

SAN JUAN ISLAND LIBRARY DISTRICT

POLICY MANUAL

February 2019

This Policy Manual does not in any way create a contract, expressed or implied. This Policy Manual simply provides general statements of policy, which are not intended to be part of the employment relationship. These policy statements are not promises of specific treatment in specific situations and are not binding on the Library.

This Policy Manual does not guarantee employment for a definite period of time or alter the “at will” relationship between employee and employee.

This Policy Manual supersedes all previous Policy Manuals and all previous written or unwritten policies on any of the subjects discussed in this Policy Manual. The Library reserves the right to modify the policies contained in this Policy Manual at any time in accordance with Policy Section 1.2

SAN JUAN ISLAND LIBRARY DISTRICT OPERATIONS POLICY MANUAL

Table of Contents

1. Governance

- 1.0 By-Laws
- 1.1 Mission Statement and Core Values
- 1.2 Policy Manual
 - 1.2.1 Policy manual established
 - 1.2.2 Adopting, amending or rejecting policies
 - 1.2.3 Implementing policy revisions
 - 1.2.4 Policy Manual disclaimer
- 1.3 Appointment of Trustees
- 1.4 Ongoing Education and Training for Trustees
 - 1.4.1 Approval
 - 1.4.2 Reimbursement
 - 1.4.3 Assessment

2. Administration

- 2.1 Finances and Audits
 - 2.1.1 County as financial agent
 - 2.1.2 Approval of disbursements
 - 2.1.3 Petty cash fund
 - 2.1.4 Short-term investments
 - 2.1.5 Reserve funds
 - 2.1.6 Budget
 - 2.1.7 Procurement
 - 2.1.8 Surplus
 - 2.1.9 Capital assets management and inventory
 - 2.1.10 Food for district events
 - 2.1.11 Relocation expense reimbursement
 - 2.1.12 Credit Card Policy
 - 2.1.13 Acceptance of Online Debit and Credit Card Payments

3. Evaluation, Selection of Materials

- 3.1 Collection Development Policy
 - 3.1.1 Responsibility
 - 3.1.2 Philosophy
 - 3.1.3 Guidelines
 - 3.1.4 Objectives of collection development
 - 3.1.5 Criteria for selection
 - 3.1.6 Local Authors
 - 3.1.7 Citizen input
 - 3.1.8 Gifts
 - 3.1.9 Maintenance of collection
- 3.2 Access to Internet Resources

4. Registration and Circulation

- 4.1 Registration policy
 - 4.1.1 Resident, reciprocal and guest status
 - 4.1.2 Registration of new patrons
 - 4.1.3 Services to patrons with reciprocal status

- 4.1.4 Services to patrons with guest status
- 4.1.5 Registration fees
- 4.2 Circulation Policies
 - 4.2.1 Privacy of borrower registration and circulation records policy
 - 4.2.2 Restrictions on borrower circulation privileges
 - 4.2.3 Borrower's responsibility
 - 4.2.4 Waiving of patron fines and fees
 - 4.2.5 Purging patron records
 - 4.2.6 Event Equipment Loans
 - 4.2.7 WiFi Hotspots
- 4.3 Interlibrary Loan Policies
 - 4.3.1 Conditions of borrowing service
 - 4.3.2 Conditions of lending service
- 4.5 Policy against Discrimination
- 5. Use of the Building
 - 5.1 Rules of Conduct
 - 5.2 Meeting Room Policy
 - 5.2.1 Meeting room use
 - 5.2.2 Meeting room priority
 - 5.2.3 Regulations for use
 - 5.2.4 Appeal of regulations
 - 5.3 Library Exhibits
 - 5.3.1 Eligible exhibits
 - 5.3.2 Exhibit coordinator
 - 5.3.3 Responsibility
 - 5.3.4 Method of display
 - 5.3.5 Regulations
 - 5.3.6 Exhibit costs
 - 5.4 Art Policy
 - 5.4.1 Acquisition of art
 - 5.4.2 Composition of art
 - 5.4.3 Responsibilities of art committee
 - 5.4.4 Criteria for selection of works of art, including gifts
 - 5.4.5 Gift of and disposition of art
 - 5.4.6 Other administrative policies
 - 5.4.7 Citizen input
 - 5.5 Distribution of Free Materials
 - 5.6 Library Programs
 - 5.6.1 Selection
 - 5.6.2 3-D Printing
 - 5.7 Unattended Children and Vulnerable Adults
 - 5.8 Public Use of Youth Areas
- 6. Physical Plant
- 7. Social Media Policy
 - 7.1 Public Generated Content
 - 7.2 Library Content, Guidelines, and Actions
- Appendix
 - A. Library Bill of Rights
 - B. Freedom to Read Statement

- C. Free Access to Libraries for Minors
- D. Citizen's Comment on Library Materials Form

SAN JUAN ISLAND LIBRARY DISTRICT

1.0

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees of the San Juan Island Library District exists by virtue of the provisions of RCW 27.12.190 and exercises the authority and assumes the responsibilities delegated to it by said RCW.

ARTICLE II - OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers shall be President, Vice President, and Secretary, elected from among the appointed trustees at the annual meeting of the Board.

Section 2. Officers shall serve terms of one year from the annual meeting at which they are elected and until their successors are duly elected.

Section 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board, authorize calls for special meetings, appoint all committees, execute all documents authorized by the Board, serve as ex-officio voting member of all committees, insure that a true and accurate record is maintained of all meetings of the Board, and perform all other duties associated with that office.

Section 4. The Vice President, in the event of the absence of the President, shall assume and perform the duties and functions of the President.

Section 5. The secretary shall review for accuracy the records of all proceedings of the board meetings.

Section 6. Vacancies occurring in any office shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE III - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The governing board of the San Juan Island Library District is composed of five members as appointed by the San Juan County Board of Commissioners.

Section 2. The term of office of the trustees shall be five years. No trustee shall serve more than two full consecutive terms.

Section 3. Any trustees who misses more than three (3) board meetings in any calendar year may be asked to resign from the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV - COMMITTEES

Special committees for the study and investigation of special problems may be appointed by the President, such committees to serve until the completion of the work for which they were appointed.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings shall be held monthly, the date, the hour and the location to be set by the board.

Section 2. The annual meeting, which shall be for the purpose of the election of officers, shall be held at the time of the regular meeting in October of each year.

Section 3. A quorum for the transaction of business shall include, but not be limited to, the following items:

- (1) Call to order
- (2) Visitors
- (3) Adoption/amendment to agenda
- (4) Disposition of minutes of previous meeting
- (5) Financial report
- (6) Approval of bills
- (7) Report of Director
- (8) Unfinished business
- (9) New business

(10) Adjournment

Section 4. A special meeting may be called at any time by the President or by two Trustees by delivering written notice personally, by mail, by fax, or by electronic mail to each Trustee, and to each local newspaper of general circulation and to each local radio or television station that has on file with the Board of Trustees a written request to be notified of such special meeting or of all special meetings. Such notice must be delivered personally, by mail, by fax, or by electronic mail at least twenty-four hours before the time of such meeting as specified in the notice. The call and notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted. At such a special meeting, the Board may not make final disposition of any matter not specified in the call and notice of the meeting.

Written notice of a special meeting may be dispensed with as to any member who, at or prior to the time the meeting convenes, files with the Secretary of the Board or the Library Director a written waiver of notice. Such waiver may be given by mail, by fax, or electronic mail. Such written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes. The notices provided in this section may be dispensed with in the event a special meeting is called to deal with an emergency involving injury, damage, or other harm to persons (including, but not limited to, Library patrons) or property or the likelihood of such injury, damage, or harm when time requirements of such notice would make notice impractical and increase the likelihood of such injury, damage, or harm.

ARTICLE VI - LIBRARY DIRECTOR

The Board shall select and appoint a competent and qualified library director who shall be the manager of library operations. The Director shall be considered the executive officer of the board and shall have sole charge of the administration of the library under the direction and review of the board.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the board with a quorum present, with a majority vote of all members present, providing that the proposed amendment(s) shall have been presented for action at a previous meeting and stated in the call for the current meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Roberts Rules of Order, as currently amended, shall be parliamentary authority on all matters not covered by the by-laws of the Board.

Approved and adopted as amended this 13th day of December, 2011:

Policy Section 1 Governance
Date Adopted: November 10, 1987
Date Implemented: November 10, 1987
Date Amended: March 9, 1999
Date Amended: May 9, 2006
Date Amended: July 15, 2008
Date Amended: August 9, 2011

1.1 MISSION STATEMENT

Mission Statement

The San Juan Island Library provides community access to diverse and relevant collections, information resources, and services in support of individual educational, occupational, and recreational interests. The Library offers a welcoming place for community connection and promotes exploration of the joys of reading and of learning, while encouraging the discovery of life's possibilities.

Core Values

Accessibility

The Library recognizes that a user-friendly environment helps our patrons to access information. The Library explores ways to make it easier for all patrons to navigate our physical and virtual resources.

Welcome and Respect

The Library strives to be the heart of the community, reflecting the vibrant personality of our island. It is a safe and welcoming place that encourages the free exchange and exploration of ideas, and respects the diverse viewpoints of all.

Professionalism

The Library recognizes the importance of having well-trained, knowledgeable staff for delivery of quality services. The Library supports ongoing training to ensure professional standards and knowledge.

Intellectual Freedom

The Library strives to ensure protection of the individual's freedom to read, the maintenance of privacy, and unfettered intellectual inquiry and expression.

Innovation

The Library pursues innovation in services and resources to meet the evolving needs of the Library and our patrons.

Collaboration

The Library uses its unique position as a neutral public forum to foster partnerships and build connections across a broad spectrum of individuals and organizations in order to strengthen and enrich our community.

Policy Section 1.2

Date Adopted: December 9, 1986

Date Implemented: December 9, 1986

Date Amended: December 12, 2000

1.2

Policy Manual

1.2.1 Policy Manual established

A. Policies adopted by the Trustees shall take effect upon passage. They shall then be entered into suitably established official copies of the Policy Manual, which shall be maintained by the Director. Copy One of the Official Policy Manual shall contain the original copy of each policy and shall be kept in the Director's office. Copy Two of the Policy Manual shall contain identical copies of each policy, and shall be shelved in the library's reference collection, where it shall be available for examination or copying during regular library hours.

B. Policies, or portions thereof, entered in the Policy Manual shall display the date of adoption by the Trustees and the date of implementation. Each amendment to a policy shall also display the date the amendment was adopted and implemented.

C. Additional copies of the Policy Manual may be distributed to the Trustees and other individuals. However, copies made and distributed under this subsection are unofficial copies and the library is not responsible for their accuracy.

D. The Policy Manual is in the public domain, as defined in Title 17, United States Code 101.

1.2.2 Adopting, amending, or rejecting policies

A. Proposed policy changes may be introduced by the Director, a Trustee, an employee, or a citizen. Proposed policy changes shall be presented to the Director, who shall place them on the agenda for a Trustees' meeting within thirty-five days of receipt. Trustees also may propose policy changes by means of a motion during a Trustees' meeting.

B. When placed on the agenda, proposed adoption, amending, or rejection of policy changes shall take effect upon passage, and shall then be entered into the two official policy manuals.

