



CITY OF SWEET HOME LIBRARY BOARD AGENDA

December 09, 2021, 4:30 PM
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386

PHONE: 541-367-5007
FAX: 541-367-3754

Meeting Information

The City of Sweet Home is streaming the meeting via the Microsoft Teams platform and asks the public to consider this option. There will be opportunity for public input via the live stream. To view the meeting live, online visit <http://live.sweethomeor.gov>. If you don't have access to the internet you can call in to 541-367-5128, choose option #1 and enter the meeting ID to be logged in to the call. Meeting ID: 348 006 235#

Review / Approval of Minutes

- a) [Review of 11/18/21 Minutes \(pg. 2\)](#)

Report of the Librarian

- a) [Report of Librarian \(pg. 4\)](#)

Fiscal Report

Statistics

- a) [Library Statistics \(pg. 6\)](#)

Unfinished Business

New Business

- a) [Proposed updates to the Library Policy Manual \(pg. 8\)](#)

Next Regular Library Board Meeting - 01/13/2022

The Sweet Home Public Library Advisory Board welcomes your interest in these agenda items. The location of the meeting is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, advanced notice is requested by notifying the City Manager's office at 541-367-8969.

Call to order at 4:30pm

Approval of 3 sets of minutes.

- 5/13/21 minutes approved
- 9/9/21 minutes approved
- 10/19/21 minutes approved

Librarian Report from Megan:

Thank you to Diane for running curbside services by herself the first week of November while the library building was closed. Many people used the service each day.

City Council approved the three month trial period for waiving fines for overdue materials. An article appeared in the New Era about it. We have had good feedback from library users. We have had more later materials being returned. More people that haven't been in the building for 5 or 6 years have been coming back or calling us asking what they need to do to use their card again.

We have finished weeding the adult non fiction collection. New materials have been ordered and are starting to come in. Shipping has been slower than normal. We will get them on the shelves as they come in. We are replacing some items and ordering some new topics, especially for teens because they have a very small collection. We hope the collections will get used more once they are updated.

We are weeding the western and paperback collections for condition and what people are checking out. We will be moving some of our large print to where the paperbacks currently are, because patrons have been asking for a separate collection area for large print.

Building issues- the carpet was cleaned last week. It looks awesome. The huge stain and tape marks near the front desk are gone. The carpet cleaning guy was from Lebanon and worked by himself to complete the job in about 4 hours. We are working with Public Works to get some upgrades to our shelves so they better fit the books. The HVAC was also cleaned the week we were closed, new filters were installed.

We are creating some take and make kits for December. Some folded book art and some tree ornaments. We are offering a grateful tree craft for Thanksgiving week. You create leaves saying what you are grateful for. We are trying to focus on all ages and families for these kits.

For grants and donations, the property in Colorado sold. Brandon will have more details in the financial report. This will give us seed money for the new library. We received our annual endowment from the Oregon Library Association. This is \$1,000 that we receive every year. We received the Ready to Read grant for 2022, about \$1700. We will be purchasing picture books and learning to read books and for summer reading activities. An application is in for funding to grown the graphic novel collection for teens. We should hear back by mid-December. We are continuing to look for other ideas for programming and partnerships and other grants. For some, you need to have a speaker on board before you apply, so we are working on that.

We can do all of this because we have such a great staff and great volunteers that help us a lot.

Fiscal Report from Brandon-

Not a ton to update, this was one of our slower months. We're still in the upswing of our revenue generation and our overall expenditures for the year. The Library fees line is generally budgeted for \$5000 a year. You'll remember, based on the recommendation of the Library Advisory Board and by action of the Council that library fees are no more. I would expect that the library fee revenue will just kind of drop off for the next three months. So you shouldn't see much of a change other than I think that we will keep getting replacement fees for books that are damaged and stuff like that. But I would imagine that it will kind of hover right where it is at for the next 3 months. This is not going to have a detrimental effect on the overall budget. We're certainly not overly concerned about the fact that it is only \$5000 in the grand scheme of things, that is rather small.

Good news on the property tax front. We are seeing an increase in delinquent property taxes being paid through October. We started to receive our current year property taxes in November. There's nothing earth shattering, given that we were projecting a \$10,000 overall increase for the year in actual revenue. This is all in line with our expectations, but we are seeing a small increase in delinquent property taxes. Sounds like folks are getting caught up and we are excited about that. On the expenditure side, we are still sitting pretty low on personal services. That our staffing. We have spent about 25% of our overall budget for the year. Through September that's about where we would expect to be. We are one month past that, so we would expect it to be a little bit higher. We will keep an eye on that and see how it goes.

On the materials and service side, it can be a bit seasonal, so we are just getting into the swing of things of adding things to the collection and getting things taken care of inside the library and we will start to see expenditures occurring. This is fairly typical for the library at this time of year.

We do have a number for the property in Colorado. It is almost \$900,000 that we expect to see in the form of a check. The paperwork has been sent off to the attorneys of the living trust. So we expect to see that in the next few months. *Library Board question: What is that \$900,000 we are getting? What is geared towards, is it going to be specifically set aside for the purpose of a new library?* While the process of a new library is ongoing, the money will sit in an equipment reserve fund dedicated for the library. The library will get interest off this account too. *Library Board question: So, the Library is getting the interest off that which is well. Do its set into a project and equipment reserve that furnishes the whole city?* Yes, specific interest will be distributed out based on how much each Department has in that overall fund, so, the library will be to keep interest earnings on the \$900,000. We can go through that when we do budget development with the library board, We can kind of show you where that fund is at today for the library and you can kind of see where those funds are going to be sitting. *Library Board question: Of the projected amount of dollars coming in from Linn County, what percentage is anticipated at 97%? As far as what we expect and that kind of thing?* So, we budget for 96% of what is mailed out, we assume a 3% discount, if people pay their bills on time, they get a 3% discount. We assume a 1% delinquency on that. So we expect to receive 96% of what the county actually distributes out in the form of bills.

Library Statistics report:

The item count is lower this month, due to weeding. New stuff has come in, but hasn't been added yet. The number will go back up soon.

