



**CLIFTON PARK  
HALFMOON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

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## Trustee Candidate Biography

This form is available as a fillable PDF at [www.cphlibrary.org](http://www.cphlibrary.org) > Library Vote

**NAME:** Suzanne M. Dugan

**ADDRESS:** 49 Spruce Street, Clifton Park

### **BACKGROUND: (Your connection to Clifton Park and the Library)**

I have been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library since 2015. I am finishing my first elected five year term; prior to that, I served a one year term to which I had been appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board. I serve as Chair of the Policies Committee.

I moved to Clifton Park in 1991 with my husband, whose parents had moved to the area in the 1950s to teach at Shenendehowa. I have a set of twins who attended Shenendehowa from kindergarten through 12th grade and graduated in 2015.

### **QUALIFICATIONS: (Jobs/Schooling/Interests)**

I moved to the Capital Region in 1982 to attend Siena College and then went on to Albany Law School. I worked for the State of New York for 20 years, including for the court system (the Appellate Division), the then-State Ethics Commission (where I started as an Associate Counsel, and then served as the General Counsel and Acting Executive Director), and for the State Comptroller's Office where I served as Special Counsel for Ethics.

I have been in private practice for 9 years, where I consult with boards of governmental entities and public pension plans and provide guidance on fiduciary responsibility, ethical duties, strategic governance and compliance issues. This experience has provided an invaluable background for my role on the Board. An effective board must exercise appropriate oversight without micromanaging. This means understanding and taking seriously the role as steward of the public's money, and also fully understanding and appreciating the incredible work that the staff does and endeavoring to make sure that they can continue to do that work which is so important in our community.

### **INTENTIONS: (Why are you seeking the Trustee position/your interest in libraries?)**

One of my favorite childhood memories was going to the Saranac Lake Free Library with my mother. I am continually surprised when I hear from people who do not have fond memories of libraries. One of my goals is to be a champion of the library in the community and let folks know that it is a place of great joy and fun (Mini golf in the stacks! Bands on the lawn! Microbrew beer samples!) and a place to think, learn and do (Programming robots! Borrowing museum passes for the Wild Center! Bringing appliances to the repair café to be fixed!) Residents who are not frequent library users are amazed when they learn of the number of patrons served, the array of programs held, and the wide variety of services offered. The Library truly serves as a hub of the community. I look forward to ways that we can creatively continue to serve as that community hub, even in these challenging times.

**Please return this form to the Library with your petition by 5 pm on August 18, 2020.**

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[www.cphlibrary.org](http://www.cphlibrary.org)

## July 2020 Trustee Candidate Biography

NAME: A. Edwin Rodger

ADDRESS: 34 Hemlock Drive  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

### BACKGROUND:

- Clifton Park and Halfmoon resident since 1966.
  - Member, Vice President, Shenendehowa Board of Education, 1978-1980
  - Chairman, Shenendehowa Free Library Building Fund Drive, 1978-1979
  - Shenendehowa Library Trustee, 1997-Present
- Vice President Board of Trustees – 1999
  - President of Board of Trustees – 2000
  - Served on various Board committees
  - Treasurer – 2012 – 2014
  - President of Board of Trustees -- 2015

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Retired from NY State Dept of Public Service
- Cornell University -- Masters in Engineering

### INTENTIONS:

I am proud to have been a part of the great progress the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Library has made in the time I have been on the Board.

The inclusion of Halfmoon in the Library District in 2001, and the approval and completion of the new building in 2006, gave us a library to provide the needed and desired services our community requires. As Treasurer I was instrumental in refinancing our construction bonds, and lowering our debt service costs.

Our library is a central part of the Clifton Park – Halfmoon community, and provides a multitude of services and resources not available elsewhere. The current pandemic has introduced tremendous difficulties and uncertainties in our ability to continue providing the services and programs the community needs and deserves.

We have eliminated all in-house programming and are learning to provide remote programs. We have restricted the amount of in-building presence, and require that patrons follow strict distancing and mask use protocols. This is no one's desired result, but it is necessary to protect our community from the dangers of the virus. I will work to continue these protections for as long as necessary, and will happily return to our previous full access when the danger is no longer with us.

I look forward to continuing our planning efforts to ensure we have the best possible facility and services for our community. I will work to increase programs and resources to meet community needs, ensure that our dedicated and competent staff are treated fairly, and at the same time keep the library expenditures at the lowest level consistent with meeting these goals.

I hope to continue my participation as a member of the Board of Trustees, to help guide our Library in the effective and efficient use our new facilities.