

**New Hampshire Library Trustees Association (NHLTA)  
2015 Annual Conference  
Rising to the Challenge: An Aspen Institute Dialogue Report**

**Revised on May 20 Based on the NHLTA Workshop**

**Action Steps for Library Boards of Trustees**

Review this list to identify those that offer the most promise in your community. Feel free to add to the list.

Tell the library's story about its impact directly to the public, policy makers, community leaders and other stakeholders. Include the new vision built upon the library's people, place and platform assets.

**Know the town's master plan and ensure that the Library's strategic plan aligns with it. Communicate this to the community. Be involved in creating the town's master plan.**

Support efforts to re-envision and rebrand the library as a vital community institution in the digital era.

Change long-held policies that impede the development of the library's people, place and platform.

Take proactive and sustainable steps to brand the library as a platform for community learning and development.

Leverage the economic development potential of the library as a community platform.

Be an informed champion of the library and what it offers in the community.

Support the deployment of broadband, Wi-Fi and digital literacy skills throughout the community, especially to economically disadvantaged, underserved and other special needs populations.

Ensure that the library's programs, services and offerings are defined around community priorities, recognizing that this process may lead to **choices, trade-offs and change**.

Work with the library director to plan a community engagement effort to identify aspirations and strategies to set the community and the library on a path to success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century knowledge society.

Ensure that the library has the means to measure library outcomes and impacts to better demonstrate the library's value to the community. Communicate these outcomes to key policy makers, partners and other community leaders.

Develop a plan for resource development, include new ways to deploy existing resources.

Support the library director and staff by providing appropriate benefits and funding for their professional development.

Include a member of the City or Town Council on the Library Board of Trustees with the responsibility to serve as a liaison between the two bodies.

Become involved in efforts to advance the future of libraries beyond your local level – at the state and national level.

Give attention to planning for the future of the library – succession planning for leadership, board membership, etc.

Take steps to ensure that diversity of membership on the Board reflects the diversity of the community.