Unfinished business:

Library fines follow up from Eva : Why this time did we opt to recommend that fines be eliminated only for 3 months? It is the standard practice of ALA and other organizations to not have fines. Megan: When Rose previously eliminated fines, it was for the length of summer reading and for summer reading cards, so it has typically been a three month thing. The board itself decided on a three month trial period this time. *Eva: I would like to recommend that when this, if and when this comes back up after three months that we just eliminate the fines, period. Get this over with and meet that community standard.* Megan: I'll take that into consideration and I'd love to do that. I think that's probably where we are leaning, based on some discussions. *Charlene: There is a bit more in the Minutes from the October meeting. There is a section in there that sort of explains what happened and why we did it and I think we are probably all in agreement with you about just making that happen, but this is the route we took.*

New business:

Don: we need to elect new officers. I would nominate Charlene at this time. I have always enjoyed her participation and would therefore nominate her to be the President. *Eva:* I'll second that. *All:* passed by unanimous vote.

Charlene: we need a vice Chair. I'll make a motion for Don to be the Vice Chair. *Eva :* second that. *All:* passed by unanimous vote.

Discussion about notification for Board meetings. Agreed to call the day before and email packet as soon as it is ready. There were difficulties this month due to closures and holidays and the meeting moved to one week later.

Next Library meeting 12/9/21

Report of the Librarian for November 2021 Activities

This month's report is fairly short since last month's meeting was a bit later in the month.

Unfinished Business:

Fine Free continues to go well, with happy reactions from patrons.

New Business:

Discussion of Library Policy Manual updates (later in agenda)

Collection updates:

We are done weeding the paperback collection. We are going to test out moving some of the mass market paperbacks to the main fiction shelves and see if that helps them to circulate more.

New non-fiction books are arriving and being processed. Because of the sheer number being added, they are being placed on either the New shelf or directly on to the Non-Fiction shelves as we have room.

We are going to be adding games and puzzles for checkout soon. They will be all ages or targeted to child, teen, adult age groups, depending on the game.

We started weeding the kid's non fiction books for checkouts and condition. New books are being ordered as gaps are found.

Building issues:

A library patron had some issues with the length of time the handicap door is automatically open. We are working with the City to have this open time adjusted to give patrons more time to safely get through the door.

Lights in the entryway are being replaced (half of them were burned out). This will make the entry more inviting and bright, especially in the evenings when it gets dark so early.

An outside faucet gained a larger leak than it normally has. Worked with Public Works to fix it.

Passive Programming:

Thank you to Sarah and Diane for creating Gratitude Tree kits for Thanksgiving.

Take and Make kits for December started on Dec 3rd.

We offered Hanukkah activity packs during Hanukkah.



City of Sweet Home
 Sweet Home Public Library
 1101 – 13th Avenue
 Sweet Home, OR 97386
 541-367-5007

Sweet Home Public Library

Statistics

	Last month	This month	YTD	Previous 5 Years
Patron Activity				
OPAC Logins	197	264	2871	2567
SIP2 Logins	582	522	6234	4530
Circulation and Renewals				
Checkouts	2306	1554	26751	38663
Renewals by Staff	563	549	5624	6289
Renewals by OPAC	207	285	2537	2281
E-Audio & E-book checkouts				
Holds Requested				
Holds by Staff	160	133	1576	1459
Holds by OPAC	99	165	1405	1390
Item Counts	34327	33949	33949	35348
Public Access Computers				
Pages Printed	1483	1367	n/a	5075
Resource Sharing Savings	2886.10	3018.71		21709
Items borrowed by consortium libraries	220	192	n/a	n/a
Items borrowed from consortium libraries	264	258	n/a	n/a

Events

The building was closed due to illness Oct 30-Nov 6 we were able to offer curbside services during this time.

The building was closed Nov.11-13 due to Holiday.

The building was closed Nov. 25-26 due to Holiday.

Starting November 1, the Library went fine free. We have had lots of positive feedback from patrons, and a few that had not been using the library came back. We also saw a increase in books returned that had been overdue.

Projects ongoing

We have weeded the paperback collection. We are testing shelving the paperbacks that are part of a series with the rest of the series that is in hardback.

We are weeding the Kid's non-fiction collection and ordering more up to date materials.

We are testing creating a Large Print section by first moving the Large Print Non-Fiction materials to shelving where the paperbacks were. The lower height shelves and easier access to the shelves should be good for patrons that typically use large Print materials.

We continue to add more new materials to all collections. Currently, our fastest growing collection is the TV series on DVD.

New Library update

Megan attended the Library Journal's Design Institute. The one day event focused on new library designs and remodeling of older spaces.



PUBLIC LIBRARY POLICY MANUAL

Approved by the Sweet Home Library Board in its entirety October 14, 1993
And subsequently amended on 11/18/96, 9/10/98, 11/2/98, 6/10/99,
10/10/02, 7/14/11, 05/10/12, 12/5/13, 03/11/21' 12/9/21

Sweet Home Public Library
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Charlene
Adams, Chair
Jamie Frick
Don Hopkins
Eva Journey
Megan Dazey, Library Director

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Introduction

Purpose

The Sweet Home Public Library Policy Manual supports the Library and its mission and core values by defining the methods and procedures by which the Library operates. It guides decision-making and communicates the guiding principles to library staff and the public.

Mission

The Sweet Home Public Library transforms lives by educating, inspiring, and connecting people. The Library is dedicated fostering an informed, engaged and connected city.

Core Values

Our users are not only our customers, but they are also the reason the Library exists. We provide quality service and treat all users fairly and equally. Services are provided in an equal manner that is sensitive to and supportive of human differences.

We are a learning organization that is not afraid to change and take appropriate risks in pursuit of meeting community needs. We periodically assess our services and methods.

We conduct the library functions with integrity and responsibly by maintaining high standards in our work and a sense of pride.

Library Cards

Residents

The Sweet Home Public Library is supported through the property taxes of persons owning property within the city limits of Sweet Home. The Library's policy on the issuance of cards is designed to provide every reasonable opportunity for people who qualify for a card to obtain one.

