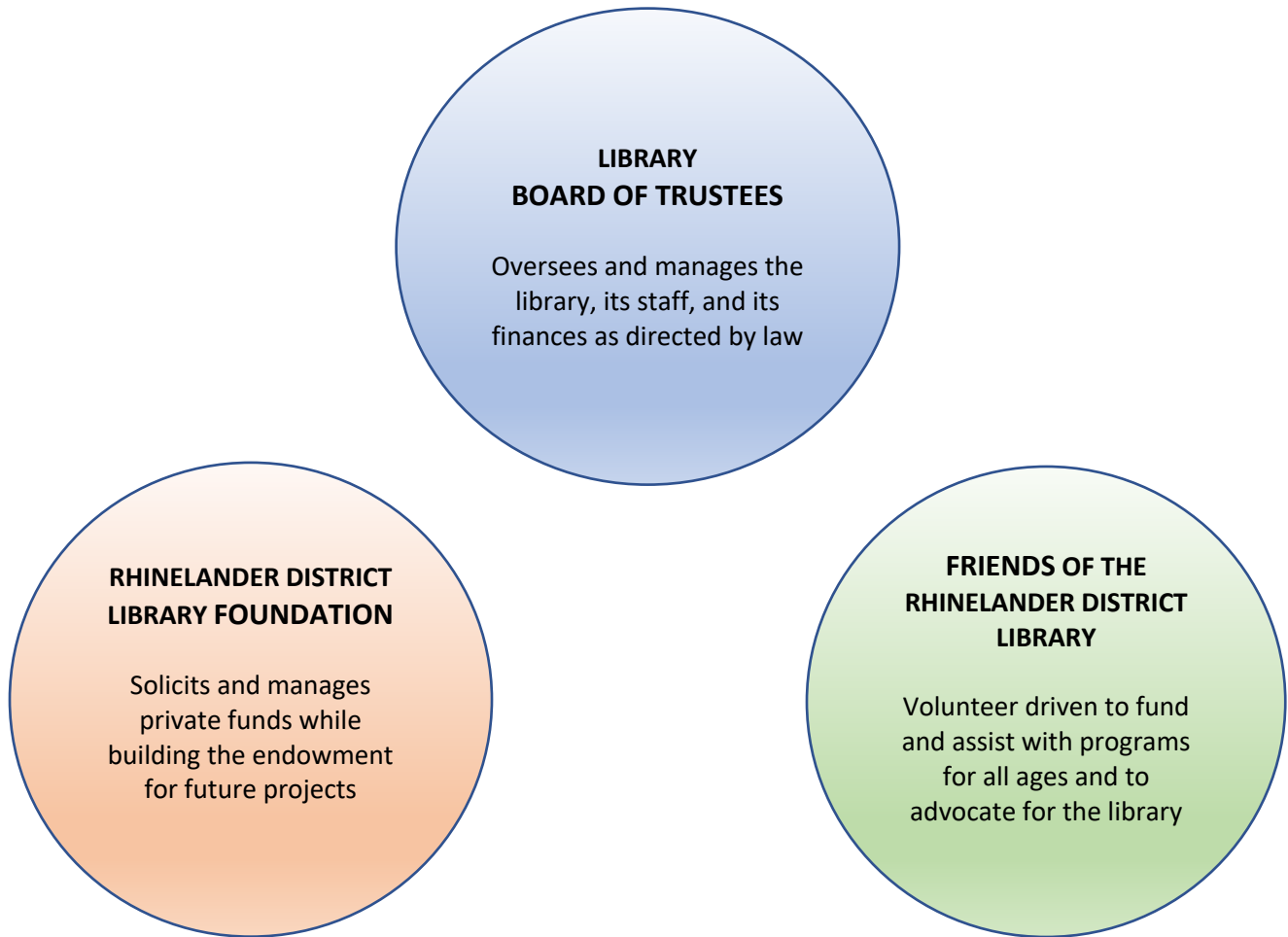


How do the Library Board, Foundation, and Friends Differ?



Board of Trustees

The Library Board of Trustees makes administrative decisions for the library such as adopting policies and setting the budget. Board members are appointed by their respective governmental body.

Foundation

The Library Foundation focuses on raising private funds through bequests, donations, and grants. The Foundation works to secure significant sums of money for major activities such as library renovation/expansion or expenses that are outside or beyond the library's normal operating budget; encourages planned giving and bequests; and provides an endowment for future library needs or enhancements. The Foundation has donors, but not members.

Friends

The Friends of the Library is a grassroots membership organization whose members advocate for the library. Members raise money through the Friends' bookstore and other events to support the library's basic services and donate many hours of time to support library-sponsored programs.

