



2021
TOWN
ELECTION



CONTACT LINKS

[Mike's email](#)

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

MICHAEL ANTHONY PULIZZI
INCUMBENT

FINAL CANDIDATE STATEMENT ~MARCH 8, 2021

As I reflect on my time as a member of the Bedford Free Public Library's Board of Trustees, no year has been as memorable as this one. I never could have imagined that the only times I would have entered our library in the past year are when I walked into the meeting room to quickly pick up books that I had checked out online. The fact that the library has been open throughout most of the pandemic and functioning at a high level is due to the creative planning and consistent effort of our library's dedicated staff.

As a member of the Board of Trustees, my primary focus is to help provide the library director and staff with the tools and resources they need to make our library as welcoming and effective as possible for all of our patrons. With that in mind, the board has recently facilitated the addition of four new study rooms, carpeting replacement in various parts of the library, and creative additions to the Children's Room. Also, during my time as a trustee, the library has always followed the recommendations of the Finance Committee and put forth fiscally responsible budgets.

CANDIDATE PSA ~ THANKS TO BEDFORD TV

[Click this link to watch Michael Pulizzi's video PSA on Bedford TV](#)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- [Howard Cohen](#)
- [Robert Batt](#)

QUESTIONS ~ LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

How do you foresee the Trustees might tap into the experience of the past year to enhance services and outreach to the community? Do you envision greater services to different segments of the population?

The Bedford Free Public Library staff has done a tremendous job over the past year in response to the reality created by COVID 19 and the necessary safety protocols that have been implemented by our state and town governments. The curbside pick-up system and the virtual programming that the library has implemented has allowed library patrons, from Bedford and its surrounding towns, to continue to access the many resources offered by the library. As we envision moving toward a post-COVID reality, I hope we will continue to use this creative approach to meet the needs of all our patrons.

As a community hub, the Library has no equal but there are features that could make it an even more welcoming place. What “dream big” ideas would you suggest, even if they are not achievable at the moment?

I have always viewed our library as a community hub. Located near other town buildings and ball fields, it has always seemed like a natural gathering space. As a trustee, I believe we should focus on equity and accessibility. Everyone should be able to benefit from the library's resources. With this in mind, I hope the library will continue to offer virtual links for its programming so that everyone can access these experiences. Also, it would be wonderful if we could offer delivery service for patrons who cannot travel to the library to pick-up books or other materials we offer.

INITIAL STATEMENT

I am happy to announce that I am running for re-election to the Bedford Free Public Library's Board of Trustees.

I have enjoyed my time on the board working with fellow Trustees and library director, Richard Callaghan, to help ensure that our library offers a variety of services and programs for the residents of our town.

Some of these programs and services include weekly storytime for children, free tax preparation assistance for residents, and the development of the Library of Things, which allows patrons to borrow items other than books.

During this past year, it has been a privilege to support the library staff as they have worked tirelessly and creatively to meet the needs of our patrons amidst the difficulties and limitations associated with the pandemic.

Whether you choose to vote in-person on March 13 or by absentee ballot, I appreciate your support!