C. With a quorum present, the Trustees may accept, reject or amend a proposed policy change by a simple majority vote of the Trustees present.

1.2.3 Implementing policy revisions

A vote by the Trustees to adopt, amend or delete policies takes effect upon passage. The policy revisions are entered in the two official copies of the policy manual, as specified in Section 1.2.1 (A), within three working days of the date the minutes are adopted.

1.2.4 This policy manual does not in any way create a contract, expressed or implied. This policy manual simply provides general statements of policy, which are not intended to be part of the employment relationship. These policy statements are not promises of specific treatment in specific situations and are not binding on the library. This policy manual does not guarantee employment for a definite period of time or alter the "at will" relationship between employer and employee.

This policy manual supersedes all previous policy manuals and all previous written or unwritten policies on any of the subjects discussed in this policy manual. The Library reserves the right to modify the policies contained in this policy manual at any time in accordance with Policy Section 1.2

Policy Section 1.3

Date Adopted: August 12, 1986

Date Implemented: August 12, 1986

Date Amended: June 13, 1995

1.3

Appointment of Trustees:

Written notice of a vacancy on the Board of Trustees shall be sent to the newspaper of legal record and other subscription newspapers in San Juan County two months prior to the expiration date. The Trustees may interview all applicants prior to the expiration date. The Trustees shall then submit the name(s) of the applicants to the appointing officials. The Trustees at their discretion may recommend one or more applicants for appointment.

Policy Section 1.4

Date Adopted: December 9, 1986

Date Implemented: December 9, 1986

Date Amended: June 13, 1995

Date Amended: November 10, 2004

1.4 Ongoing education and training for Trustees:

Trustees are encouraged to participate in conferences, meetings, and continuing education programs which will assist them in carrying out their responsibilities. The District will bear the cost of approved participation in accordance with the following policies.

- 1.4.1 Approval: In order for a Trustee to receive reimbursement for costs of attending any event, approval must be granted by the Board. Except where unusual circumstances prohibit, approval must be sought in advance of attendance. An estimate of the costs involved should accompany the request for approval. The Director should be consulted concerning the availability of budgeted travel funds. Standing approval may be made for Trustees to attend certain events.
- 1.4.2 Reimbursement. Travel costs will be reimbursed in accordance with District policies, using mileage and per diem rates adopted by San Juan County Administrative Services. Reimbursement will be full unless a partial reimbursement arrangement is set at the time of approval. Trustees will not be compensated for their time in traveling to or attending events.
- 1.4.3 Assessment: Trustees attending an event approved for reimbursement shall provide an oral and/or written report to the Board.

Policy Section 2 Administration
Date Adopted: February 10, 1987
Date Implemented: February 10, 1987
Date Amended: June 13, 1995
Date Amended: October 10, 2006
Date Amended: November 14, 2006
Date Amended: June 10, 2008
Date Amended: April 13, 2010
Date Amended: March 13, 2012
Date Amended: July 10, 2012
Date Amended: September 11, 2012
Date Amended: March 11, 2014
Date Amended: July 10, 2018

2.1 Finances and Audits

- 2.1.1 County as Financial Agent: Except as otherwise provided for in the Articles of Incorporation, bylaws or these policies, all funds of the District will be received, recorded, and disbursed by the San Juan County Treasurer and Auditor in accordance with State and County law and policies. All receipts except those properly maintained in a petty cash fund approved by the Board of Trustees will be deposited promptly with the County Treasurer's office, and all disbursements, except petty cash disbursements made in accordance with the policies of the District, will be made by the office of the County Auditor.
- 2.1.2 Approval of Disbursements: Disbursement of District funds, except as provided in A and B, shall be made by the County Auditor only on the authority of a Motion duly made, seconded, and passed by the Trustees at a properly called meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present. Certain other funds may be distributed in the following manner:
- A. Disbursements may be made from a petty cash fund previously approved by the Board of Trustees.
 - B. Employee wages and salaries, which have been previously authorized by action of the Board of Trustees, shall be disbursed by the County Auditor in the month earned based on a payroll worksheet approved by the Director. Such disbursements shall be ratified by the Board of Trustees at its succeeding regular monthly meeting.
- 2.1.3 Petty Cash Fund: The Trustees may, at their discretion, establish a petty cash fund in any specific amount they determine appropriate. The Director shall be responsible for the proper use and recordkeeping of the petty cash fund in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices for such funds.
- 2.1.4 Short-term investments: The Trustees may appoint one or more trustees or the Director as Investment Officer (s), and pass such resolutions as are necessary to authorize the Investment Officer(s) to invest, through the County Treasurer, District funds which are not immediately needed.
- 2.1.5 Reserve funds: The Library will maintain an unreserved fund balance of at least three (3) month's operating expenditures. These funds will be maintained to fund unforeseen or emergency operating expenditures, the maintenance and replacement of technology, and maintenance and repair of the facility.
- 2.1.6 Budget
- A. The Board shall approve a budget for each year, in accordance with the requirements of law. The Trustees will set an appropriate schedule for consideration of the budget, which schedule will include

a formal public meeting, properly announced. This public meeting is normally held at the regular November meeting, but may be held at whatever time, consistent with law, the Trustees set.

B. Once the budget has been approved by the Trustees, the Director is authorized to spend the funds budgeted, for the purposes budgeted, up to the budget limits (subject to paragraph 2.1.5.C, with the following exceptions:

1. Even if not explicitly budgeted, the Trustees may direct certain expenditures to be made on their behalf from budgeted lines. Examples of such items may include but are not limited to professional liability insurance and professional memberships for Trustees.
2. The Director is authorized to make expenditures not to exceed \$1500 without prior approval of the Trustees.
3. No new staff positions may be created, and no new employee benefits may be established, without the specific approval of the Trustees.
4. All contracts for professional services must be approved by the Trustees.
5. The Director shall reserve in the continuing education and travel budgets appropriate funds to cover Trustee costs for these items.
6. The Director shall not sign any contracts or make any agreements which would carry over into a future budget year without prior approval of the Trustees.
7. The Director shall not sign any promissory notes, or enter into any debt contracts (other than normal trade accounts) without the authorization of the Trustees.
8. The Trustees may from time to time make such other restrictions as they deem necessary.

C. Emergency Situations: If an emergency requiring expenditures in excess of those authorized in 2.1.5B (2) should arise, the Director shall consult by telephone with the President and/or such other Trustees as are available by telephone. Those Trustees and the Director may decide to make such expenditures as are necessary to relieve the emergency situation.

An emergency is defined as a situation in which immediate action is necessary to protect life, health, or property.

D. Avoidance of overbudgeting: The natural tendency in budgeting is to budget every line at its estimated maximum need. This generally results in a total budget in excess of actual need. In order to avoid this, budget lines will represent anticipated median, not maximum need. The Director will be considered in compliance with the budget as long as the total expenditure for operating items (excluding contingency, capital, and debt fund lines) does not exceed the total budget for those lines.

2.1.7 Procurement.

A. General: This policy applies to purchases and contracts for:

- Consultant Services (contractors for non-public work projects);
- Purchased materials or goods for non-public work projects (not including library materials);
- Public work projects; and
- Professional services, including architectural, engineering and landscape design.

The policy does not apply to the acquisition, sale, or lease of real property, or the acquisition or sale of library books or art. If grant funding is involved in the proposed purchase, applicable requirements should be obtained from the funding agency. Such requirements may be more restrictive than the District's policy.

Following is a general outline of cost thresholds for Library purchasing and contracts. This is for reference

only and is subject to the conditions set forth in this policy:

Less than \$10,000.00	No competitive bidding and may be contracted by Library Director without Board approval, if in budget; including public work projects.
\$10,000.01 – \$35,000.00	Informal competitive quotation process, including public work projects.
\$35,000.01 or more	Formal competitive bidding, including public work projects.
Less than \$300,000.00 (public work contracts only)	Small Works Roster. Alternative process for public work projects that can be used for any public work contract valued less than \$300,000.00.
Less than \$35,000.00 (public work contracts only)	Limited Public Work. A subset of the small works roster process – this is an alternative small works roster process for public work projects valued less than \$35,000.00.
All public work contracts, regardless of cost	Must comply with prevailing wage laws.

B. Definitions: The following words have the following meanings as used in this policy:

1. Types of Contracts

Emergency. In an emergency, the District can contract with any service provider and is exempt from following competitive bidding procedures, as set forth in Section 8 of this policy. An “emergency” means an unforeseen circumstance beyond the control of the District that either: (a) presents a real, immediate threat to the proper performance of essential functions; or (b) will likely result in material loss or damage to property, bodily injury, or loss of life if immediate action is not taken. See RCW 39.04.280(3).

Consultant Services. Consultant services include professional or technical expertise provided by a consultant to accomplish a specific study, project, task, or other work which is not reasonably required in connection with a public work project, as set forth in Section 4 of this policy. For example, human resource consultants, legal services, library study consultants, computer services, internet services, and related work by a consultant would be a consultant service. “Consultant service” does not include Professional Services. A “consultant service” may be referred to as a “personal service” in other policies or state law.

Professional Services. Professional services are services rendered by any person, other than as an employee of the District, contracting to perform activities within the scope of the general definition of professional practice as defined by state law. See RCW chapters 18.08, 18.43, or 18.96. The solicitation and award of professional services is governed by RCW Chapter 39.80. These include services from:

- Architects;
- Engineers;
- Land Surveyors;
- Landscape Architects.

Public Work. Public work includes services rendered for “all work, construction, alteration, repair, or improvement other than ordinary maintenance, executed at the cost of the District, or which is by law a lien or charge on any property therein.” RCW 39.04.010. The definition of “public work” is defined by state law and must be carefully followed. Examples include repairing Library facilities, any capital improvement project, and any alteration of the Library’s facilities, regardless of the contract amount.

Sole Source. Sole source means any purchases that are clearly and legitimately limited to a single source of supply as set forth in RCW 39.04.280, due to the unique nature of the requirement, the supplier, or market conditions. For sole source purchase contracts, the District is exempt from following competitive bidding procedures, as set forth in Section 8 of this policy.

Vendor Services. Vendor services are services provided by a vendor to accomplish routine, continuing, and necessary functions. This includes, but is not limited to: services for equipment maintenance and repair; operation of a physical plant; security; computer hardware and software maintenance; data entry; and other similar services.

2. Other Definitions

Ordinary Maintenance. This definition is regulated by the State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) for prevailing wage standards, and means work not performed by contract and that is performed on a regular basis (i.e., daily, weekly, monthly – but not less than once per year) to service, check or replace items that are not broken. Normally this means regular Library maintenance performed by a Library employee.

Prevailing Wages. Prevailing wages must be paid for all public work projects regardless of cost. It means the hourly wages, usual benefits, and overtime paid in the largest city in each county to the majority of workers, laborers, and mechanics, as established by State L&I for each trade and occupation employed in the performance of a public work. The District must use the prevailing wages established for San Juan County, as set forth in Section 6.5 of this policy.

Quotation or quote. A statement of price, terms of sale, and description of goods or services offered by a prospective contractor to the District. For service contracts, quotes would typically include the qualifications of the provider and its fees or costs, depending on the situation.