The Library has both the right and the responsibility to require some form of proof that the person applying for a resident card is a City resident. To do this, the Library requires reasonable proof of both identity (photo identification) and current address.

Examples of acceptable photo identification include the following:

- Driver's License
- Student I.D. card
- State I.D. card
- Costco card

Examples of acceptable proof of current address include the following:

- Driver's License with current address
- Utility receipt (*not more than 90 days old*)
- Rent receipt (*not more than 90 days old*)
- Mail addressed to patron with current resident address (*not more than 90 days old*)

Any other form of identification that gives the Library reasonable cause to believe that the applicant is a city resident will also be accepted.

If a patron so requests, the Library will use a business address or post office box number as a mailing address. Business addresses and post office box numbers cannot be accepted as satisfying the residency requirement.

Persons living in sections of motels (within the city limits) that have been designated as "apartments" by the motel manager qualify as residents. Persons living in City authorized shelters, run in part by the City, qualify as residents. Persons living in other non-permanent housing do not qualify as residents.

The Library acknowledges that some persons owning property within the city limits of Sweet Home maintain their residence outside the Sweet Home city limits. Those persons (including family members) will be issued a card without charge upon the production of a current statement as proof of property ownership.

An adult who qualifies for a library card may have cards issued or renewed to their children without being present.

Non-Residents

The Sweet Home Public Library is fully funded through property taxes collected from city residents and property owners. Persons living outside the city limits pay no taxes in support of the Library. Therefore, it is necessary to charge non-residents a fee roughly equivalent to what households within the city pay in taxes to sustain the Library. The cost of a non-resident family library card is set per the City of Sweet Home Fee Schedule.

The non-resident family card entitles one or all family/household members residing at the same address to regular library privileges. One member of the family/household is required to accept full financial responsibility for all items checked out on the non-resident family card.

All provisions of the City Resident's policy previously outlined shall apply equally to non-resident cardholders.

Library Cards cont'd

Children

The Library recognizes the rights and responsibilities that a parent or legal guardian has regarding their minor-age children. In recognition of these rights and responsibilities, it is the policy of the Library to issue cards to persons under the age of eighteen (18), but no younger than the age of five (5), with the parent or guardian's permission using the identification of the parent or guardian as identification for the minor-age person.

For a minor-age person to be issued a library card, their parent or guardian must present proper identification and residency documentation outlined above in "Library Cards - Resident." It is recommended that the young person accompany their parent or guardian when their card is issued (but not required). It is not required that the parent or guardian themselves be issued a card when they obtain cards for their children. Parents are responsible for any fines or fees incurred on a child's card as per the City of Sweet Home Fee Schedule.

Library Card Renewal

Library cards are issued for one year. Patrons wishing to renew their library cards may be required to present current photo identification. The patron must clear the library card of fines and fees before renewal.

Lost Library Card

Lost library cards are replaced at a cost per the City of Sweet Home Fee Schedule

Forgotten Library Card Requirement and Exceptions

To conduct circulation transactions patrons must present a valid library card or current photo I.D., voter's registration card, school I.D., passport, or credit card. If doing business by phone, staff will ask to verify information such as the card's barcode number, address, or phone number.

Computer Use Only Cards

The Sweet Home Public Library makes public access computers available to meet library patrons' Internet and word processing needs.

To manage access to and use public access computers, the Library requires that individuals use a Sweet Home Public Library card in good standing to log in to the public access computers.

Patrons who are ineligible for a library card can register for a "Computer Use Only Card."

"Computer Use Only Cards" provide patron-level public computer use privileges, but no other access or privileges of regular users. Photo identification is required. One card will be provided without charge per user.

Library Cards cont'd

Linn Libraries Consortium

The following Linn County, Oregon libraries have joined together to create the Linn Libraries Consortium (LLC):

Albany Public Library
Lebanon Public Library
Linn-Benton Community College Library
Harrisburg Public Library
Scio Public Library
Sweet Home Public Library

Cardholders from each respective library have access to specified materials throughout the consortium through our shared catalog. The LLC jointly supports a courier service that delivers requested items from consortium libraries to the patron's home library. Patrons can also use their home library cards to check out items directly from other libraries in the consortium.

Patrons may borrow up to five (5) items from consortium libraries. *Note: Cardholders must be in good standing with their home libraries to participate. Existing policies and procedures of each consortium member library will apply.*

Oregon Passport Cards

Oregon residents living outside the service area of the Linn Libraries Consortium may obtain an Oregon Passport Card at no cost if they bring a valid library card from their home library. The home library must also be a participant in the Passport Program to get a Passport Card from the Sweet Home Public Library.

Passport Card applicants must complete a registration form providing their verified permanent address and other contact information, which is the same identification required for residents. Only two items at a time may be checked out on a Passport Card.

Circulation Policies

Privacy Policy

Sweet Home Public Library protects the privacy of all library members, no matter their age.

Per Oregon Revised Statute 192.502.(23), the Library will not disclose:

- Circulation records, showing use of specific library material by a named person;
- The name of a library patron their address or telephone number;
- The electronic mail address.

The Library's privacy policies comply with federal, state and local laws.

Information Collected

Information the library personnel gather and retain about library users includes the following:

- Name, address, phone number, e-mail address, birth date (required for registering for a library card).
- Records of material checked out only in the case of items currently checked out, , charges owed, and payments made.

Library personnel will not collect or retain personally identifiable information without the user's consent. By registering for a library card, the user consents to provide the information requested on the application.

When a user consents to provide information, the Library will not sell, license, or disclose it to any third party, except an agent working under contract for the Library, unless required by law to do so.

Access to Personal Information

Parents and guardians of minor children who wish to access their child's library records must provide the child's library card or card number.

Library staff may access a patron's data only to perform assigned duties. Staff will not disclose any personal data except where required by law or to fulfill a specific request from the account holder.

Enforcement and Redress

If a patron has a question, concern, or complaint about handling of private information, the patron may file written comments with the Library Director. The matter will be addressed in a timely manner. A privacy investigation may be conducted.

The Library Director is the custodian of library records and is responsible for responding to public records requests and inquiries from law enforcement officers. The Director may delegate this authority. The Director may confer with the City Attorney before determining the proper response to any request for records.

