

Deerfield Public Library
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Board Members: Marla Bark Dembitz - Chair, Michael Goldberg, Staff: Mary Pergander – Library Director, Carol Dolin – Business Manager.

The Committee members reviewed the following:

- 1) Business Library Card Policy
- 2) Library Policy on Public Bulletin Boards, Display Space, and Information Distribution Spaces
- 3) Social Media Policy
- 4) Participation Waiver

Ms. Pergander presented two drafts of proposed language to allow business and commercial property owners to apply for a library card as provided by law. The second draft is more specific and offers clearer guidelines for staff. Ms. Dembitz recommended adding “or commercial rental” after “proof of business ownership” in the third sentence of the middle paragraph. Ms. Dembitz moved to recommend approval the second proposed draft of the Business Library Card Policy with the recommended changes to the full Board. Mr. Goldberg seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. Pergander presented a draft of proposed language for a Public Bulletin Board, Display Space, and Information Display policy. The policy has not been updated since March 31, 2000. The committee recommended some minor wording changes and substantial change to the Teen section. Ms. Dembitz moved to recommend approval of the the proposed Public Bulletin Boards, Display Spaces, and Public Information Distribution Spaces Policy with the recommended changes to the full Board. Mr. Goldberg seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Dolin presented a draft of the Social Media Policy. Social networking is relatively new to libraries, and policies are still in the development phase. Prior to the committee meeting, the policy was reviewed by the Library’s attorney. He said the draft was “very good...both in practical terms and legal,” but recommended several word changes to make the policy read better and reflect the most recent judgments on the matter. Ms. Dembitz and Mr. Goldberg accepted his recommended changes. Mr. Goldberg questioned the need to prohibit organized political activity on the Library’s social media sites. Ms. Dembitz agreed that further clarification of the definition of “organized political activity” and possible reasons for its exclusion from Library social media sites is needed. Ms. Pergander agreed to consult the Library attorney on this matter before the Board Meeting, if possible. Ms. Dembitz moved to recommend approval of the proposed Social Media Policy pending the attorney’s response to the question about “organized political activity.” Mr. Goldberg seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Pergander presented a proposed amendment to the Participation Waiver approved at the April Board Meeting, which removes the signature line and allows for general posting or reading aloud of the waiver rather than gathering individual signatures and keeping them on file. Given that gathering signed forms especially for drop in programs is particularly onerous and the risk to the Library is very low, Mr. Goldberg and Ms. Dembitz agreed to recommend that the full Board approve the amended draft of the Participation Waiver.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.