Request for Proposal (RFP). All documents, including attached or incorporated by reference, used for soliciting competitive proposals. The RFP procedure permits negotiation of proposals and prices. The procedure allows changes to be made after proposals are opened and contemplates that details of proposals and/or prices offered may be negotiated prior to award.

Request for Quotation/Qualification (RFQ). A document generally used for obtaining a summary of qualifications from prospective providers of services.

- C. Director Approval Authority: The Library Director is authorized, without prior Board approval, to approve and execute contracts for consultant services, vendor services, public work projects, and supplies and materials of up to **\$10,000.00**, when such contract costs are covered by budget appropriations previously approved by the Board. Contracts of any amount requiring additional appropriations must be approved by the Board.

- D. Contract Selection Criteria: State law does not provide criteria for the District to contract for consultant services, vendor services, or supplies and materials. This policy provides general criteria. A written contract will be used for all services on a form provided by the District or the contractor. The Library Director or designee shall keep a written record of all contracts, selection criteria and submissions.

In selecting a person, firm or entity to contract with under this section, basic criteria include the contractor's:

- Price;
- Ability to perform the work;
- Quality of performance, including any previous performance for the District;
- Ability to meet deadlines for contract performance;
- Responsiveness to solicitation requirements;
- Staff availability for the project, including availability of staff on San Juan Island;
- Experience and reputation;
- Compliance with statutes and rules relating to contracts or services; and
- Other information relevant to awarding the contract.

Generally, cost or price and qualifications for the job will be weighted the most heavily, as well as availability to work on San Juan Island. However, the Board or Library Director, as applicable, will determine which selection criteria will be used and how they will be weighted on a case-by-case basis, depending on the nature of the services the District needs and in accordance with the District's best interests.

- E. Process for Awarding Contract; Thresholds:

1. Contracts up to \$10,000.00
 - a. The Library Director may solicit contracts valued at \$10,000.00 or less if the amount is already appropriated in the budget, and will use his or her best efforts to obtain the lowest practical price for such goods or services.
 - b. The Director will use some or all of the selection criteria set forth above, depending on the nature of the services.
 - c. Telephone calls, as well as written solicitations, may be made to qualified consultants or suppliers describing the services or supplies desired and requesting price, schedule and qualifications.
 - d. The Library Director may appoint a contractor after determining the contractor offers services that meet the District's needs at a reasonable cost.

2. Contracts between \$10,000.01 – \$35,000.00 (informal competition)
 - a. The Board will select the contractor using evidence of competition for the contract.
 - b. The Library Director or designee will prepare a written solicitation that includes the description or scope of work for the project or the type of supply or material; the project schedule; the project budget if feasible and reasonable to include; and a request for the consultant's qualifications, costs and fees (price), and availability.
 - c. On behalf of the Board, the Library Director or designee will send written solicitations to at least three potential contractors, if practicable. If not practicable, the Director will document the reason

- why three potential contractors were not available and so inform the Board.
- d. The Board will use the selection criteria set forth above to choose the contractor, and will exercise its discretion regarding the selection process.
3. Contracts \$35,000.01 or more (formal competition). For contracts more than \$35,000.00, the District will use formal competition as set forth in this subsection:
 - a. On behalf of the Board, the Director or designee will prepare formal solicitation documents, e.g., Request for Proposals (RFP) or Request for Qualifications/Quotations (RFQQ), and include all requirements for contractors to understand the scope of the project, contractor requirements, project deadlines, and the District's needs and requirements for approval of final job completion.
 - b. Publish at least one legal notice in the official local newspaper of general circulation to notify contractors of the upcoming solicitation. Develop a written list of the names and addresses of contractors responding to the notice, if any.
 - c. Issue RFP or RFQQ to a minimum of three firms or businesses, including sending a notification to three or more businesses that the solicitation document is posted on the District's website and can be accessed there, if practicable.
 - d. Document for the file if fewer than three firms are contacted and state the reason why.
 - e. Determine whether or not an independent panel of interviewers will be used in an advisory capacity to the Board.
 - f. Develop score sheets for use by the evaluator(s).
 - g. Conduct pre-proposal conferences, if required in the RFP or RFQQ.
 - h. Provide answers to bidders' questions via addenda to all who receive the RFP or RFQQ; and/or advise those who download the RFP or RFQQ from the District website to check back for any addenda that may be posted on the website.
 - i. Date and time stamp written proposals received by the due date. Electronic proposals will have the date and time automatically noted.
 - j. Evaluate proposals against criteria set forth in the RFP or RFQQ and score. Use score sheets and tabulate scores to determine ranking of proposers.
 - k. If deemed necessary by the Board, schedule and conduct oral interviews of top finalists.
 - l. Determine final scoring and select contractor.
 - m. Notify successful and unsuccessful contractor(s) in writing.
 - n. Unsuccessful contractors may file a protest with the Board within 10 business days after the award notification has been received, after which time no protest may be filed. The Board may use its discretion to respond to or decide the protest within a reasonable amount of time after the protest is received, to the extent allowed by law, including RCW 39.04.105 and RCW 39.04.107
 - o. Negotiate written contract with chosen contractor on a form provided by the Library or the contractor, as approved by the Library's attorney.
 - p. The Library Director or designee will keep track of all deadlines and benchmarks for the project, when applicable, and keep a written record of progress on the project and the contractor's performance.
 - q. As deemed necessary by the Board, the Board will approve final payment of the contract after reviewing the contractor's performance.
- F. Public Work Projects: As defined in RCW 39.04.010, public work includes but is not limited to all work, construction, alteration, repair, or improvement, other than ordinary maintenance, engineering analysis, and design and other professional services, executed at the District's cost, or which is by law a lien or charge on any property therein.

1. Small Works Roster – Alternative Bidding Procedures

State law does not expressly authorize the District to use a small works roster. The Board adopts this policy to authorize the District's use of a small works roster as an alternative to the above contract quotation or bidding procedures. Pursuant to RCW 39.04.155, the District may use a small works roster to award public work contracts of less than \$300,000.00, valuing the contract in accordance with RCW 39.04.010 and 39.04.155.

A small works roster consists of all responsible contractors who have requested to be listed and that, where required by law, are properly licensed or registered to perform such work in the state of Washington. The District may contract with San Juan County or another qualified entity, such as the Municipal Research Services Center, to use its small works roster. The District does not need to use the small works roster process, but may do so at its discretion, for public work contracts with an estimated value of less than \$300,000.00.

If a small works roster is used, the District must use the following procedures, in compliance with RCW 39.04.155:

- a. Invitations for Quotes. The District shall obtain telephone, written or electronic quotations from contractors from the small works roster appropriate to the project, to assure that a competitive price is established. Invitations for quotations shall include an estimate of the scope and nature of work to be performed as well as materials and/or equipment to be furnished. However, detailed plans and specifications need not be included in the invitation. This does not eliminate other requirements for architectural or engineering approvals as to quality and compliance with state regulations and building codes. An invitation for a quote need not be advertised, but may be advertised at the District's discretion; and may follow such policies and procedures as may be established by the lead entity for the small works roster that the District is using.
- b. Contractors Solicited.
 - i. Quotations may be invited from all appropriate contractors on the appropriate small works roster.
 - ii. As an alternative, quotations may be invited from at least three contractors on the appropriate small works roster, who have indicated the capability to perform the kind of work being solicited. The invitation must be made to such contractors in a manner that will "equitably distribute" the opportunity among all appropriate contractors on the roster. "Equitably distribute" is defined in RCW 39.04.155.
 - iii. All contracts must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. RCW 39.04.350 outlines criteria that a bidder must meet in order to be considered responsible. All contracts awarded under this section must be approved by the Board.
 - iv. A contract awarded under this section need not be advertised.
- c. Written Record. The Director or designee shall keep a written record of each contractor's quotation or bid on the project and of any conditions imposed on the quotation or bid. Immediately after an award is made, the bid quotations obtained shall be recorded, open to public inspection, and available by telephone inquiry by the public.

2. Limited Public Work Process (public work projects less than \$35,000.00) – Alternative Bidding Procedures

Limited public work is an alternative process used to award small works roster contracts valued less than \$35,000.00, using a less formal bid process than for small works projects as set forth above,

pursuant to RCW 39.12.155(3). The District may adopt procedures for using this process, or may follow the statutory criteria, at its discretion.

3. Public Work \$300,000.00 or more

Public work contracts of \$300,000.00 or more in value shall follow all applicable state laws as set forth in RCW Chapter 39.04. The Board will consult with its attorney prior to awarding any contract of \$300,000.00 or more, and may by resolution adopt the ordinance(s) or policies of San Juan County or another qualified entity to award such contract.

4. Performance and Payment Bonds

State law mandates that the District require a performance bond and payment bond for every public work contract. See RCW 39.08.010. This ensures that the job will be completed and that all workers, suppliers, and subcontractors will be paid. The bond shall be executed by a surety company authorized to do business in Washington State, bound by the laws of the state of Washington and subject to the jurisdiction of the state of Washington, in an amount equal to 100% of the price specified in the contract.

For contracts of \$35,000.00 or less, the Board may opt to forego requiring a performance bond. Instead, the District may retain 50% of the contract for 30 days after final acceptance, or until receipt of all necessary releases from the Department of Revenue, Department of Labor & Industries, and Employment Security Department, and settlement of any liens filed under RCW 60.28 (whichever is later). The intent of this exception is to assist small contractors who may have difficulty securing a bond.

RCW 39.08.015 subjects the District to claims of laborers, materialmen, subcontractors, and mechanics if the required performance bond is not obtained.

5. Prevailing Wages

The District is required by the Prevailing Wage Law, RCW Chapter 39.12, to pay prevailing wages on all public work contracts regardless of the contract amount. Prevailing wages are determined by the State L&I per county and per occupation. The District uses L&I's chart for San Juan County. Failure to comply with the Prevailing Wage Law may subject the District to liability for all unpaid prevailing wages and penalties.

Each contract for public work shall, pursuant to RCW 39.12.030, contain a provision stating the hourly minimum rate of wage, not less than the prevailing rate of wage, which may be paid to the contractor or subcontractor, or other person doing or contracting to do the whole or any part of the work contemplated by the contract.

- A *Statement of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages* on a form provided by L&I should be attached to the contract. The contractor must submit the Statement to L&I, and the District must receive the completed Statement from L&I before it issues any payment to the contractor.
- After the work is complete, the contractor must submit an *Affidavit of Wages Paid* to L&I. The District may not make final payment to the contractor until it receives evidence that the Affidavit has been certified by L&I, unless alternative procedures are used.

- *Alternative Procedures.* If the contract is \$2,500.00 or less, the District may follow the alternative procedures in RCW 39.12.040(2), regarding how a contractor files a *Statement of Intent* and *Affidavit of Wages*, and how the District may make payment to the contractor without L&I's pre-approval.
- It is the contractor's duty to ensure that all information set forth on the *Statement of Intent* and *Affidavit of Wages* is correct and complete.

The Library Director or designee will keep a written record of the District's compliance with the Prevailing Wage Law. Pursuant to RCW 39.12.020, the District is not required to pay prevailing wages to District employees.