Loan Periods, Renewals, and Holds

Loan Periods

The items listed below are to be checked out on a 21-day loan:

- Adult, young adult and children's non-fiction
- Adult, young adult and children's fiction
- Books on CD
- Music CDs
- Magazines

The items listed below are to be checked out on a 14-day loan:

- New Adult Fiction, Mysteries, and Science Fiction

The items listed below are to be checked out on a 7-day loan:

- DVDs

The Library is not responsible for any damage to personal equipment that may occur when the patron uses Library audio /visual materials. There is a limit of 5 DVDs per card at checkout.

Renewals

Patrons may renew materials by contacting the Library in person, by phone, or online, on or before the due date. An item will not be renewed if another person is waiting for it, if it has already been renewed three times, or it is past the due date.

Holds

Holds may be placed on any circulating item. When an item becomes available, the patron is notified. The item is placed on the Holds Shelf for seven (7) business days.

Delinquencies/Fines

By checking out library materials, the patron enters into an agreement with the Library to return the items on or before the due date indicated on the receipt given at checkout. Materials returned after the due date are subject to fines outlined in the City of Sweet Home's Fee Schedule.

Notices

Patrons who provide an email address will be sent a courtesy reminder by email three (3) days before the items are due.

Patrons who provide a SMS number (text) will be sent a courtesy text reminder three (3) days before the items are due.

A final notice with replacement cost will be sent when items are four (4) weeks overdue. Items not returned at that point will be considered "Lost," and the patron will be blocked until lost items are returned, and fines are paid, or the lost item charges are paid. Failure to return library items is a violation of **ORS 357.975 - Willful detention of library property:**

It shall be unlawful for any person willfully or maliciously to detain any library materials belonging to a publicly supported library or privately supported school, academic or research library or incorporated library for 30 days after notice in writing from the librarian of such library, given after the expiration of time which by regulations of such library such materials may be kept. The notice shall bear upon its face a copy of this section and of ORS 357.990 (Penalties). [Formerly 357.830; 1975 c.476 §30]

ORS 357.990 - Penalties

Violation of ORS 357.975 (Willful detention of library property) is a Class B violation. Such conviction and payment of the fine shall not be construed to constitute payment for library material nor shall a person convicted under this section be thereby relieved of any obligation to return to the library such material. [Amended by 1971 c.743 §360; 1975 c.476 §31; 1983 c.208 §2; 1999 c.1051 §176]

Lost/Damaged Items Payment

When a patron pays for a lost or damaged item, a process fee will be added to the cost of the lost or damaged item as outlined in the current City of Sweet Home Fee Schedule.

An item must be paid for if it is deemed damaged to the point of being unusable by subsequent patrons. The Library Director or designee will make this determination.

Suspension of Borrowing Privileges

The Library will not check out materials to any patron with outstanding fines or fees, above an amount established by the Library Advisory Board, and outlined in the City of Sweet Home Fee Schedule.

Privileges will be restored when materials are returned or fees are paid for as required.

Referral to a Collection Agency

The Library may contract with a collection agency and/or take legal action, including credit reporting, to resolve long overdue accounts that owe in excess of \$75. In those cases, a non-refundable fee for collection costs will be added to the total bill. Minors are not subject to credit reporting.

Public Access Computers Policy

Sweet Home Public Library makes computers, selected software, and public printing available for public use, charging for printing only. The Library supports intellectual freedom and the free expression of ideas; however, the Internet is an unregulated source of information. Not all information found there is accurate, current, or complete. There is material that may be offensive, disturbing, or illegal. The Library cannot control or monitor the information available on the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content; therefore, it is the user's responsibility to question and evaluate the validity and suitability of the information found.

U.S. Copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code) prohibits the unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by the principles of "fair use." Users may not copy or distribute electronic materials (including electronic mail, text, images, programs, or data) without the copyright holder's explicit permission. Any responsibility for any consequences of copyright infringement lies with the user; the Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility from such use.

The Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof.

Conditions of Use:

- Patrons may use the Public Access Computers (PAC's) for a maximum of one (1) hour per day.
- The PAC's are in view of other library users and staff; therefore, it is inappropriate to display violent or sexually explicit graphics or text in this public setting.
- Users are not permitted to add, delete, or modify any hardware or software or to load personal software on these computers; patrons are liable for any damage to the equipment and may suffer loss of library privileges.
- The Library reserves the right to terminate an Internet session at any time for failure to comply with this policy.
- Anyone aggrieved by loss of library privileges may appeal to the City Manager.

Internet Access by Children and Teens

The Library affirms parents or legal guardians' right and responsibility to determine and monitor their own children's use of Library materials and resources. The Library recommends that parents or legal guardians accompany their children to the Library. Parents or legal guardians are responsible for what their child views on the Internet.

Children, 13 years of age and under, must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian while using the computer.

Youth, 14 years of age or older, must present a library card, current photo identification, or school I.D., to use the computer. If youth have no I.D., the parent or legal guardian shall come to the Library and provide permission for their child to use the PAC's.

Library owned wireless devices

In the event the Library lends out wireless devices, such as tablets or laptops, the same rules and standards will apply for use of the machines within the Library building.

Collection Development Policies

The Sweet Home Public Library seeks to provide popular material reflecting diverse points of view to satisfy the community's informational and recreational reading needs. The Library's acquisition of material does not constitute an endorsement of the material's content.

General Principles

Intellectual Freedom

Library users choose what items they and their children will use based on individual interests and standards. The Sweet Home Public Library supports each family's right to decide which items are appropriate for use by their children. The Library adheres to the principles of intellectual freedom adopted by the American Library Association as expressed in the "Library Bill of Rights," the "Freedom to Read," and the "Freedom to View" statements. These statements are contained in the policies under Appendices.

Diversity

Our goal is to collect materials that reflect a wide range of views, expressions, opinions, and interests. Specific items acquired for the collection may include unorthodox, unpopular with the majority, or controversial items. The Library's acquisition of such material does not constitute an endorsement of the material's content.

Selection Procedures

Most materials will be selected based on reviews in standard library publications such as Booklist, Library Journal, School Library Journal, and Publisher's Weekly. Reviews from other sources may be consulted, if appropriate.

