

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT – Martin County Library Board of Trustees – Please Print

Check One: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss Dr.

Name: PAULA BEST HUNDT

Incumbent

Residence Address: 1801 SW WILLOWBEND LN, PALM CITY 34990
Street - City - Zip Code

Mailing Address: _____
(if different) Street - City - Zip Code

RECEIVED

By Donna Gordon at 12:50 pm, Feb 24, 2026

Commission District in which you reside: 5^{dg} Staff will complete.

Are you available year round to attend meetings? yes no If no, what months are you available?

Telephone numbers: daytime: 285-8411 alternate: _____ alternate: _____
~ Area Codes are considered 772 unless you note otherwise.

EMAIL: PKAYHUNDT@GMAIL.COM

Have you ever pled guilty or "no contest" to a crime, been convicted of a crime, had adjudication withheld, prosecution deferred, been placed on probation, received a suspended sentence or forfeited bail in connection with any offense (except minor traffic violations)? Please show all convictions, including driving while intoxicated (DUI) convictions. yes no If yes, please provide the following information:

TYPE OF OFFENCES: _____

DATES: _____

PLACES (city/state): _____

SENTENCES OR FINES: _____

A conviction record does not necessarily disqualify you for consideration. Factors such as age at time of offense, nature of violation, and rehabilitation will be considered. The Martin County Board of County Commissioners retains the right to remove, at will, any appointee to a Board or Committee with or without cause.

Length of time lived in Florida? 42 YEARS

Involvement with the Martin County Library System to date: LIBRARY FOUNDATION

BOARD, BOARD PRESIDENT, LIBRARY DOCENT, FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY, BOOKMANIA! ESCORT - MODERATOR

→ CONTINUED →

What, in your opinion, is the real purpose for having a public library system in the community? _____

LIBRARIES SERVE AS A VITAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, LITERACY, FORMAL LEARNING AND READING FOR PLEASURE, INFORMATION ACCESS FOR ALL. OUR SYSTEM SUPPORTS FAMILIES WITH ACTIVITIES, ENGAGING PROGRAMS AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN MANY AREAS.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE: A resume is recommended to be attached containing this and any other information that would be helpful to the Board in evaluating your application. Resume or letter of qualifications attached? yes no

Education: _____

Employment Experience: _____

Other experience you feel would be helpful to the Board in making this appointment: _____

Community Experience and Affiliations: _____

Other County Boards/Committees/Task Forces on which you have served: _____

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Do you or any member of your immediate family work for Martin County or do you or a company that you are an officer or employee of have an existing contract with Martin County? no yes If yes, please explain: _____

REFERENCES: Please list two references:

SUE WHITTINGTON 772 403-3013 JUDI SUYDER 772 349-0501

- Applicant may be required by State Law and County Ordinance to file a Financial Disclosure Statement as part of the appointment process.
- Florida law prohibits an advisory board member from doing business with its agency (the County). Sections 112.313(3) and (7), Florida Statutes. However, upon full disclosure by the Applicant, the conflict may be waived at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners by a supermajority vote. Section 112.313(12), Florida Statutes.

→ Signature: Paula Best Hurd

Date: 2/23/2020

Applications must be filed with Martin County Administration, 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996 by Friday, March 13, 2026. All information submitted becomes public record. If you have any questions, please call (772) 221.1352 or send email to dgordon@martin.fl.us.

Dear Commissioners,

I am currently completing my first term as a Library Trustee, appointed in 2023 and would be honored to serve another term. The opportunity to learn about, and share with the community, the extensive programs, services and the vital role the libraries provide is such an enormous undertaking, and I have so much more to do! In 3 years I have missed only 2 meetings due to being out of the country.

As a lifelong reader growing up in a small town in Ohio, I was more excited about the summer Bookmobile than the Mr. Frosty Ice Cream Truck. The schools had incentives to read over the summer and I enthusiastically participated in the challenges. In Junior and Senior High School, I worked as a student volunteer in the libraries as an extracurricular activity and as the Theme Editor for our yearbook.

Moving to Martin County in 1996, my job led me to a position on the Library Foundation in 1997 and I created the Pearls of Wisdom Ball to raise money for enhancements, and became President of the Library Foundation in 2000. I have participated as a Literary Escort to BookMania! authors for almost 20 years, becoming a Panel Moderator 7 years ago.

Merrill Lynch, Prudential Securities, Barnett Bank, Bank of America

I enjoyed a lifetime career in investments and banking, hired as one of the earliest female stockbrokers at Merrill Lynch, and in the industry. As a successful broker, other professional opportunities became available in different parts of the country, transitioning my career into leadership and as a senior executive in various lines of business at successive job placements. After 30 years I retired from the industry.

Following a short retirement, I became the Director of Development for the Lyric Theatre in Stuart for 3 years. My second retirement was even shorter, and I became the Director of Development for Tykes & Teens for 8 ½ years, retiring at the end of 2020. I now spend time volunteering in the community.

The Ohio State University, Bachelor of Science in Social Work

University of Akron, Master of Arts, Sociology, coursework completed, thesis not submitted for graduation

Various professional courses in finance and management

Previous appointment to the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee in Martin County ending in 2008.

Martin County Library Trustee, 2023 – present

Board positions (previous)

The Library Foundation of Martin County

Lyric Theatre

Tykes & Teens

Other community participation:

Treasure Coast Hospice volunteer

Martin County Library Docent

Friends of the Library

House of Hope Growing Hope Farm harvester, weekly

St. Mary's Soup Kitchen food prep, weekly

Benefactor for all 2nd graders at Warfield Elementary to attend The Nutcracker at the Lyric Theatre for 10 years

Benefactor for Gertrude Walden children to attend the Nutcracker at the Lyric and various other projects as requested

NAACP, Martin County

Kiwanis sponsor for Pancakes in the Park

Women Supporting the Arts

Treasure Coast Classical Guitar Society sponsor

Martin Arts

Impact 100 of Martin County

Martin County Elections Poll Worker

Lyric Theatre Director's Circle

ArtsFest Volunteer

Friends of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra

Tykes & Teens Festival of Trees & Lights

Martin County Library Trustee, 2023 -current