- G. **Professional Services: Architectural, Engineering, and Design Services.** RCW Chapter 39.80 outlines the requirements for obtaining "professional services," which are services rendered by any person, other than as an employee of the agency, contracting to perform activities within the scope of the general definition of professional practice in chapters 18.08, 18.43, or 18.96 RCW. These include services from:
- Architects;
 - Engineers;
 - Land Surveyors; and
 - Landscape Architects.

The requirements outlined in RCW Chapter 39.80, as may be amended by the State Legislature, must be carefully followed, including the requirement that the District solicit all contracts subject to RCW Chapter 39.80 through a qualifications-based process.

- H. **Exceptions to Competitive Bidding Requirements:** Under state law, the competitive bidding requirements set forth in this policy and otherwise required by state law may be waived by the Board for:
- a. Purchases that are clearly and legitimately limited to a single source of supply (or "sole source");
 - b. Purchases involving special facilities or market conditions;
 - c. Purchases in the event of an emergency;
 - d. Purchases of insurance or bonds;
 - e. Public work in the event of an emergency (RCW 39.04.280);
 - f. Purchases at auctions, so long as the items can be obtained at a competitive price; (RCW 39.30.045);
 - g. Electronic data processing or telecommunication equipment, software, or services (RCW 39.04.270); or
 - h. Professional services in event of an emergency (RCW 39.80.060).

1. **Sole Source Purchases**

For sole source purchases, there must clearly and legitimately be only one source capable of supplying the good or service in a timely fashion to the District. This may include special circumstances or market conditions, like San Juan Island's relative isolation, that result in only one appropriate source.

Purchases may be made from a sole source contractor or vendor without soliciting other quotes or bids. Written documentation demonstrating the appropriateness of a sole source purchase shall be submitted to the Board for approval. After the Board approves the sole source purchase, the contract and the factual basis for the exception must be recorded in the Board's minutes and open to public

inspection. See RCW 39.04.280(2).

2. Emergency Purchases

If an emergency exists, the Board or its designee may declare an emergency situation exists, waive competitive bidding requirements, and award all necessary contracts on behalf of the District to address the emergency situation. The emergency “designee” under this subsection shall be the Board President; or the Vice President if the President is not available; or the Secretary if the Vice President is not available; or the Director if the Secretary is not available. If a contract is awarded without competitive bidding due to an emergency, a written finding of the existence of an emergency must be made by the Board or its designee and duly entered of record no later than two weeks following the award of the contract.

3. Electronic data processing or telecommunications equipment

The District may acquire electronic data processing or telecommunication equipment, software, or services related to a public work project through a competitive negotiation process rather than through competitive bidding, as set forth in RCW 39.04.270.

- I. Compliance with Policy: A violation of any of the provisions of this policy, or of any state or federal law regarding purchasing under this policy, may result in discipline up to and including termination. Officers and employees should be aware of possible personal penalties, termination of employment or divestment of office, and financial liability for intentional or willful violation of competitive bidding laws, as set forth in RCW 39.30.020 and other applicable laws.

2.1.8 Surplus: Disposition of Surplus Materials: The San Juan Island Library Board of Trustees has the authority granted by RCW 27.12.210 to declare personal and real property surplus and provide for its disposal, limited only by the provisions of Chapter 39.33.RCW. Surplus property is any personal or real property that is no longer useful or functional.

A. Declaring Property Surplus

1. Only property having a monetary value need be formally declared surplus. Property that is obsolete, broken, or has no useful value may be disposed of with the approval of the Director.
2. The Director is authorized to declare as surplus library materials whose aggregate estimated value is less than \$1,000.
3. The Board of Trustees shall formally declare surplus by resolution library materials with an estimated aggregate value of \$1,000 or more and all other types of property with a value of less than \$50,000 per item. The resolution shall include a listing of the property and its estimated value.
4. Property valued at \$50,000 or more per item may be declared surplus only after a public hearing as set forth in Chapter 39.33 RCW

B. Disposal and Sale of Surplus Property

1. Property having no monetary value shall be disposed of by the most appropriate method.
2. Surplus library materials whose estimated aggregate value is less than \$1,000 and all other surplus property valued at less than \$50,000 per item shall be disposed of by the method that is in the best interest of the library as determined at the time the property is declared surplus.

3. Surplus library materials valued at \$1,000 or more shall be disposed of by the method that is in the best interest of the Library as determined at the time the property is declared surplus. Methods of disposal may include sale at public auction or sale by sealed bid. If no reasonable sale is made, they may be sold as specified in (2) above.
4. Property valued at \$50,000 or more that has been declared surplus after a public hearing shall be sold by public auction. If no reasonable bids are received, they may be sold as specified in (2) above.

C. Procedures

1. The Director is authorized to develop and carry out procedures to implement this Policy.

D. General Considerations:

1. Factors which are to be considered in determining value are original purchase price, age, condition of item and the going market value.
2. All monies received from the sale of surplus items shall be returned to the Operating Fund of the San Juan Island Library District.
3. The Director and members of the Board of Trustees and immediate family members of the above, are not permitted to purchase surplus materials.

- 2.1.9 Capital Assets Management and Inventory: Capital assets means real and personal property the library district intends to use or keep for more than one year. Capital assets include land and land rights; buildings, their furnishings, fixtures, and furniture; equipment, machinery, vehicles, and tools.

The purpose of this capital assets policy is to provide control and accountability over the Library's assets. The Library Director or designee will review and update annually this policy and procedure.

Management:

- Property Records will be maintained on the following classes of assets:
 - Real Property – including land, building(s) and improvements to land/building
 - Capital Asset – item or equipment with 1) asset value of over five thousand dollars (\$5,000); 2) a useful life of one or more years (as defined by IRS depreciation tables); and 3) legally considered either real or personal property.
 - Small and Attractive Assets – item or equipment with 1) asset value cost between three hundred dollars (\$300) and five thousand dollars (\$5,000); 2) a useful life of one or more years (as defined by IRS depreciation tables); and 3) considered sensitive and requiring property control.
 - Works of art/historical treasures:
 - Collection of rare books, manuscripts
 - Collection or rare and/or historically sensitive maps, documents and recordings
 - Permanent collection of art such as paintings, sculptures, and designs
 - Artifacts, memorabilia, exhibits
 - Unique or significant structures

Library Collections – Print materials, DVDs, audio books and audio collections and other similar library collection material intended for patrons' use are not required to be inventoried.

- Property Records will include:
 - A description of the property
 - A serial number or other identification number
 - Source of the property

- Ownership status
- Acquisition date and cost of the property
- The location, use and condition of the property
- Status of the asset (in use, surplus, lost, etc.)
- Disposition data including the date of disposal and sales price of the property

Procedure:

- **Responsibilities:** The director is responsible for developing and reviewing capital assets management processes. The director, department head, or designee is responsible for maintaining physical control and maintenance over all assets. The director will develop internal procedures to oversee the use and distribution of all assets of the Library District.
- **Inventory Staff** (director, department head, or designee) is responsible for:
 - Maintaining records
 - Labeling assets
 - Preparing asset inventory reports
 - Coordinating the physical inventory once every three years in conjunction with the State audit
 - Reconciling property inventory and fiscal records
 - Making reports of fixed assets on a yearly basis
- **Receiving, labeling, and delivery of property:** The SJI Library is responsible for all property upon delivery. All capital and “small and attractive” assets are to be labeled before being used within the Library. The director and department heads are responsible for identifying capital and small & attractive assets within their department. Inventory staff (designee) is responsible for assigning and permanently affixing a library district inventory number, label, and other identification markings on these assets as appropriate. The following information must be recorded on the master inventory list:
 - Inventory label number
 - Manufacturer, including where purchased
 - Model, serial number
 - Date of purchase
 - Purchase price (including tax and shipping costs)
 - Purchased under competitive bid (if applicable)
 - Source of funds (federal, state, private grant, grant name, or other source)
- **Disposal:** Once an item has been identified for surplus, the following information must be collected and retained:
 - Description of asset
 - Inventory label number
 - Serial and model number
 - Condition
 - Location
 - Disposal date
 - Upon approval for the disposal of Library assets, the adopted Surplus Policy will be followed. Director must refer to Section 2.1.8 Surplus of the SJI Library Policy Manual.
- **Lost or Stolen Property:** If property is missing, the Director must be notified in writing or by email indicating the item missing and the circumstances under which the item was lost or stolen. A search will be conducted for the missing property. The Director will take further action, calling the sheriff’s office if warranted, to

investigate the lost or stolen item. If it appears the item has just been misplaced, the item will remain on the inventory list until the next full physical inventory. If it is not found in the next inventory, the Director or designee will initiate the process for stolen property. If the property is not located, the Director or designated inventory staff will note in the Library's inventory record the item as being disposed noting that the asset was lost or stolen.

- Physical Inventory: The Director or designee is required to maintain a physical inventory of all assets. Each inventory staff will work with other staff to reconcile the inventory once every three years during the State audit period. The Director will oversee the inventory. Results of the physical inventory will be filed with the Director at the end of each inventory.

2.1.10 Food for District Events: Occasionally the Library District sponsors special meetings, events and programs that include courtesy refreshments, such as coffee, tea, cookies and the like. The Library is authorized to provide light food and/or refreshments at minimal Library expense in order to induce public participation in periodic public outreach and programming sessions, public meetings, and staff training sessions during meal times.

2.1.11 Relocation Expense Reimbursement: Moving expenses are generally not reimbursed for new employees except at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. In such cases as the Board does allow for reimbursement, this decision must be approved at a public meeting of the Board by a formal motion. Only expenses that meet the following criteria will be considered:

1. expenses that are reasonable and actual expenditures
2. relocation from prior home to San Juan Island
3. relocation distance must exceed 50 miles from the Anacortes ferry landing
4. total expenses must not exceed 10% of employees base salary

Reimbursement for moving expenses may be authorized by the Board of Trustees for new employees in a professional, administrative, technical or major supervisory position if it is necessary to recruit out of the local area. Reimbursement is dependent upon funding availability during the fiscal year.

After approval by the Board, the District may reimburse for the following:

- Mileage according to the IRS allowable mileage rate.
- Transportation of household and personal belongings by a commercial moving company. Allowable expenses include the actual cost of moving. Quotes shall be obtained from at least 3 commercial moving companies.
- Transportation of household and personal belongings by the employee. Allowable expenses include the actual cost of renting a moving truck or trailer from an established commercial rental company. Quotes shall be obtained from 3 commercial vehicle rental companies.
- Moving expenses will be paid if relocation is at time of employment.
- Receipts for all related moving expenses shall be provided to the District.
- If an employee leaves employment with the District within one year of the date of employment, the employee will be responsible for reimbursing the District for the total cost of moving expenses.

2.1.12 Credit Card Policy: The purpose of the credit card policy is to facilitate purchases of services and commodities for the Library, and to set forth standards to be implemented and adhered to by officers and employees of the Library in compliance with RCW 43.09.2855 and RCW 42.24.115. In addition to this Policy, the Library shall follow internal guidelines for the management and control of Library credit cards, see Credit Card Guidelines.

