



PO Box A, 195 Log Cabin Road, Kennebunkport, Maine 04046 | www.trolleymuseum.org
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November 1, 2024

To Our Members and Supporters:

The New England Electric Railway Historical Society, d/b/a Seashore Trolley Museum and the National Streetcar Museum at Lowell, invites those who can demonstrate they will meet and exceed all Trustee roles, expectations, and goals (see last page of this document) to apply for a Trustee position on the Board of Trustees. The application period for the position of Appointed or Elected Trustee closes on the final business day of the year, **Tuesday, December 31, 2024.**

Following our 2020 Bylaws changes, all Trustee candidates will now be interviewed and recommended by the Board Development Committee before their name appears on the ballot for elected Trustees, or on a slate for appointment directly by the Board of Trustees when a vacancy arises on the board. These changes mean that:

- All Trustee candidates must apply for the position of Trustee themselves instead of being nominated by another member;
- Write-in candidates on Trustee election ballots will no longer be permissible; and
- Candidates are no longer able to “run off the floor” on Annual Meeting day.

Likewise, Trustees seeking appointment to the board instead of election must be interviewed and recommended by the Board Development Committee first before they are voted on for appointment by the full Board of Trustees.

The Board Development Committee has identified the following strengths that are currently missing or lacking on the current Board of Trustees; as such, candidates that possess these strengths will be considered for appointment over election first during this election year:

- Trustees with expertise in human resources, law/attorney, builder/contractor, or investment portfolios
- Trustees from York County, Maine and the three-town area Seashore Trolley Museum is located
- Trustees representing ethnic and gender minorities

At the 2025 Annual Meeting, to be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, there will be two (2) Elected Trustee candidates elected on the NEERHS Board of Trustees and at least two (2) Appointed Trustee candidates confirmed by the Membership.

For questions or more information about the Trustee positions available, please reach out to a member of our Board Development Committee or review our Bylaws, available at <https://trolleymuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2020/11/FINAL-NEERHS-Bylaws-111420.pdf>.

For the Good of the Society,
NEERHS Board Development Committee
Karen Dooks, dooks@verizon.net
James Schantz, president@trolleymuseum.org
Dan Vardaro, danvardaro10@gmail.com



2024-25 Trustee Candidate Application

Your Name: _____ Member No. (if applicable): _____

Street Address, City, State, Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address (if different than above): _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Please share your biographical information, including your education, leadership experience, board and fundraising experience, networking connections, and activities at Seashore Trolley Museum. Please limit the text to 15 lines in 12-point font. Please print clearly and write in the third person. What you submit will be shared with our membership and Board of Trustees.

I agree to stand for appointment or election to the office of Trustee of the New England Electric Railway Historical Society. I understand that the Board Development Committee reserves the right not to endorse or recommend this candidacy.

Signed: _____ Printed Name: _____

Trustee Responsibilities, Expectations and Goals: 2024-25

The Bylaws of the New England Electric Railway Historical Society, doing business as Seashore Trolley Museum, share the general duties of the Board of Trustees in Article IV, Section 1, General Powers:

The executive powers of the Society shall be vested in the Board of Trustees who will direct the affairs of the Society in accordance with the mission and vision of the Society and all applicable laws and regulations. The Board of Trustees provides oversight with respect to strategic direction and key policies of the Society. Duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Interpreting and protecting the mission of the Society.
2. Modifying and adopting the vision for the Society.
3. Developing, supporting, and implementing the strategic business plan and long-term site plan.
4. Meeting all legal obligations and assuring that the Society is operating within federal, state, and local laws.
5. Providing financial oversight.
6. Ensuring adequate financial resources for the Society. (In the Society's 2020-2026 Strategic Plan, this was further defined as each Trustee working towards bringing in \$10,000 during their 3-year term either personally, through their donor network, or both; either through cash or in-kind contributions).
7. Expanding the Society's network of friends and supporters.
8. Identifying and developing opportunities to promote the Society's mission, fund development, and enhance its reputation.
9. Building a competent Board of Trustees that is diverse and committed to the well-being of the Society.
10. Ensuring that the bylaws allow for appropriate structure and management of the Board to carry out the mission, vision, and work of the Society.
11. Enhancing the Society's public standing through advocacy and involvement.
12. Hiring, supporting, and evaluating the Executive Director.

Additional goals the Board of Trustees have established for themselves as individual Trustees in 2024-25 include:

- Serving on at least one active committee
- Sponsor at least one New Direction initiative. This includes lending your name to a project, and being the face of our fundraising efforts. More information can be found at <http://trolley museum.org/newdirection>
- Recruit a new member
- Recruit a new volunteer
- Volunteer at least 20 hours on campus to support Seashore Trolley Museum's mission.

