Charleston – The West Virginia Humanities Council elected two new members to its board of directors during the spring board meeting on April 7 in Parkersburg.

New members are Gayle Manchin of Charleston, Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts and former First Lady of West Virginia, and Amy Pancake of Romney, affiliate director at Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation.

Current members Dan Foster of Charleston, Susan Hardesty of Morgantown, Gerry Milnes of Elkins, and Lisa Welch of Shepherdstown were elected to a second term on the board. The Humanities Council thanked departing board members Paul Papadopoulos, Jay Cole, and Larry Grimes for their years of service.

Founded in 1974, the West Virginia Humanities Council is a nonprofit organization serving West Virginia through grants and direct programs in the humanities. The Council’s board of directors is composed of 23 citizens from across the state. The board meets three times per year, in varying locations. Members are elected to a three-year term and may be elected to one additional three-year term. For more information, visit the Council’s website at www.wvhumanities.org or call (304) 346-8500.