1. Authorization and Control.
 - a. The Library is authorized to contract for issuance of credit cards upon approval by the Board of Trustees. All credit cards are the property of the Library unless the issuing financial institution requires that the credit card be held by an individual. Any benefits derived from use of the credit cards are the property of the Library, unless otherwise required by the issuing financial institution for a credit card held by an individual. The Library accepts full responsibility for debt incurred on credit cards issued solely for Library use, except for any prohibited fees, costs or expenses that are determined to be the personal liability of a Library officer or employee.
 - b. The Director is responsible for controlling the issuance, account monitoring, and retrieval of credit cards, and for overseeing compliance with this policy as more specifically set forth in the Credit Card Guidelines.
 - c. The Library's bookkeeper is responsible for accounting for use and issuance of credit cards, as further set forth in the Credit Card Guidelines.
2. Distribution of Credit Cards.
 - a. The Director may use a Library credit card, and the Director shall determine to whom a credit card may be issued. Only an officer or employee of the Library may use a Library credit card ("Authorized User"), and must sign a Credit Card Use Agreement prior to such use.
 - b. Authorized Users are responsible for properly using and protecting credit cards issued to them pursuant to this Policy and the Credit Card Guidelines. Authorized Users will immediately notify the bookkeeper and Director if a card is lost or stolen, or if fraudulent activity is suspected, and shall also notify the issuing financial institution. The Director or bookkeeper also have the authority to notify the issuing financial institution of such unauthorized activity.
3. Authorized Uses. In compliance with state law, Library credit cards may only be used for official Library purchases and acquisitions, limited to:
 - a. Authorized work-related travel expenses; or
 - b. Authorized work-related conference registration fees; or
 - c. Materials, equipment, supplies, contracted services and operating expenses for the Library which have been budgeted for and/or approved by the Board or the Director, in compliance with applicable procurement policies.
4. Prohibited Uses. Credit cards shall not be used for personal expenses even if such expenses are reimbursed or paid off and even if the credit card is issued to the individual, solely for Library use; cash advances; or any other expense, purchase or acquisition not authorized by this Policy, the Credit Card Guidelines, or state law.
5. Receipts. An Authorized User must submit receipts to the Library bookkeeper for any and all purchases made with a Library credit card. The receipts shall be submitted to the Library's bookkeeper immediately after such purchase(s) is made, to the best extent practicable, as further set forth in the Credit Card Guidelines.
6. Credit Limits Available. Credit cards will have varying authorized maximum spending limits according to the purchasing needs of each job position, as determined by the Library Director, which credit limit shall not exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00).
7. Payment of Bills. The balance due on credit card accounts will be paid within the balance period indicated on the monthly statements, as further set forth in the Credit Card Guidelines.

8. **Monitoring.** The Director or the Library's bookkeeper shall regularly monitor use of Library credit cards, including reviewing the actual purchases made, users who hold a credit card (including an individual credit card issued for Library use), and the invoices and receipts received by Authorized Users compared to the bills issued for payment of such receipts, as further set forth in the Credit Card Guidelines. The Library's bookkeeper shall keep all records related to credit card use for at least six years or as otherwise directed by state law.
 9. **Late Fees; Personal Liability.** An officer or employee using a Library credit card shall be personally liable for any late fees that accrue due to that person's failure to comply with this Policy or the Credit Card Guidelines, and shall be personally liable for any purchase(s) the person makes with a Library credit card that is prohibited or not expressly authorized by the Library. If the Library Director determines that any officer or employee has misused a Library card and caused the Library to incur prohibited costs or fees, the Director may authorize such costs or fees to be taken from the employee's regular wages, upon approval by the Board.
 10. **Compliance.** An officer or employee of the Library may use a Library-issued credit card only pursuant to this Policy and the Credit Card Guidelines. In the event an officer or employee violates any provision of this Policy or any applicable law, the officer or employee may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. An officer or employee must immediately surrender a library-issued credit card upon leaving Library employment or upon any finding of malfeasance or misuse of a credit card.
- 2.1.13 **Acceptance of Online Debit and Credit Card Payments:** Because it offers patrons a convenient form of payment, increases the likelihood that charges will be collected, and saves staff time, it is in the best interests of the Library to accept online payment of fees, donations and other charges by debit or credit card. All debit or credit card transactions will be online only, and self-directed by patrons. Staff will not accept debit or credit card payments at this time.
- A. **Categories of payments:** Online payments may be used to pay—
 - Library fees for lost or damaged items
 - Small purchases
 - Printing charges
 - Donations
 - Other charges as needed (e.g. surplus sales, room rentals, etc.)
 - B. A minimum transaction amount may be set by the director.
 - C. **Responsibility for transaction processing costs:** The Library does not charge a transaction or convenience fee at this time.
 - D. **Privacy:** Debit or credit card customer information is not subject to Public Records Disclosure. Also, such information is not subject for use for commercial purposes.
 - E. **Security:** All debit and credit card transactions are fully SSL encrypted and PCI DSS compliant. Cardholder data is never stored or exposed on library systems.
 - F. **Authority to Contract:** The Library shall establish and administer contracts with vendors for the acceptance and processing of electronic payments, including, but not necessarily limited to: merchant banking services, Internet payment gateway services, and third party electronic payment processors.

Policy Section 3 Evaluation, Selection of Materials

Date Adopted: July 12, 1988

Date Implemented: July 12, 1988

Date Amended: August 8, 1995

Date Amended: January 14, 2003

Date Amended: May 9, 2006

3.1 Collection Development Policy

The Board of Trustees of the San Juan Island Library District recognizes that within the service area there are groups and individuals with widely separate and diverse interests, backgrounds, cultural heritages, social values and needs. The Board further recognizes the library was created to serve all the people within its district regardless of age, race, sex, creed, national origin or political or social views, including those who are handicapped or in institutions.

The San Juan Island Library District strives to ensure that the residents of the District have the right and means to free and open access to ideas and information which are fundamental to a democracy. The Library will protect intellectual freedom, encourage lifelong learning, and provide library materials and information services.

- 3.1.1 Responsibility. Library materials selection is and shall be vested in the Director of the San Juan Island Library District and, under her/his direction, such members of the staff who are qualified by reason of education and training. Suggestions from the public regarding selection or retention of books and other library materials are reviewed by authorized employees according to the policies contained in this document.
- 3.1.2 Philosophy. Selection and retention of books and other library materials shall be made on the basis of value or interest, information and enlightenment for all people of the District. No book or other library materials shall be excluded or removed because of the race, nationality, sex or political, social or religious views of the author; neither can the collection reflect inordinate responsiveness to any single individual. Choice of library materials for personal use is purely an individual matter and although anyone is free to reject for themselves materials of which they do not approve, they may not restrict the freedom of use and access for others; freedom of access for a minor is the responsibility of parents or legal guardians; it is not the responsibility of the library.
- 3.1.3 Guidelines. The Board of Trustees adopts and declares that it will adhere to and support:
- A. The Library Bill of Rights for access to books, ALA Council, 1980 amendment (Appendix A).
 - B. The Freedom to Read Statement, 2000 revision (Appendix B).
 - C. Free Access to Libraries for Minors, ALA's interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights, 1991 amendment (Appendix C).
- 3.1.4 Objectives of Collection Development. The library will acquire, organize, make available and encourage the use of all media that:
- Contributes constructively to the individual's awareness of self and community while providing insight into a wide range of human and social conditions and various cultural heritages
 - Encourages informal self education
 - Meets the informational and recreational needs of the entire community
 - Stimulates thoughtful participation in the affairs of the community, the state, the nation, and the world
 - Gives access to a variety of opinions on matters of current interest
 - Assists the individual to grow intellectually and culturally
 - Reflects minority opinions as well as those of the majority

- 3.1.5 Criteria for Selection. The library's collection is essentially a popular and informational one. It exists to serve the recreational, education, and self-help needs of the library's patrons. The library will not attempt to create a research collection, but will try to select basic, representative works in most subject areas. Standard bibliographies will be consulted for guidance. Every effort will be made to have a comprehensive popular collection. Materials will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:
- Anticipated demand
 - Actual demand
 - Patron requests
 - Staff suggestions
 - Book reviews
 - Interlibrary loan requests
- 3.1.6 Works by Local Authors. Although an effort will be made to collect popular works by local authors, no attempt will be made to develop a comprehensive local author collection.
- 3.1.7 Citizen input. A patron questioning material in the library collection is free to ask the library Director concerning such material. A patron wishing to file a formal complaint about a specific piece of library material is then required to state her/his opinion in writing on a Citizen's Comment on Library Materials form (Appendix D) which the library Director will provide to the patron, along with a copy of this Collection Development Policy. After the form is filled out in full and returned to the Library Director, the patron will receive a response in writing as soon as it is practical. The material under question will remain in the active collection until a final decision is made.
- 3.1.8 Gifts. The library welcomes gifts of materials, equipment and money to supplement materials and services supporting the informational and recreational needs of San Juan Island residents. Gift materials or equipment added to the library collection are governed by the same criteria and procedures for selection, evaluation, repair, processing, loaning and discard as materials purchased by library operating funds. Ultimate responsibility for inclusion of materials in the library collection lies with the library director. Equipment and materials received as gifts become the property of the San Juan Island Library District. The library reserves the right to evaluate all gifts in accordance with the Collection Development Policy. Gift materials are only accepted with the stipulation that they might not be added to the collection. Items not included in the collection will be disposed of in a manner which the library deems appropriate. Patrons who provide donations to be used for acquiring materials are requested to permit library staff to select specific titles which may meet the wishes of the donor, satisfy selection criteria, and are appropriate for the general public. Appraisal remains the responsibility of the donor. Gifts other than library materials or money to purchase materials will be accepted according to the criteria established in Policy Section 5.4 (Gifts of Art).
- 3.1.9 Maintenance of collection. Materials which are no longer useful in light of stated objectives of the library will be systematically weeded from the collection according to accepted professional practices. Discarded materials will be sold by the library or designated organization in accordance with Washington State Statutes.

Policy Section 3.2

Date Adopted: July 19, 1995

Date Implemented: July 19, 1995

Dated Amended: May 12, 1998

Date Amended: July 11, 2000

Date Amended: January 14, 2003

Date Amended: April 13, 2004

Date Amended: May 9, 2006

Date Amended: September 16, 2008

3.2.0

ACCESS TO INTERNET RESOURCES

- 3.2.1 Throughout its history the San Juan Island Library District has made information available in a variety of formats, from print to audiovisual materials. The Library's computer system provides the opportunity to integrate electronic resources from information networks around the world with the Library's other resources.
- 3.2.2 The Internet, as an information resource, enables the Library to provide information beyond the confines of its own collection. It allows access to ideas, information and commentary from around the globe. Currently, however, it is an unregulated medium. Unlike San Juan Island Library, where items in the collection have been carefully evaluated, the Internet has no system for ensuring that what is found is accurate, current or complete. Internet resources are not subject to the same selection criteria which the Library uses for other materials. While it offers access to a wealth of material that is personally, professionally, and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages, it also enables access to some material that may be offensive, disturbing and/or illegal.
- 3.2.3 The Library upholds and affirms the right and responsibility of parents to determine and monitor their children's use of all Library materials and resources. Library users are the final selectors in using the Internet and are responsible for their individual choices and decisions. That said, it is the policy of the San Juan Island Library to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)]. Legal definitions relating to the Act are found in section 3.2.8 of this manual. It is the responsibility of parents to monitor their children's use of Internet access.
- 3.2.4 In order to ensure that the use of this medium is consistent with the Mission of the Library, the following rules and procedures will apply:
- A. Due to limited staff availability, the Library reserves the right to require that all prospective users have a basic understanding of Internet use as a condition for access to the Library's Internet stations.
 - B. Parents are encouraged to work closely with their children in selecting material that is consistent with personal and family values and boundaries.
 - C. Internet usage is limited to posted time limits regardless of current Internet performance, which lies beyond the control of the Library.
 - D. Since space is limited and noise from group conversations is disruptive to others, there is a limit of two library patrons per computer station.
 - E. Patron files may not be stored on library computers. Patrons wishing to download files may purchase a storage media device at the Reference Desk. The Library assumes no responsibility for damage caused by viruses downloaded from the Internet on library property.