The Sweet Home Public Library welcomes input from the public regarding the contents of the collection. Patrons wishing to suggest titles for purchase may fill out a "Purchase Suggestion Form." All such suggestions will be considered for purchase according to the Collection Development Policy. Within budgetary constraints, the Library would attempt to fulfill patron requests if the material requested is deemed appropriate for the collection.

The Library will accept donations of books, Books on CD, and DVDs if they conform to the guidelines of the Collection Development Policies and are in new or like new condition. Donations not added to the collection will be given to the Friends of the Sweet Home Library.

Criteria

General Criteria for selecting library materials and formats include, but are not limited to the following:

- Budget and space limitations
- Public demand, interest, or need
- Contemporary significance, popular interest, or permanent value
- Prominence, authority, and/or competence of author or creator
- Professional, high-quality content that has been independently and positively reviewed in an authoritative review journal.
- Timeliness of information
- Relation to existing collection

- An original or alternative point of view

Criteria cont'd:

- Authenticity of historical, regional, or social setting
- Suitability of subject and style for the intended audience
- Appropriateness to interest and skills of the intended audience
- Local emphasis
- Currentness of format
- Availability from other Linn Consortium Libraries

The Library may purchase or accept donations of self-published books if they are positively reviewed in professional journals or if they highlight unique local information and meet the standard of professional, high-quality content. Self-published books must have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN.)

Maintenance, Replacement, and Withdrawal of Items

Materials in all media will be evaluated at regular intervals using standard professional criteria (such as CREW - an acronym for continuous review, evaluation, and weeding) to ensure its usefulness and relevance. This evaluation relies on staff professional expertise to address the collection's content for the ever-changing needs of the community. Items may be withdrawn from the collection and damaged, destroyed, or lost items may not be replaced for the following reasons:

- Obsolescence - no longer timely, accurate or relevant
- Damaged or in poor condition
- Space or budget limitations
- Number of copies in the collection
- Use by patrons via checkout or within the building
- Availability at other Linn Libraries Consortium

Request for Reconsideration of Materials or Additions of Materials

Patrons wishing to express concerns about materials already in the collection will be invited first to discuss their concerns with appropriate staff or the Director. Should a patron still be unsatisfied, they may formally request the Library reconsider its classification or possession of an item by submitting a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form" to the Library Director. When a "Request for Reconsideration" is provided, the Director will notify the Library Advisory Board as soon as possible. In consultation with appropriate staff, the Director will promptly review the item in question, together with any available reviews of the material, and render a decision about appropriate action. The Director will convey this decision to the requestor in writing in a timely fashion

Should the patron wish to pursue the matter further, they may request that the Director bring the issue before the Library Advisory Board for their decision. At this point, the Director and the appropriate staff having reviewed the matter in question will each fill out a copy of the "Request for Reconsideration" form, including their recommendation as to the appropriate action. The Board will consider the request and the staff recommendations at the next scheduled Board meeting. It will render a decision as to the appropriate action. This decision will be final and will be conveyed in writing to the patron submitting the request.

Policies Governing the Facility

Use of the Building by Other Organizations

The Library is a City of Sweet Home facility intended primarily for the provision of library materials, services, and programs. While Sweet Home Public Library seeks to work cooperatively with other community organizations and may sponsor or endorse cooperative activities, the building and grounds are not generally available for non-library-programs, meetings, or events, except as noted below.

Displays of Art

When considering the acquisition of artwork, the Library Director and the Library Advisory Board shall work together to make an evaluation based on the criteria of professionalism and suitability for the building. The Board reserves the right to dispose of any purchases or donations as it sees fit.

Bulletin Boards

The Library provides a bulletin board for library announcements and local general interest items. The bulletin board is not intended as a forum or for details of a personal or commercial nature. In accord with "The Library Bill of Rights," the Library will post materials appropriate to the bulletin board's purpose in a timely fashion and "on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting [the posting]." All postings are subject to the Library staff's judgment.

Program Policy

Library-sponsored programs promote the use of library materials, facilities, or services and offer the community an informational, entertaining, or cultural experience. Programs are planned for the interest and enlightenment of all the people of the community. The Library strives to offer a variety of programs that reflect the broad range of community interests.

Library-sponsored programs are offered at no charge to the public. Attendance shall not be restricted because of gender, race, background, or beliefs.

Program presenters will provide a summary of their proposed program, references and reviews, and relevant supporting material, such as books, brochures, photos, videos, or C.D.s.

Programs will fit the Library's mission, programming objectives, themes, budget, and schedule. The decision to sponsor a program rests with the Library Director.

The Library will prepare a contract that outlines all agreed-upon terms that will be signed by the Library Director and the performer or presenter.

Patron Conduct Policy

The City of Sweet Home has the responsibility of ensuring that the most pleasant environment possible is maintained at the Library. This policy affirms the library staff's right and responsibility to take appropriate actions to support such an atmosphere. "If the behavior is disruptive, it will be addressed" is the directive for Library staff.

General Conduct

No person shall engage in conduct that disrupts or interferes with the Library's normal operation or disturbs other patrons or Library staff. This conduct includes abusive or threatening language or gestures, an activity that creates unreasonable noise or conduct that consists of loud or boisterous physical behavior or talking.

Use of Library Property

No person shall use Library materials, equipment, furniture or fixtures in a manner inconsistent with the customary use thereof, in a destructive, abusive or damaging manner, or in a manner that could result in personal injury or injury to others.

Clothes

Patrons are required to wear footwear and a garment covering their torso when entering the Library.

Weapons

Patrons shall not bring onto the Library premises items which would not commonly be used in a library. Objects that would be perceived by a reasonable person to be a potential weapon. Such items include, but are not limited to; machetes, knives, swords, box-cutters, and mace.

Food/Beverages

Patrons may not bring in or consume food or beverages inside the Library building except as provided by Library staff during a program or event.

Computer Rules

Patrons shall comply with the "computer policy" agreement.

Obstruct

Library patrons and staff shall have obstruction-free passageway through and into the Library. Entryways and aisles shall be free of objects such as bicycles, backpacks, or other items that interfere with free passage.