DRAFT 4 (10/16/19) Document Objective: To increase awareness and understanding of the entities that support the Rhinelander District Library, so that support and fundraising activities can be optimized and coordinated rather than duplicated.

The Rhinelander District Library and Library Supporting Entities

It should be noted, all members to all Boards involved with the library are much appreciated volunteers.

THE RHINELANDER DISTRICT LIBRARY (the Library, RDL)

Serving all ages and segments of the community, the Rhinelander District Library has been keeping pace with the needs of the community since its formal founding in 1898. The community currently served by the Library district includes the City of Rhinelander, and the towns of Crescent, Newbold, Pelican, and Pine Lake. RDL has been located at 106 N. Stevens St. in Rhinelander, Wisconsin since 1904. Day-to-day operations and expenses of the Library are funded primarily through local property taxes. RDL administrative staff write grants and appeals to area groups for monies available.

The Library's Mission

The Rhinelander District Library serves as a hub in the community, attracting new and existing businesses and families, and bringing people together to celebrate, to share, to discover, to learn, to grow and to be entertained. It encourages exploration and literacy for children as well as adults. It strives to provide a warm, inviting, convenient and non-threatening environment for people and ideas to come together.

Rhinelander District Library Board of Trustees (the Library Board)

The Rhinelander District Library Board of Trustees was formed in 1897. Currently, a nine-member Board governs RDL. Board members are appointed by the municipalities served by the District. Monthly meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Library, are open to the public.

The Library Board's Responsibilities

Legal responsibility for the Library is vested in the Board, which is the policy-forming body of the institution. The Library Board's responsibilities include selection and appointment of the Library Director; promotion of Library interests; securing of funds adequate for a progressive, expanding program; and approval and control of Library funds, property and equipment. Subject to existing statutes and ordinances, it has the power to determine the rules and regulations governing Library services and personnel.

RDL SUPPORTING PARTNERS

Rhinelander District Library Foundation, Inc. (the Library Foundation; the Foundation; RDLF)

The Rhinelander District Library Foundation was created from the membership of the original Friends of the Library, which incorporated as Friends of the Rhinelander District Library, Inc. in 1982, then changed its name to Rhinelander District Library Foundation, Inc. in 1986. The non-profit corporation is a 501(c)(3) organization (as granted by the Internal Revenue Service) and is registered as a Charitable Organization with the State of Wisconsin. Therefore, all gifts made to RDLF are tax deductible to the donors, to the extent allowed by law.

RDLF works with RDL staff to promote, encourage, and fund new programs and services that allow RDL to expand and grow in ways that may not be possible within the regular Library budget. RDLF solicits, receives, acknowledges, and invests financial contributions in support of the mission of the Library. As such, RDLF participates in long-range planning for the Library in conjunction with the Library Board and Library administrative staff. Currently, the Foundation meets at the Library seven months of the year, (excepting June, July, August, December and January) on the first Tuesday of the month.

The Rhinelander District Library Foundation Purpose

The Primary Purpose of the Library Foundation is to support the mission of the Rhinelander District Library by **raising funds** for capital improvements, for Library assets such as books, or for special programs that are not otherwise funded via the Library's capital and operating budgets.

The Foundation works in cooperation with other Library supporting organizations, i.e. the Library Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Library, as organization members jointly or collectively serve as ambassadors of the Library.

Funds raised by the Foundation are held and managed by the Foundation and are disbursed with Foundation Board approval, following the request of the Library Board of Trustees or Library staff as directed by the Library Board of Trustees. Fundraising campaigns and/or significant disbursements which the Foundation initiates are executed with the prior approval of the Library Board of Trustees.

Friends of the Library (FOL; the Friends)

In May 2016, a new Friends of the Library was formed as an unincorporated volunteer group. The FOL meet monthly on the third Tuesday of the month.

The Friends of the Library Purpose

The Friends' primary purpose is to support the Rhinelander District Library through advocacy, **volunteer work**, and related fundraising. The Friends decorate the Library for the holidays and perform Library-related outreach in the community (ex. reading to the visually impaired at Milestone Senior Living Center and representing the Library at public events such as the Oneida County Fair and Redikulus Dae in Rhinelander). They raise a small amount of money annually, via membership dues (\$10/pp/year), and sales of used books, CDs, DVDs, and Library-branded merchandise from their Re-Tale Shop next to the Library at 25 Rives Street. Money raised by the Friends is used to host an annual Christmas Tea at the Library, to purchase periodicals subscriptions or other small office or programming materials, including Library-branded promotional items.