

Waterboro Public Library

Strategic Vision - Goals and Services

Board Approval: 02/26/2004

Overview:

In the fall of 2003, the Waterboro Public Library Board of Trustees created a Visioning Sub-Committee charged with developing a defined set of goals and services for the Library in the upcoming years and establishing a set of needs and desires to provide to a Building Committee, which would be the basis for their work on a new library building.

Methodology:

The sub-committee began by restating the Library's mission statement. It then broke down the statement into phrases and developed a goal for each. It continued to establish a list of services the library should provide which support each goal.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Waterboro Public Library is to offer the citizens of Waterboro library services, programs, and physical resources. The Library will provide access to electronic information, all forms of literature, a variety of cultural and artistic resources, and community meeting rooms that provide a positive and enriching environment promoting literacy and lifelong learning.

Goals and Services

Goal:

To enhance the availability of electronic information by enabling easier and more comprehensive access

Supports mission phrase I ...”provide access to electronic information”...

Supported by Services:

1. Provide direct high-speed access to remote information via the Internet.
2. Employ and train a staff person who will provide expert assistance in search and retrieval of information from the Internet and other resources.
3. Provide access to appropriate data bases.
4. Provide a sufficient number of computers of high quality in public and private areas of the library.
5. Make high speed Internet access available on all of its public computers.
6. Organize and implement programs which educates patrons in the search and retrieval processes and increase their ability to use computer information.

Goal:

To expand the collection to 40,000 volumes and to meet literary needs of the patrons through inter-library loan and Internet access.

Supports mission phrase II ...”provide access to all forms of literature”...

Supported by services:

1. Allow a large portion of the collection (books and other materials) to circulate.
2. Maintain a period of operation of 40 hours per week with the exception of holiday closings.
3. Provide appropriate staff to assist in information retrieval.
4. Provide a delineated space and collection specifically oriented toward children.
5. Provide a delineated space and collection specifically oriented toward young adults.

Goal:

To allow patrons to become involved in cultural and artistic activities through loan of materials, theatrical and musical presentations, displays and programs in various venues.

Supports mission phrase III ...“provide access to a variety of cultural and artistic resources”...

Supported by Services:

1. Work with local historical preservation groups to provide access to local historical materials.
2. Provide indoor and outdoor areas for display of cultural materials.
3. Provide indoor and outdoor areas for performance.

Goal:

To provide a variety of spaces suitable for local gatherings.

Supports mission phrase IV ...“provide access to community meeting rooms”...

Supported by Services:

1. WPL will feature several meeting rooms of differing sizes.

Goal:

To provide access to public areas of the library for all patrons.

Supports mission phrase V ...“provide a positive and enriching environment”...

Supported by Services:

1. Provide comfortable reading areas throughout the library.
2. Some designated restroom facilities will be equipped with fixtures appropriate

for small children and located in the children's area.

3. Provide some expansive work areas throughout the library.
4. Children's and Young Adult areas will be equipped with appropriate furniture and fixtures. (water fountains, sinks, bookshelves.)

Goal:

To provide space, materials and a variety of information and to aid in accessing this information while working in collaboration with other agencies in our community.

Supports mission Phrase VI ...“promoting literacy and lifelong learning.”

Supported by Services:

1. Work in collaboration with community agencies.
2. Provide children's story hour programs.
3. Promote adult and family literacy programs.
4. Provide regional tutorial literacy training programs.
5. Provide materials, resources and space for a home-school collection and program.
6. Provide space for tutor/student programs.
7. Promote adult literacy at a variety of developmental and interest levels.
8. Encourage a variety of book groups.
9. Maintain a collection of texts or list of texts which are directed toward the emergent adult reader.
10. Develop and maintain ongoing programming on the local cable access channels which seeks to provide outreach to the community and supports the library's other goals and services.