Tobacco Products

Smoking, "vaping" or use any oral tobacco products are not allowed within the Library or on Library premises.

Patron Conduct Policy cont'd

Electronic Devices

Patrons shall turn off the cell phone “ringer” while in the Library. All cell phone conversations should be outside of the Library. No person shall use electronic equipment at a volume that disturbs another Library user or Library staff, including, but not limited to cell phones, headphones, stereos, tablets and laptop computers while in the Library.

Library Staff Room

Only authorized Library staff, or persons authorized explicitly by Library staff, shall enter areas of the Library or the Library premises posted for Library staff only.

Wheeled Apparatus

Skateboards, rollerblades, roller skates, scooters, wheeled shoes with wheel protruding, or other similar wheeled apparatuses are not allowed in the Library or on the Library premises. Bicycles are not permitted inside the Library, including vestibules or covered doorways.

Sales

Unless contracted with the City to do so, no person shall solicit, sell, offer for sale, peddle, or advertise any goods or services within the Library or on the Library premises.

Staff Direction/Library Rules, Regulations or Policies

All patrons will obey the direction of Library staff members and the established rules, regulations, and policies of the Library.

Animals

No person shall bring into the Library any animal or pet except service animal as defined by the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section.
ADA 2010 Revised Requirements for Service Animals (See http://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm)

Laws

No person shall commit or attempt to commit any activity that would constitute a violation of any federal, state, or local criminal statute or ordinance.

Unattended Children

A child under the age of ten years old shall not remain unattended in the Library and on Library premises. A person who brings a child, under ten years old, into the Library or on the Library premises is responsible for that child.

Sleeping

No person over the age of four (4) years old shall sleep in the Library or on the Library premises.

Restriction/Expulsion

Every restriction/expulsion shall address the scope and duration of the violation. A warning is given before a restriction/expulsion is issued unless circumstances dictate that a warning would be counterproductive. The Library Director, City Manager or designee of either one, shall have delivered to the restricted/expelled person a form setting forth the restriction/expulsion scope and duration, the reason for the restriction/expulsion and right to appeal, if any, as soon as possible after the restriction/expulsion time commences. There is no appeal from a restriction/expulsion that is only for the remainder of the library day.

Rights to Appeal

1. A person who has been restricted/expelled from the Library has the right to request an informal hearing to contest the restriction/expulsion and request reinstatement to the Library.
2. The request for an informal hearing must be in writing and filed with the City Manager within 48 hours of the restriction/expulsion.
3. The City Manager or designee shall schedule a time and place for the informal hearing to be conducted, which shall be not more than 72 hours after receipt of the request for hearing. At the informal hearing, the City Manager or designee shall consider testimony from the City personnel involved in the incident that resulted in the restriction/expulsion, testimony from the person requesting the hearing, and testimony from any other witnesses to the incident and review any documents or items presented. The City Manager or designee may exclude anyone from the informal hearing, other than the person that requested the hearing that is not presenting testimony to the City Manager or designee.
4. Within 72 hours of the informal hearing, the City Manager or designee will issue a written decision affirming, modifying, or canceling the restriction/expulsion. The decision shall be delivered or mailed to the person that requested the hearing on the date issued. The written decision of the City Manager or designee shall be final on the 5th day after it is issued unless, before that time, a notice of appeal is filed with the City Manager. The appeal shall be heard by a hearings official appointed by the City Manager, and the hearings official's decision shall be the final decision. To appeal contact:

**Attention: City Manager
City of Sweet Home
3225 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386**

5. Upon appeal, the restriction/expulsion shall not be enforced until the final decision is made at the City level.
6. All time periods shall be counted as outlined in ORCP Rule 10 found in Oregon Revised Statutes between Chapters 11 and 12.

Library Usage by Children

The Sweet Home Public Library welcomes and encourages children to visit the Library, use library resources and services, and attend library programs. Staff members are available to help and support children; however, the Library is not able to provide short- or long-term child care, or be responsible for unattended children.

Parents, guardians, and/or caregivers are responsible for the safety, behavior, and supervision of children at all times in the Library and on library property. Children are expected to respect library property and adhere to the outlined rules.

Children under the age of 10 years shall not be left unattended by their responsible adult guardian (ORS 163.545). Staff may need to contact authorities (such as the police) to ensure an unattended child's safety.

ORS 163.545 - Child neglect in the second degree:

(1) A person having custody or control of a child under 10 years of age commits the crime of child neglect in the second degree if, with criminal negligence, the person leaves the child unattended in or at any place for such period of time as may be likely to endanger the health or welfare of such child.

(2) Child neglect in the second degree is a Class A misdemeanor. [1971 c.743 §174; 1991 c.832 §2]

Under ORS 419B.010, Library staff are mandatory reporters of child abuse. Library staff is to report, if known, names and addresses of the child and parents or other persons caring for the child, the age of the child, the nature and extent of the abuse, including any evidence of previous abuse, the explanation given for the abuse, and any other information.

Children Left At Closing

When a child under the age of 10 years is left at the Library beyond the regular closing time, two staff members, if they are able, will remain with the child no longer than 30 minutes. During this time, by phone, efforts will be made to locate the child's parent or guardian to request the child be picked up. However, if staff members are unable to stay, the police will be notified immediately.

If, at the end of the 30 minutes, the child has not been picked up or library staff has been unable to contact a parent or guardian, staff will request assistance from Sweet Home Police Department.

Exam Proctoring Service

As part of the Sweet Home Public Library's mission to provide lifelong learning, exam proctoring services are offered to students to fulfill educational needs.

We will proctor tests given online or sent to us by postal mail. Exams will be proctored during open library hours, depending on staffing levels, and public computer availability.

Please provide the testing institution with our contact information:

**Sweet Home Public Library
1101 13th Avenue
Sweet Home, OR 97386
541-367-5007**

Staff will check identification and ensure that no notes, calculators, or textbooks are used. However, due to time constraints and space in the Library, staff are unable to proctor tests that require a proctor to remain in a closed room with a student throughout the exam.

