

PUBLIC COMMENT – AUGUST 25, 2025
ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING

Please print all information. Return completed card to a designated library staff member.

- Use **one** form for each agenda item you wish to comment on.
- Speakers **must** list an agenda item **number**.
- If you wish to speak, you must submit this card **before** the agenda item is called.

✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

#

2

Mintes

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

LISA Rusteneyer

ADDRESS:

7044 80

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

This information is a Public Record.

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

2
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: Sonnet Ireland

ADDRESS: Slidell, La

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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Agenda Item #: 2

I have been a member of the St. Tammany
Library for long years. It has served the
Citizens of the Parish for years. Don't Change
THE LIBRARY!

FULL NAME: D. L. L...

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

Gladell LA 70458

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3A
Example: # 2A

waived

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: Sonnet Ireland

ADDRESS: Slidell, La

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

#

3B

Example: # 2A

Finch

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

LISA Rustmeyer
70448

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3B
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

Sonnet Prefard

ADDRESS:

Slidell, La

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3E
Example: # 2A

waived

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: Sonnet Ireland

ADDRESS: Slidell, La

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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#

2

Example: # 2A

Turned
in late

COMMENTS:

Consider using the overhead screens
so that the PUBLIC (i.e. public meeting)
can follow along.

FULL NAME:

Terri Lewis Stevens

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3F
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

TERPI ~~333~~ J

ADDRESS:

Coungton

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3F

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: PAULINE APPLBY

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] MANORVILLE

PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

#3F

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: Concern that this statement of concern
misinterprets and misrepresents both the spirit and letter
of SLS 2585-322 that it was to ask for removal of this
item.

FULL NAME: J. Caron Minge

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Covington

PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

#

3F

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: _____

Rebecca Bohm

ADDRESS: _____

Mandeville

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

#

3F

SOC

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS:

FULL NAME:

LISA Rustemeyer

ADDRESS:

70448

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3F
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: Sonnet Ireland

ADDRESS: Slidell, La

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3F
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: Roxanne Newman

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3 F
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

Jean Wiggin
Abita Springs

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Agenda Item #: **3 F**

*If any one objects to a book, they need
to appear to explain their objection and
have read the book. That applies to this book.*

FULL NAME: *Anna Robertson*

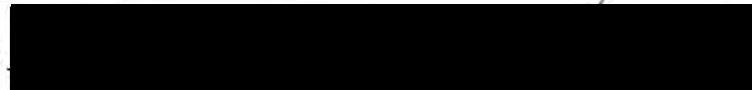
ADDRESS:



TELEPHONE NUMBER:



EMAIL:



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Agenda Item #: 3 F

I have loved our freedom to choose in
our public libraries since childhood. I hope
we never lose that freedom!

FULL NAME: Karen Deakin

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Covington 70433

TELEPHONE NUMBER [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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Agenda Item #: **3F**

*House of Earth & Blood is already in adult
section, so what's the problem?*

FULL NAME: *Heidi Weishaup*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

36
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: LISA Rusteneyer

ADDRESS: _____ 70448

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

36
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: Sonnet Ireland

ADDRESS: Stidell, La

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following **Agenda Item Number**:

3H
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

Roxanne Newman

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following **Agenda Item Number**:

#

31

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

Jean Wiggin

ADDRESS:

Abita Springs

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

34
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

Rebecca Taylor

ADDRESS:

70460

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

34

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

LISA Rusteneyer

ADDRESS:

70448

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

34
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: _____

Sonnet Ireland

ADDRESS: _____

512ell, Ln

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

3H
Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME: Ruthen Wechsungen

ADDRESS: St Tammany Parish

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item Number:

#

H

Example: # 2A

COMMENTS: _____

FULL NAME:

Joan Simon

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

This information is a Public Record.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sissy Wiggin** [REDACTED]

Date: Wed, Jul 30, 2025 at 9:39 AM

Subject: SOC on adult books

To: <lboc@stpl.us>

Cc: Kelly LaRocca <kelly@stpl.us>

Dear LBOC,

I have stated repeatedly in the meetings for about three years that the LBOC should not be spending time and taxpayers' money on books shelved in the adult section. It is appalling that taxpayer dollars were used to buy many copies of House of Earth and Blood by Sarah Maas, an adult (NOT graphic) novel so that the LBOC members and everyone on the staff could read it and determine...what? That you do not want adults to read this book? That you are going to hide it behind the circulation desk? That you are going to build an extra room in every library that says "adult books that some people in the parish do not think you should read"? Or that you are going to remove it from the STPL totally?

If you haven't already done so, please read the 56 reviews of this book on the library website. Almost 100% of them are positive. People love the book. Goodreads has it listed as "the winner of readers' favorite fantasy." Spend time reading reviews from many sources so that you are aware of how the general public feels about this book.

So, at a future LBOC meeting, we are going to have to sit and listen to people rant that the book is pornographic and disgusting and they want no one to have access to it because they disapprove?

Do the people who fill out a SOC on adult books not realize how our libraries work? If they actually went to the library to check out the book, they would see that it is in the adult section. They would know that the only people who can check it out are adults and young people with a "juvenile" or "juvenile unrestricted" card.

I would like the LBOC to make a new policy concerning books in the adult section. If a person files a SOC not knowing that the book is shelved in the adult section, a simple letter should suffice: "This book is shelved in the adult section and no further action will be taken."