F. Printing charges are 10¢ per page, payable at the checkout desk.

3.2.5 Internet use will be managed in a manner consistent with the Library's Rules of Conduct which have been adopted and are posted in the Library. Failure to use the Internet station appropriately and responsibly may result in revocation of Internet use privileges. Users may not:

- Use the workstations to gain unauthorized access to the Library network or computer systems or to any other network or computer system.
- Make an attempt to damage or alter computer equipment or software.
- Violate copyright laws or software licensing agreements.
- Engage in any activity which is disruptive to other Library users.
- Violate federal, state or local laws or regulations.

3.2.7 Patrons found to be in violation of any of the above regulations will be advised of the policy, and receive verbal warning from a staff member of the obligation to observe existing Internet policies and procedures. A second such violation will result in the loss of Internet privileges, for a term to be determined by the Library Director.

3.2.8 Definitions relating to the Children's Internet Protection Act

TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE. The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. **OBSCENE**, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. **CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. **HARMFUL TO MINORS**, meaning any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
 - A. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
 - B. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
 - C. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.
- D. **SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT.** The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

Policy Section 4 - Registration and Circulation

Date Adopted: April 14, 1987

Date Amended: July 12, 1988

Date Amended: June 14, 1994

Date Amended: August 8, 1995

Date Amended: December 13, 1999

Date Amended: January 14, 2003

Date Amended: January 10, 2006

Date Amended: May 8, 2007

Date Amended: June 12, 2007

Date Amended: October 14, 2014

Date Amended: August 9, 2016

Date Amended: November 8, 2016

4.1

Registration:

The Library District comprises the island of San Juan. Free borrowing privileges are extended to:

- Residents of the Library District and their dependents;
- Residents of areas with which the library has a reciprocal agreement (see section 4.1.1B).

Due to the transient nature of residency on San Juan Island, the Director may develop guidelines that conform to this section so long as such guidelines are reviewed and uniformly applied by the Board.

4.1.1 Resident, Reciprocal and Guest Status:

- A. For the purposes of library registration, resident status is assigned to any individual who resides in or owns real property within the San Juan Island Library District, or an individual who regularly works on San Juan Island. Residency status will be further determined by specific written criteria as determined by the Library Director.
- B. For the purposes of library registration, reciprocal status is assigned to any individual who lives within the Lopez or Orcas Island Library District, and has a current library account in good standing with their home library.
- C. For the purposes of library registration, any individual who does not have resident or reciprocal status shall be assigned guest status.

4.1.2 Registration of New Patrons

- A. Each patron making application for a library card shall be required to show one or more pieces of identification, such as a current driver's license, passport, or identity card. Documentation acceptable to the Director or staff must be offered in addition to any photo identification not containing the current and/or permanent address.
- B. A parent or guardian must sign the library card application as a statement of permission and responsibility for material checked out by the dependent ages 17 and under, and list other responsible parents/guardians. The dependent must be present at the time of application. If the parent/guardian has a library account, it must be in good standing before signing for a dependent's library account. An unaccompanied dependent may present an application signed by a parent/guardian if he or she also has all other required pieces of identification and proof of address. A parent/guardian may opt to allow or not allow the dependent to check out a Library laptop for in-house use by indicating permission on the library card registration application.
- C. Guests are further required to pay a non-refundable registration fee, as designated in Section 4.1.5.
- D. The Library Director may require further documentation as proof of resident, reciprocal or guest status.

- 4.1.3 Services to Patrons with Reciprocal Status:
Reciprocal patrons shall enjoy the rights accorded to residents with the exception of Interlibrary Loan services and the Event Equipment collection. In special cases approval of Interlibrary Loan services or use of the Event Equipment collection may be granted by the Director.
- 4.1.4 Services to Patrons with Guest Status:
- A. Monthly Guests. Guests who pay the non-refundable monthly registration fee designated in Section 4.1.5 shall enjoy the rights accorded to residents of the San Juan Island Library District with the exception of Interlibrary Loan services.
 - B. Yearly Guests. Guests who pay the non-refundable annual registration fee designated in Section 4.1.5 shall enjoy the rights accorded to residents of the San Juan Island Library District.
- 4.1.5 Registration Fees
Guests shall pay a non-refundable registration fee of ten (10) dollars per month or one hundred (100) dollars per year.

Policy Section 4.2

Date Adopted: December 8, 1987

Date Implemented: December 8, 1987

Date Amended: July 12, 1998

Date Amended: December 10, 2002

Date Amended: August 9, 2016

Date Amended: November 8, 2016

Date Amended: January 10, 2017

Date Amended: February 12, 2019

4.2

Circulation Policies:

4.2.1 Privacy of Borrower Registration and Circulation Records Policy:

- A. Borrower registration and circulation records of the San Juan Island Library District are to be considered confidential, regardless of the source of inquiry (exceptions outlined in B through E, below), and exempt from public inspection and copying, as set forth in RCW 42.56.310:

Any library record, the primary purpose of which is to maintain control of library materials, or to gain access to information, that discloses or could be used to disclose the identity of a library user is exempt from disclosure under this chapter.

Borrower registration and circulation records shall not be made available to anyone except through such process, order or subpoena as may be authorized by law. Upon receipt of such process, order or subpoena, the District's lawyer shall be consulted to determine if such process, order or subpoena is in proper form. Any notable defects must be cured before records are released. The Director may release borrower registration and circulation records without process, order or subpoena if, in her/his judgment, a condition of grave emergency exists which can be remedied by the release of such circulation records.

- B. In the case of a dependent ages 17 years and younger, parents/guardians listed on the account have full access to the dependent's account. Parents may opt out of having access to information on the account, but will still remain financially responsible for the account.
- C. In the case of an adult user with a designated legal guardian, such information may be released to a legal guardian and/or caregiver.
- D. Circulation information on patron accounts may be disclosed to other people a library card holder indicates are authorized users on the account. No registration information will be shared with authorized users.
- E. Patrons who fail to return materials in a timely manner will be deemed to have waived their right to confidentiality insofar as is necessary for the Library to retrieve the missing material or secure appropriate compensation for its loss.
- F. Any problems or conditions relating to the privacy of borrower registration and circulation records which are not provided for in the policy statement shall be referred to the Director for resolution. If these problems or conditions cannot be resolved, an appeal may be made to the Library Board.

4.2.2 Restrictions on Borrower Circulation Privileges:

- A. Borrower circulation privileges will be restricted in the following manner. If the amount owing on the patron's record totals \$10 or more in charges incurred as a result of lost or damaged library materials, loan privileges will be suspended for that patron until all charges have been paid in full. A payment plan for charges may be set up at the discretion of the library director, assistant director, or circulation manager. In

- the event of damage incurred due to fire or other natural disaster, if the charges represent a hardship on the borrower, the fees may be appealed to the library director, assistant director, or circulation manager.
- B. The replacement cost of material is recorded in each item record. The library does not accept replacement material in lieu of payment. The library does not give refunds for lost or damaged items that have been paid for. If the item is found after the borrower has paid for it, the item is his or hers to keep.
 - C. If items are returned more than 90 days overdue, the billed charges will not be waived. The patron is responsible for replacement costs.
 - D. If the library is billed for unreturned or damaged materials borrowed through interlibrary loan, and pays the lending library for the charges incurred, all circulation privileges for the individual failing to reimburse the library for these charges will be suspended until payment is made.
 - E. Returned check fee: A \$35.00 fee will be charged for any returned check.

4.2.3 Borrower's Responsibility:

- A. Each eligible borrower shall provide the library with her/his full written signature, current address, and telephone number. Each borrower shall be responsible for all use made of her/his card. If a card is lost or stolen, the borrower is responsible for all charges against it until the loss is reported.
- B. The library does not limit the number of books, magazines or other library materials that an eligible borrower may borrow.
- C. The parent/guardian is responsible for fines and fees associated with material borrowed by his or her dependent ages 17 and younger.
- D. The parent/guardian is solely responsible for the type of material checked out by his or her dependent. Library staff is not responsible for determining whether material selected by dependent is "age appropriate."

4.2.4 Waiving of Patron Fines and Fees:

- A. Waiving or partial waiving of patron fees may be done for various reasons, including but not limited to:
 - Billed items that are returned before 90 days overdue. Billed charges for items that are returned more than 90 days overdue will not be waived.
 - Staff or system errors.
 - Financial hardship.
 - Patron not responsible for loss or damage to item.
- B. Authorization to waive fees is given by the library director, assistant director, or circulation manager.
 - Staff may waive fees after consulting authorized staff by noting in patron record: "Waived for REASON per AUTHORIZATION NAME—STAFF INITIALS."

4.2.5 Purging Patron Records:

- A. Patron accounts may be deleted for various reasons, including but not limited to:
 - Patron has more than one open account in his or her name.
 - Patron wishes to close his or her account.
 - Patron is deceased.
- B. Authorization to delete patron accounts is limited to the library director, assistant director, or circulation manager.
 - After any outstanding materials or fees are resolved, a note is placed on the patron record with initials of the authorized staff person, a copy of the screen printed out and saved, and the record deleted.
- C. The IT Manager under direction of the Director may bulk purge multiple patron accounts and associated fees on an annual basis that have been inactive for five years and have an aggregate value up to \$1,500 without prior board approval. This purge will also remove any remaining billed items in the system still

associated with these accounts. The IT Manager will report the purge details to the Board of Trustees at their next regular meeting.

4.2.6 Event Equipment Loans:

San Juan Island Library lends electronic and other types of equipment suitable for use at events held or attended by library users outside the Library. This equipment may include such items as a laptop computer, digital media projector, portable screen, portable speakers, video camera, and presentation easel.