Library staff will return tests by email, or, mail in a pre-paid envelope, as requested

The student is responsible for verifying the test's arrival at the Library and arranging a time to take the test.

Role of Library Volunteers

Sweet Home Public Library provides a variety of opportunities for volunteers to participate in routine operations and special programs or projects. The Library's primary purpose in running a volunteer program is to enhance its ability to meet its goals and objectives. However, the Library also seeks to provide rewarding volunteer work to community members and strives to assign tasks that mesh with each volunteer's particular skills and interests. Tasks which volunteers may perform may include but are not limited to, shelving, maintaining proper material order on shelves, processing materials, mending library materials, assisting with Library programs.

The Library Director will designate the staff responsible for recruitment, orientation, and coordination of volunteers. Those interested in volunteering must submit a "volunteer application" form. The Director's designee will review all applications, interview volunteer candidates, and negotiate mutually acceptable schedules and duties with those accepted into the volunteer program. The Library Director may discontinue volunteer opportunities at any time, upon their discretion.

APPENDICES

Sweet Home Public Library: A Brief History

In the fall of 1941, the Long Street Grade School PTA president appointed a committee to look into the possibility of that group sponsoring a city library. It was decided that it would be advisable for the group of interested persons to form a Library Association, and the PTA and other organizations could help financially. Long Street School PTA gave the first sum of money.

It was wartime, and the committee believed that the need for a library would be felt more keenly than ever because of curtailment of vacation trips and rationing of gasoline.

The Board of this association met for the first time on March 16, 1942, at the New Era office. An inspection to the city hall was made to see the two rooms the City donated for the Library's use, a kitchen and storage room in city hall, a former dwelling.

It was decided to keep the Library open 2-1/2 hour on three afternoons a week, with the board members and other interested persons acting as librarians.

A library association was planned and had membership cards printed for patrons wishing to join at \$1.00 per member. By August of 1942, there were 66 memberships. The community donated money, books, materials, and time that created a presentable library.

The formal opening was September 19, 1942, with a silver tea and everyone invited. Board members took turns as volunteer librarians.

In 1945, the Board asked that the Library be included in the city budget. The City granted this request. With the money from the Library Expansion Fund and other gifts, a librarian was hired.

Another big step in the progress of the Library was the filing of incorporation papers. The Sweet Home Public Library Inc. was formed on January 17, 1949.

In May 1954, the City of Sweet Home took over the operation of the Library.

When the city hall located at 1940 Long Street was built that year, the Library shared the basement with the Sweet Home Police Department. These quarters served as the Library until 1969.

The Library's bookkeeping procedures were transferred to the city office at the beginning of 1963-1964 to comply with State law.

In less than a dozen years, the circulation size grew. The library and police department were crowding each other in their basement quarters. By 1966 discussion began for the new library building. The Library was in dire need of more book space and a ground floor street entrance for individuals' easier use.

The decision was made to build at 13th Avenue and Kalmia Street. The new building was dedicated November 23, 1969, and planned to service the community for 20 years.

A Brief History cont'd

In the fall of 1984, Sweet Home citizens voted down the city budget. The City Council elected to close the Library at a cost-saving measure. People in the community did not want to see their Library closed, and they rallied to support the Library. The non-profit Friends of the Sweet Home Library was established. After being closed for approximately one month, the Library was re-opened with only the professional librarian and enough money for the barest essentials, such as lights, heat, and water. There was no budget for supplies or books.

Volunteers helped to keep the doors open. Patrons, the community, and the Friends of the Library raised funds to keep the magazine subscriptions current and best sellers on the shelves.

Since 1986, Sweet Home voters have approved the Library operating levies to keep the Library running.

The Sweet Home Literacy Council was established in November 1988 under the sponsorship of the Library.

The Library's 50th anniversary was celebrated on September 19, 1992, with a silver tea duplicating its original opening.

Establishment of the Sweet Home Public Library

Ordinance Bill No. 1 For 1989

Ordinance No. 983

(Adopted February 14, 1989)

An ordinance relating to the Library, establishing the Sweet Home Public Library, and creating a Library Board, and repealing Ordinance No. 647.

Section 1. Sweet Home Public Library Established

- (a) A public library is hereby established for the City of Sweet Home under the provision of Oregon Revised Statutes.
- (b) The Public Library shall be financed through the use of general fund monies, revenue obtained from the operation of the Library, grants, gifts, donations and bequests received and designated to be used for library purposes, and any tax levies that may be authorized by the electors.
- (c) The Sweet Home Public Library shall be the public agency responsible for providing and making freely accessible to all residents, in the City of Sweet Home, library and information services suitable to persons of all ages.

Section 2. Library Board

- (a) The Sweet Home Public Library Board is hereby created. The Board shall consist of five members to be appointed by the City Council.
- (b) The term of office of the Board members shall be four years and their terms shall commence on July 1 in the year of their appointment. The terms of office shall be staggered so that the terms of not more than two Board members will expire in the same year. Of the first five Board members appointed, one member shall initially hold office for one year, one for two years, one for three years and two for four years. At the expiration of the term of any members of such Board, the City Council shall appoint a new member or may reappoint a member for a term of four years. If a vacancy occurs during a term of office, the governing body shall appoint a new member for the balance of the expired term.
- (c) Members of the Board shall receive no compensation for their services but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Section 3. Board Organization

- (a) The Library Board shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson.
- (b) The Library Director shall be an ex officio member and shall serve as secretary to the Board and keep the record of its actions.
- (c) Three appointed members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
- (d) The Board may establish and amend rules and regulations for its government and procedure consistent with laws of the State of Oregon and with the charter, ordinances, resolutions and regulations of the City of Sweet Home.
- (e) The Board shall meet at least once a month and at such other times as it may provide by its rules.
- (f) Meeting dates and times are posted.