I would like to know how many of the statements of concern are on adult books.

Do not tell me what I can or cannot read. If the library staff chooses a book to be in the adult collection, I trust their judgment. I may not like the book, but then, I just won't read it. We all have that option. I will not try to control the books that other people read or allow their children to read. Our tiered library card system works beautifully - and the majority of parents have given their children access to the whole library.

Thank you.

Jean Wiggin
Abita Springs

LBOC discussion and decision for House of Earth and Blood by Sarah Maas

From: Terry Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 17, 2025 2:54 PM
To: Kelly LaRocca <kelly@stpl.us>
Subject: Re: [External] LBOC discussion and decision for House of Earth and Blood by Sarah Maas

Dear Ms. La Rocca,

I no longer drive at night without my husband. My husband has had health issues for a while now. He is not willing to wait for me for hours to be done with the LBOC.

I did look for my SOC for the House of Earth and Blood. On 12/11/2022, I wrote a SOC on " Maybe Not" by Colleen Hoover. I also checked the library files on books under review. I found the e-book House of Earth and Blood on 12/11/22. I don't usually use the e-books. So, I can't comment on something I don't remember from 2022.

As far as I know, the only book I have written a SOC on that was in the Adult Fiction section was Lullaby. That book disgusted me, and it should have disgusted anyone, regardless of age.

Many of these books in question have been moved to the Adult Section or the New Adult section. Some of these books are in the General Fiction section. They have found a new home there. These books have legs and end up where they should not be.

Frankly, taxpayer money should not be used to purchase books with this content. They are obscene. The law says they are, but I guess that doesn't matter because it's in the library.

In any case, children and teens should not have any access to these books whatsoever. What kind of society will we have if our children read and learn from these books? I seriously doubt that the parents even read these books; they are letting their children and teens read them. If they did, the parents would not allow it. The books with this sexual content have no redeeming value. It's all about sex and violence, drugs, alcohol, sexual perversion, and pedophilia. Why would anyone want their children to read these books?

Truly, how am I supposed to comment on something I wrote supposedly in 2022? I do purge my files sometimes.

I don't want to remember these books. It pains me to read them!

I am sure there will be lots of condemnation for me not attending the discussion. It doesn't bother me. I know where my heart is. It's with our children and teens. They are more important than any of these porn books. They should be to you and all the members of the LBOC as well. This is shameful what our public libraries are allowing children and teens to read, whether they can check them out or not.

Our St Tammany Libraries should uphold the Laws on Obscenity. If I were to give one of these books I have been writing SOC's on to a minor, I would or could be arrested. These books cover many sexual activities from A-Z. It's not just on one page but usually more than a few. A new law has been passed about child grooming. Are you familiar with that law? These books are very sexually explicit. Describing sex acts. They could be very seductive to children and young teens. We need to keep them out of reach. No access!!! I do not believe these library permission cards are only good if children or teens are checking them out from the library. It doesn't mean that they can't pick them off the shelves and read them.

Please see the attachments below. Universal Citation: LA Rev. Stats 14:11. And the Grooming Law just recently passed.

Sincerely,

fran
Vulnerari Praesidio
(Protect the Most Vulnerable)

Fw: [External] August 25 meeting

From Kelly LaRocca <kelly@stpl.us>
Date Wed 8/27/2025 9:31 AM
To Mary Thompson <maryt@stpl.us>

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Charles Branton <charles.branton@stpl.us>
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 8:06:54 PM
To: Kelly LaRocca <kelly@stpl.us>
Subject: Fw: [External] August 25 meeting

Please add this to our records

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S24 Ultra, an AT&T 5G smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Jean Herbers [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2025 3:59:16 PM
To: lboc <lboc@stpl.us>
Subject: [External] August 25 meeting

Good afternoon Library Board of Control.

I've been told that if we cannot attend the meeting that you all would appreciate receiving our input in an email. I appreciate that.

Code of Conduct: Interesting that it appears some things have been removed and / or reworded.

- Acting respectfully and professionally using civility and respect in all communication; Conduct themselves with honesty, integrity, transparency; Individual board members must submit requests for documents or info in writing to the director or use resolution, copying board president; LBOC members should never be pressured into voting a certain way or disparaged after a vote; It is not within the scope for the board to direct staff members; the board writes policy and the STPL director and staff implement it; All meetings should take place in council chambers; Resolutions must be presented at a Rules & Reg meeting before on meeting agenda.

*** Now, Under Confidentiality & Discretion: **Entitles** any board member to ask **any** staff member at **any** time for **any** information.

*** This is very broad and may lead to intimidation tactics. Where does the code of conduct reference support librarians? Should there be a statement related to a board member not being swayed by partisanship or other agendas?

Book under review: The House of Earth & Blood by Sarah Maas - Fantasy Fiction - in the ADULT section. (816 pages)

A description of the book: heartache of loss, price of freedom, power of love. The person who submitted the SOC can't remember doing so. Come on!!

Leave the book in the adult section. Honor the first amendment. Trust the process.

Kelly LaRocca: Congratulations to Ms. LaRocca for being recognized as the consummate professional qualified for this *promotion*.

Respectfully,
Jean Herbers
Mandeville