- A. Event equipment may be booked in advance as prescribed by the director.
- B. Borrowers must be at least 18 years of age with a resident or annual guest library account in good standing.
- C. Borrowers must sign a Reservation Request form and a Borrower Checkout Agreement.
- D. Event equipment items and kits may be checked out for a designated loan period set by the director.
- E. The Library cannot guarantee that booked equipment will be available the day for which it is reserved. Patrons may contact the Library by telephone or email to inquire if booked equipment is functioning and available. In cases where the Library knows that equipment is out of order or missing, staff will attempt to notify those who have booked equipment.
- F. The Library assumes no responsibility for equipment failure. The Library is held harmless for any damage, injury or loss incurred by borrower in relation to or caused by event equipment.
- G. Borrower assumes any and all liability for the cost, repair, or replacement in the event of loss due to theft, damage, negligence, or misuse. Under no circumstances should equipment be left unattended.
- H. Any equipment malfunctions must be immediately reported to library staff.
- I. When the loan period has elapsed the borrower must return the equipment to the Library. There are no renewals on loans of event equipment.
- J. Event equipment must be picked up and returned in person to a library staff member, not in book drops. Event equipment must be returned during hours the Library is normally open to the public, at least thirty (30) minutes before regularly scheduled closing times.
- K. Library staff will check to see that all equipment is included upon return, and check in complete items/kits. The borrower is still held responsible for the equipment until testing of equipment has been carried out by staff.
- L. Data, pictures, and all types of information must be removed from library equipment and saved elsewhere. The Library will delete borrower's content if the borrower fails to do so.
- M. A non-refundable late fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per day will be charged for each overdue item or kit not returned by specified due date. Equipment returned with missing parts will continue to accrue late fees until missing parts have been returned or the replacement cost is paid.
- N. Overdue fees shall not exceed the replacement cost of the item or kit (minimum replacement cost = \$25.00).
- O. Full replacement costs for replacement or repair of missing or damaged parts will be billed to patron's account after such costs are determined.
- P. All borrowing privileges will be suspended until repair and/or replacement costs and any late fees are paid in full.
- Q. Event equipment checkout is a privilege that can be revoked from patrons who lose equipment or return equipment late or damaged.

4.2.7 WiFi Hotspots:

San Juan Island Library lends WiFi Hotspots to address challenges Island residents experience accessing Internet—at work, at home, or while traveling. The following conditions apply:

- A. Hotspot borrowers must:
 - 1) Be at least 18 years of age with a resident or annual guest library account in good standing.
 - 2) Check out no more than one Hotspot per household at a time.
 - 3) Abide by T-Mobile's Acceptable Use Policy.
 - 4) Assume any and all liability for the cost, repair, or replacement in the event of loss due to theft, damage, negligence, or misuse.
 - 5) Return the device and all accessories in the container provided.
- B. Conditions
 - 1) Hotspot late fees, as determined by the Library Director, may be charged daily until returned, up to the total replacement cost for the device and all accessories. Accumulated late fees are in addition to replacement costs if item is not returned or returned damaged.
 - 2) Hotspot data may be turned off remotely if device becomes overdue.
 - 3) Wireless security is not guaranteed. Borrowers accept all risk associated with use of the wireless data service.
 - 4) No content filtering is provided. Parents are encouraged to work closely with their children in selecting material that is consistent with personal and family values and boundaries.
 - 5) The Library assumes no responsibility for equipment failure, and equipment is not guaranteed to work in all locations.

Policy Section 4.3

Date Adopted: October 22 and November 12, 1986

Date Amended: December 14, 1993

Date Amended: June 14, 1994

Date Amended: March 9, 2010

Date Amended: September 8, 2015

4.3

Interlibrary Loan Policies

The purpose of Interlibrary Loan is to obtain materials not available in the Library collection for use by San Juan Island Library patrons, and to provide material from the District's collection to other libraries for use by their patrons.

Interlibrary Loan services form an integral part of the District's service to the community. Because of the limited size of the District's collection, the use of Interlibrary Loan is recognized as affording a practical means of satisfying patrons' informational, educational and recreational needs.

The Library affirms that Interlibrary Loan is an adjunct to, not a substitute for, the Library's collection. In meeting patron needs, the Library will exhaust local resources first, including its own collection, before requesting items on Interlibrary Loan. Items in frequent or recurring demand will be considered for purchase.

The Library may attempt to obtain materials not owned by the Library, or missing from the Library's collection, or in the process of being repaired. Circulating items with patron hold lists will not be ordered through Interlibrary Loan.

The District observes the guidelines established in the Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States, revised in 2008 by the Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section (STARS) of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a Division of the American Library Association.

In addition to this Policy, the Library shall follow internal guidelines for the management and control of Interlibrary Loans, see Interlibrary Loan Guidelines.

4.3.1 Conditions of borrowing service

- A. The Library shall request materials from other libraries in the United States that participate in the OCLC Interlibrary Loan service, and Lopez Island Library.
- B. Due to the eclectic reading and viewing interests of San Juan Island Library patrons, Interlibrary Loan requests represent a substantial investment of library staff time and actual postage costs. Patrons are limited to the transaction limit stated in the Interlibrary Loan Guidelines. Requests over this transaction limit should be discussed with the Library Director.
- C. This service is available to patrons holding regular cards or annual guest cards that are in good standing. Patrons holding monthly guest cards and reciprocal cards are not eligible for Interlibrary Loan services.
- D. There will be no charge to patrons using Interlibrary Loan services unless the lending library charges loan, processing or photocopy fees, in which case, the patron will be asked whether he or she wants to pay the fees in order to obtain the requested material. Those fees will be added to the patron's library account once the item is received and must be paid when the item is picked up. Fees are non-refundable and will not be waived even if the material is not picked up.

- E. Patrons who receive Interlibrary Loan materials are responsible for any charges incurred while materials are checked out, including fees for overdue materials, loss or damage. Patrons are responsible for any replacement fees associated with the item, which are determined by the owning library. The library cannot accept replacement copies. A patron's library account may be suspended until the item is paid in full.

4.3.2 Conditions of lending service

- A. This service is offered to other libraries located in the United States that participate in the OCLC Interlibrary Loan service, and Lopez Island Library.
- B. The Library also reserves the right to refuse to lend materials (such as local histories, rare materials, or other items as determined by the Director) or to ask the borrowing library to restrict use of materials lent.
- C. San Juan Island Library will not charge for lending materials.
- D. The Library will charge for materials that are damaged, stolen or lost during Interlibrary Loan. Charges for lost or damaged materials are the responsibility of the borrowing library. Replacements are not accepted.

Policy Section 4.4

Date Proposed: August 8, 1995

Date Adopted: August 8, 1995

Date Implemented: August 8, 1995

(Policy Section deleted May 9, 2006)

4.5

Policy Against Discrimination

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap, be excluded from participation in or be subjected to illegal discrimination in any program or activity of the San Juan Island Library District.

Policy Section 5: Use of Building
Date Adopted: July 19, 1995
Date Implemented: July 19, 1995
Date Amended: May 9, 2006
Date Amended: September 16, 2008
Date Amended: April 12, 2016
Date Amended: September 13, 2016
Date Amended: August 8, 2017

Policy 5.0
Use of the Building and Grounds

5.1

RULES OF CONDUCT

An integral part of the mission of the San Juan Island Library District is to ensure that the Library provides an environment which encourages lifelong learning for all ages. To this end, the Library has established rules of conduct that promote a safe, healthy and barrier-free environment. Library staff will make every effort to apply these rules in a fair, equitable and positive manner for the benefit of all.

WHILE IN THE LIBRARY OR ON LIBRARY PROPERTY, THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED:

- Smoking and/or vaping (using any kind of electronic smoking device, e-liquids, or unregulated nicotine delivery product) inside, or outside within 25 feet of building entrances and exits, windows that open, and ventilation intakes.
- Consuming food, except by authorized groups in designated meeting rooms or areas (nonalcoholic beverages are permitted in closed containers).
- Cell phone use.
- Bringing in bicycles. Skateboards, in-line skates, etc. must be carried at all times.
- Sexual misconduct, such as exposure, offensive touching or sexual harassment of other patrons or staff.
- Bringing in animals other than guide dogs and other assistive animals except as authorized by the Library Director.
- Disruptive or unsafe behavior such as loud talking, loud audio equipment, screaming, running, throwing things, pushing and shoving, which may result in disturbing other patrons or damaging Library property.
- Engaging in any activity prohibited by law or any other conduct that unreasonably interferes with others' use of the Library including physical or verbal harassment or threats to other patrons or staff, begging, or soliciting.
- Sleeping or camping.
- Parking overnight or longer than posted limits. Director is authorized to develop guidelines for parking limits. Vehicles that are parked overnight may be towed without notice.
- Parking by anyone other than Library staff and patrons currently using library facilities. Unauthorized vehicles may be towed without notice after 24 hours.

Except in instances where immediate action is deemed appropriate by the Library Director or designee, individuals violating these rules may be first asked to stop such actions before further action by Library staff (up to and including expulsion or exclusion) is taken to address the violation. The Library reserves the right to require anyone violating these rules of conduct to leave the Library. The Library may also withdraw permission for a person to re-enter its facilities if the person continues a pattern of violating these rules (see RCW 27.12.290).

Policy Section 5.2

Date Adopted: September 13, 1988

Date Implemented: September 13, 1988

Date Amended: August 8, 1995

Date Amended: May 9, 2006

Date Amended: April 12, 2016

5.2.

San Juan Island Library District Meeting Room Policy.

As a public institution dedicated to the free expression and free access to ideas presenting all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times, all meeting rooms in the San Juan Island Library are available on equal terms for the lawful activities of all groups, regardless of their beliefs or affiliations.

The intent of this policy is to make the district's limited meeting room space available on as wide-spread and equitable basis as possible for educational and informational community meetings and programs.

5.2.1 Meeting Room Use. Generally, meetings held in the library shall be open to the public, be free of charge (and without any request for donation), and limited to non-profit organizations. However, meeting rooms are also open on a fee basis to non-profit organizations or institutions which charge a fee or tuition or request a donation, and to profit-making organizations, subject to District approval. When applicable, the fee for use of the meeting room is \$50 per meeting.

5.2.2 Meeting room priority.

First priority for using the meeting rooms will be given to programs produced or sponsored by the District. The District reserves the right to revoke permission to use a meeting room. All other events will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

5.2.3 Regulations for the use of the library meeting room.

A. The meeting room may be used anytime during the regular hours of the library.

B. The meeting room may be used after library hours, provided arrangements are made at the time the room is booked. The individual making application for such meeting room use will be held responsible for picking up the key in advance, securing the lights and exit door, and promptly returning the key to the library book drop upon leaving the building.

C. Programs may not disrupt the use of the library by others. Persons attending the meeting are subject to all library rules and regulations.

D. Bookings will be made on a first come, first served basis. Groups reserving meeting rooms for the same time on a continued basis may be occasionally required to alter their meeting time in order to allow access by the maximum number of users to the limited space available. Every attempt will be made to provide an acceptable alternate time. A two-week notice will be given to the booked organization.

E. The District reserves the right to revoke permission to use the meeting room. Every attempt will be made to provide an acceptable alternate time. If possible, a two-week notice will be given to the booked organization.

F. After reading the San Juan Island library District's Meeting Room Policy and Regulations, the requesting individual will complete an application for approval by the Director or her/his designated agent.

G. The individual submitting the application for meeting room use will be responsible for the reasonable care and use of the room and furnishings and shall pay for any damage.

H. The group will be responsible for setting up, rearranging and taking down needed tables and chairs. No group may store material or equipment at the Library. Library facilities shall be left in a clean and orderly condition. Users shall pay the cost for clean-up or repair of any damages to facilities. The district will not be responsible for materials or equipment left in the building by users.