Section 4. Library Board General Powers

The Library Board shall be an advisory board and shall have no executive or administrative powers or authority, and this ordinance shall not be construed as depriving elected or appointed officials of the City of any power they may have under the laws of the state or the charter of the City. The Board shall have powers and duties as follows:

- (a) Upon request by the City Manager, the Library Board may assist in the interview process of selecting and appointing a Library Director. The City Manager, as the fiscal and administrative agent for the Library, shall have primary responsibility for library personnel, including recruitment, selection, classification and pay, and supervision.
- (b) The Library Board shall make recommendations to the City Council about rules and policies for the efficient and effective operation of the Library, its services and programs.
- (c) The Library Board shall approve the budget request prepared by the Library Director for submittal to the Budget Committee.
- (d) The Library Board shall make recommendations for the acceptance, use or expenditure of any real or personal property or funds donated to the Library under Section 5 of this ordinance.
- (e) The Library Board shall make recommendations for the selection of sites for public library buildings or for location of library facilities.
- (f) The Library Board shall approve an annual report to the State Library and to the City Council submitted in a timely manner on a form supplied by the State Library.
- (g) The Library Board shall develop and recommend to the City Council long-range plans for library service, consistent with City priorities and with state, regional and national goals for libraries.

Section 5. Acceptance of Gifts for Library Purposes

Gifts of any real or personal property or funds donated to the Library and accepted by the governing body shall be administered in accordance with each gift's terms, and all property or funds shall be held in the name of the City of Sweet Home.

Section 6. Internal Administrative Policies and Procedures

The City Manager shall be the fiscal and internal administrative agent for the Sweet Home Public Library and the Library shall operate in conformance with City administrative procedures including those pertaining to the following:

- (a) Personnel, including recruitment, selection, classification and pay for library personnel.
- (b) Receipt, disbursement and accounting of monies.
- (c) Maintenance of general books, cost accounting records and other financial documents.
- (d) Budget administration.
- (e) Operation and maintenance of equipment and buildings.

Section 7. Prohibited Actions and Penalties

See ORS 357.975 and 357.990 for update of ordinance.

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, age, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.
- VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

The Freedom to Read

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those which are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.
2. Publishers, librarians and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what books should be published or circulated.
3. It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.
4. There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.
5. It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.
6. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.
7. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important, that ideas can be dangerous, but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life but it is ours.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors:

An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association supports equal and equitable access to all library resources and services by users of all ages. Library policies and procedures that effectively deny minors equal and equitable access to all library resources and services available to other users is in violation of the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights. The American Library Association opposes all attempts to restrict access to library services, materials, and facilities based on the age of library users.

Article V of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views." The right to use a library includes free access to, and unrestricted use of, all the services, materials, and facilities the library has to offer. Every restriction on access to, and use of, library resources, based solely on the chronological age, apparent maturity, educational level, literacy skills, emancipatory or other legal status of users violates Article V. This includes minors who do not have a parent or guardian available to sign a library card application or permission slip. Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness should be able to obtain a library card regardless of library policies related to chronological age.

School and public libraries are charged with the mission of providing services and resources to meet the diverse interests and informational needs of the communities they serve. Services, materials, and facilities that fulfill the needs and interests of library users at different stages in their personal development are a necessary part of providing library services and should be determined on an individual basis. Equitable access to all library resources and services should not be abridged based on chronological age, apparent maturity, educational level, literacy skills, legal status, or through restrictive scheduling and use policies.

Libraries should not limit the selection and development of library resources simply because minors will have access to them. A library's failure to acquire materials on the grounds that minors may be able to access those materials diminishes the credibility of the library in the community and restricts access for all library users.

Children and young adults unquestionably possess First Amendment rights, including the right to receive information through the library in print, sound, images, data, social media, online applications, games, technologies, programming, and other formats.¹ Constitutionally protected speech cannot be suppressed solely to protect children or young adults from ideas or images a legislative body believes to be unsuitable for them.² Libraries and their library governing bodies should not resort to age restrictions in an effort to avoid actual or anticipated objections, because only a court of law can determine whether or not content is constitutionally protected.

¹ *Brown v. Entertainment Merchant's Association, et al.* 564 U.S. 08-1448 (2011).

² *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975): "Speech that is neither obscene as to youths nor subject to some other legitimate proscription cannot be suppressed solely to protect the young from ideas or images that a legislative body thinks unsuitable for them. In most circumstances, the values protected by the First Amendment are no less applicable when government seeks to control the flow of information to minors." See also *Tinker v. Des Moines School Dist.*, 393 U.S.503 (1969); *West Virginia Bd. of Ed. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943); *AAMA v. Kendrick*, 244 F.3d 572 (7th Cir. 2001).

Article VII of the Library Bill of Rights states, “All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use.” This includes students and minors, who have a right to be free from any unreasonable intrusion into or surveillance of their lawful library use.³

The mission, goals, and objectives of libraries cannot authorize libraries and their governing bodies to assume, abrogate, or overrule the rights and responsibilities of parents and guardians. As “Libraries: An American Value” states, “We affirm the responsibility and the right of all parents and guardians to guide their own children’s use of the library and its resources and services.”⁴ Libraries and their governing bodies cannot assume the role of parents or the functions of parental authority in the private relationship between parent and child. Libraries and their governing bodies shall ensure that only parents and guardians have the right and the responsibility to determine their children’s—and only their children’s—access to library resources. Parents and guardians who do not want their children to have access to specific library services, materials, or facilities should so advise their own children. Libraries and library governing bodies should not use rating systems to inhibit a minor’s access to materials.⁵

Libraries and their governing bodies have a legal and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the communities they serve have free and equitable access to a diverse range of library resources and services that is inclusive, regardless of content, approach, or format. This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Libraries and their governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors.

³ *“Privacy: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights,”* adopted June 19, 2002, by the ALA Council; amended July 1, 2014; and June 24, 2019.

⁴ *“Libraries: An American Value,”* adopted on February 3, 1999, by ALA Council.

⁵ *“Rating Systems: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights,”* adopted on June 30, 2015, by ALA Council; amended June 25, 2019.

Adopted June 30, 1972, by the ALA Council; amended July 1, 1981; July 3, 1991; June 30, 2004; July 2, 2008 under previous name “Free Access to Libraries for Minors”; July 1, 2014; and June 25, 2019.

Freedom to View Statement

The FREEDOM TO VIEW, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989.

Endorsed January 10, 1990, by the ALA Council

