

LONG RANGE PLAN 2021 – 2024 ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON MAY 19, 2021

Introduction

Grinnell Public Library District is proud to provide materials, services and programs for our patrons. We seek opportunities to update our role in meeting the changing needs of our community. This Long-Range Plan serves as a guide for the next three years, providing an outline for how we can best serve the residents of the Village of Wappingers Falls and the Town of Wappinger from 2021 – 2024.

History, Timeline and Methodology

In 2018, the Board of Trustees adopted a Long-Range Plan that focused on four areas.

- *Focus Area 1: Promote literacy and life-long learning through innovative technologies and collection development. To accomplish this goal, we expanded our digital options so that patrons could enjoy reading, listening and viewing material via Hoopla, Overdrive and Kanopy. We added Creativebug, which offers online video arts and crafts workshops and techniques. We circulate eight mobile hotspots for patrons without connectivity. During the Pandemic, we conducted Early Literacy Programs and book groups via Zoom, meetings via GoToMeeting, and added a YouTube channel for our virtual programs.*
- *Focus Area 2: Expand social programs for all ages. To accomplish this goal, we partnered with local businesses to host book groups off-site. Newly added regular programming included Open Mic Night, Ukulele Strum along, STEM workshops, and Chess Club.*
- *Focus Area 3: Reinvent physical space. To accomplish this goal, the Public Computer area was reconfigured to allow patrons space to work at the computer tables and to have access to electrical outlets. Two individual study nooks were created in the non-fiction room, and an additional wireless access point was installed so that patrons could access the wi-fi from anywhere in the building.*
- *Focus Area 4: Protect and preserve the building. To accomplish this goal, stone and brickwork was repaired and repointed around the building's exterior. All areas were washed and waterproofed.*

In 2021, members of the Library Board of Trustees, with feedback from the Library Director and the Library staff, developed a Community Survey to assess where we will focus our efforts in the next three years.

Print surveys were available at every public service desk, and online surveys were available on the library's website throughout the month of April. Participation was promoted via our social media outlets, our e-newsletter, a press release in the Southern Dutchess News and by word of mouth.

Because Wappinger Town Hall was open by appointment only, and other community outlets had limited services and hours due to the pandemic, we did not provide surveys off-site.

We received a total of 294 responses by April 30. 162 of the returned surveys were print copies.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Grinnell Public Library District is to provide free access to a variety of informational materials, library services and programs using its resources and those of the Mid-Hudson Library System, to meet the educational, cultural and recreational needs of the community.

Vision Statement

We strive to be a library that is integral to the lives of the members of our community, and responsive to their changing needs through our collection, services and programs.

Values Statement

We are committed to the core values of the American Library Association as well as our organizational values:

1. Access: all resources are readily, equally, and equitably accessible to all library users.
2. Diversity: our resources and services reflect the diverse community we serve.
3. Education and Lifelong Learning: we strive to work with educators, government officials and organizations to support comprehensive efforts to ensure that we provide lifelong learning services to all.
4. Professionalism and service to the community: we offer training and staff development opportunities that encourage personal growth and excellence in customer service.

Organizational Priorities

We reviewed the areas of importance that were identified during the planning process and focused on the top five:

1. **Focus Area 1: Advocate for additional parking.**
2. **Focus Area 2: Expand STEM Programs.**
3. **Focus Area 3: Identify, prioritize and budget for capital projects that will protect and preserve the building**
4. **Focus Area 4: Reinvent physical space (indoors and outdoors) for programming.**
5. **Focus Area 5: Improve accessibility.**

APPENDICES

- Community Survey
- Tabulation of survey results
- Token thank you