I. A supervising adult shall be required to be in charge and present whenever a group uses the meeting room.
J. Light refreshments only may be served. Permission must be secured at the time the application is approved. No alcoholic beverages may be served unless in accordance with Washington State Law and with prior approval by the Library Director.

K. No smoking and /or vaping (using any kind of electronic smoking device, e-liquids, or unregulated nicotine delivery product) is permitted in the library building in accordance with State law and San Juan County Board of Health Ordinance No. 1-2015—Ordinance Enacting Rules and Regulations Restricting the Sale, Use, and Availability of Electronic Smoking Devices, E-Liquids, and Unregulated Nicotine Delivery Products; Section 7. Use in Public Places.

L. Posted occupancy rates for the meeting room shall be observed at all times.

M. Failure to observe these regulations will result in the loss of meeting room privileges.

5.2.4 If permission for use of the meeting room is denied, the applicant may appeal to the Director; if permission is denied by the Director and the applicant is dissatisfied with the reasons offered, an appeal may be made to the District Board of Trustees.

Policy Section 5.3

Date Adopted: July 8, 1986

Date Implemented: July 8, 1986

Date Amended: March 31, 2004

Date Amended: September 8, 2009

5.3

Library Exhibits

Exhibit space in the library shall be made available to individuals or associations, for the purpose of displaying objects of interest to the community, under the following conditions:

- 5.3.1 Space for exhibits in the library shall be available to any individual or any association on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of the individual or association. If the library cannot accommodate all requests for exhibit space, the Director may give preference to District residents and associations active in the District. A period of 36 months must elapse between uses of the display case by any individual or association, unless expressly permitted by the Director. The individual or association providing each display will be clearly identified as part of the exhibit.
- 5.3.2 Exhibits shall be coordinated by the Director, who may make reasonable regulations governing the place and time for exhibits and the manner in which the exhibits are displayed, retained, or removed. The Director may assign a portion of this duty to a volunteer exhibit coordinator, or in the case of art exhibits, to the Library art committee.
- 5.3.3 Exhibits shall be placed in the library at the exhibitors' risk. The director shall prepare a hold-harmless agreement which shall be signed by each exhibitor (before his or her art or craft items are displayed).
- 5.3.4 Exhibits shall not display the prices of items available for sale or include any other overt statements that the displayed items or related items are offered for sale. However, the names, addresses, and phone numbers of artists and craftspeople may be included in the exhibits.
- 5.3.5 Exhibits shall conform to federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- 5.3.6 Any costs associated with these exhibits, other than the cost of incidental office supplies used in displaying exhibits, shall be paid by the individuals or associations supplying the exhibits, unless funds have been allocated for that purpose by the Trustees.

Policy Section 5.4

Date Proposed: October 11, 1994

Date Adopted: November 8, 1994

Date Implemented: November 9, 1994

Date Amended: October 14, 1997

Date Amended: September 8, 2009

Date Amended: August 9, 2011

5.4

Art Policy

The San Juan Island Library District believes that the display of artwork in the building enhances the Library environment for patrons. Therefore, to the extent that space is available, the Library encourages the exhibition of artwork which is of local and regional interest, and/or which enhances and complements the Library's other collections.

5.4.1 Acquisition of art

Except in extraordinary circumstances, the San Juan Island Library District does not include monies in its annual budgets for the purchase of art works. However, consistent with its general art policy (section 5.4), the Library does encourage the loan of artworks for temporary or longer term display, and in some cases (section 5.4.5) accepts gifts of art to add to its small permanent collection.

5.4.2 Composition of art committee

To aid in the implementation of this Policy 5.4, the Board authorizes the Director to appoint an Art Committee consisting of three to five persons, the members of which shall serve at the pleasure of the Director. Generally, committee members shall have experience in the field of art, but the committee may additionally include members of the Board of Trustees, or Friends of the Library.

5.4.3 Responsibilities of art committee

A. To recommend, develop, and implement temporary and permanent exhibits of art in the Library building...subject to the approval of the Director, and consistent with the objectives of the Library's Art Policy (section 5.4 above), and its Policy on Exhibits (section 5.3 above).

B. To review works of art offered to the Library as gifts, and to recommend to the Board whether the Library should accept them. Appeals of the committee's decision may be made to the Board. The criteria the Committee will use in this review are listed in Section 5.4.4 below.

C. To advise the Library Director on physical placement of art within the Library building (individual pieces, and exhibitions of multiple items). Final approval rests with the Director.

D. To report at least twice yearly to the Board on the past 6 months' activities (including for example, significant acquisitions, both loans and gifts, and exhibits) and the outlook for the next 6 months.

5.4.4 Criteria for Selection of works of art, including gifts

In addition to ensuring that the art under consideration for display is consistent with the Library's general Policy on Art (section 5.4), the Art Committee shall consider the following criteria when determining whether to recommend to the Director and/or Board that artwork/s be displayed in, and/or acquired for the Library:

A. Quality: the inherent artistic quality of the work is of highest priority

B. Media: all visual art forms may be considered, subject to the limitations of the Library's display space

C. Style and nature: the art work should be appropriate in scale, material, form and content to the Library's physical space, its audience (Library patrons), and its other collections.

- D. Architectural design: the ability of a particular piece of art to enhance the interior aesthetics of the library's public spaces may be considered
- E. Other: special circumstances may apply, as described by the committee where applicable

5.4.5 Gifts of and disposition of art

- A. Upon recommendation by the Art Committee, the Board may choose to accept donated works of art. Once accepted by the Board, the donated art becomes the property of the San Juan Island Library District, which has sole authority thereafter re. its location, retention, and disposition.
- B. Determining the value of the donated art is the responsibility of the donor. The San Juan Island Library District does not arrange, nor pay for, appraisals.
- C. The Library shall prepare a Gift Acceptance form which outlines the above provisions, for signature by the donor and the President of the San Juan Island Library District Board of Trustees.
- D. Disposition of gifts of art which are determined to no longer serve the objectives of the Library's general Policy on Art, will be with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

5.4.6 Other administrative policies

- A. The Library does not insure art work on loan for display, and assumes no liability in case of theft, damage, or loss. The Director shall prepare a 'hold-harmless' agreement, which shall be signed by each exhibitor (before his/her art works are displayed in the Library).
- B. Art exhibits shall be administered consistent with the Library's general policy on Exhibits (section 5.3 above)
- C. It is the responsibility of the art committee to create publicity about art exhibits in the Library, including press releases to local media, calendars, and brochures.

5.4.7 Citizen input

- A patron questioning the display of an artwork in the Library is free to bring his/her concern to the Library Director. If the patron wishes to file a formal complaint, the procedure outlined in section 3.1.7.

Policy Section 5.5

Date Proposed: June 8, 1999

Date Adopted: June 8, 1999

Date Implemented: June 8, 1999

5.5

Distribution of free materials

Items that publicize community organizations and local events further the role of the library as the central source for civic, cultural, educational, and recreational information.

Display space is available for community organizations to disseminate information. Posters and flyers displayed on the bulletin board may be no larger than 8 ½ x 14 inches. Bulletin boards may not be used for personal advertisements. Items may be displayed for a maximum of one month. Library staff will remove items that have expired or that have been posted for one month. Items removed will be discarded; library staff cannot return posters and flyers that have been displayed.

Items that may be distributed include flyers, brochures, leaflets, newspapers, and pamphlets that provide information about civic, educational, cultural, or recreational organizations and events. Materials that promote programs or projects of a personal or commercial nature may not be distributed in the library. Items may be distributed for as long as they are valid. If space becomes limited, preference will be given to items of broad community interest and of a timely nature. Literature related to political campaigns will be distributed for thirty days preceding an election.

All items for posting or distribution must be presented to the library director for approval; library staff will date and place items on the bulletin board or in the information rack. Distribution or posting of items by the library does not indicate endorsement of the issues, events, or services promoted by those materials. Items left or posted without approval will be removed and discarded.

Policy Section 5.6 – Library Programs
Date Proposed: October 12, 1999
Date Adopted: October 12, 1999
Date Implemented: October 12, 1999
(Policy Section deleted May 9, 2006)

Policy Section 5.6
Date Proposed: September 16, 2008
Date Adopted: September 16, 2008
Date Amended: September 13, 2016

5.6 Library Programs

As part of the Library's mission to provide the means for the community "to pursue independent educational and recreational interests, use information resources, and meet and interact in a public forum," the library offers special programs to the public in and out of the library building. Programming also serves to promote library materials, facilities, and services.

5.6.1 Selection.

- A. Selection of program topics, speakers, courses, classes, and resource materials will be made by library staff on the basis of the interests and needs of the community. Programs will be selected by the staff for their quality and their ability to encourage the exchange of ideas as well as their ability to promote use of library materials and services.
- B. The library will actively seek opportunities to partner with other agencies, organizations, and educational institutions.
- C. Library programming does not exclude topics, books, speakers, media and other resources simply because they might be controversial.
- D. Programs are not designed to replace opportunities offered by other community agencies.
- E. Acceptance of a program topic by the library does not constitute an endorsement by the library of the group's or individual's policies or beliefs.
- F. The library does not conduct or sponsor programming that is purely commercial, religious, or forwards a specific political agenda.
- G. Priority will be given to programs that promote reading and literacy, the dissemination of information, and the appreciation of culture and the arts.

5.6.2 3-D Printing.

The San Juan Island Library is committed to providing all members of the community with access to new information technologies. Factors considered in the determination will include the technology's relevance, material and maintenance costs, and relative costs of staff and volunteer time. In keeping with the Library's mission, the Library offers 3-D printing to the public as prescribed in this policy for a time to be determined by the Director.

- A. The Library's 3-D printers may be used only for lawful purposes. The public will not be permitted to use the Library's 3-D printers to create material that is:
 - 1. Prohibited by local, state or federal law.
 - 2. Unsafe, harmful, dangerous or poses an immediate threat to the well-being of others.
 - 3. Inappropriate for the Library environment.

4. A weapon of any kind, including blades, guns or gun parts.
5. In violation of another's intellectual property rights. For example, the printers may not be used to reproduce material that is subject to copyright, patent or trademark protection.

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of reproductions of copyrighted material.

Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a reproduction. One of these specific conditions is that the reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private use, scholarship, or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

- B. The Library reserves the right to refuse any 3-D print request.
- C. Only designated Library staff and volunteers will have hands-on access to the 3-D printer.
- D. The Library Director is authorized to develop guidelines and procedures governing the accessibility and use of 3-D printers by patrons, volunteers and staff.
- E. Please note that policies and procedures governing the use of the Library's 3-D printers are subject to change.

Policy Section 5.7

Date Proposed: June 14, 2016

Date Adopted: June 14, 2016

Date Implemented: June 14, 2016

5.7

Unattended Children and Vulnerable Adults

The San Juan Island Library desires to provide a safe and appropriate environment for visitors of all ages. The Library welcomes library use by children and vulnerable adults, as defined by RCW 74.34.020. The Library, however, is a public place which may have inherent dangers such as moving cars, equipment, furniture, and other people who may pose threats to their safety.

While on Library property, parents and caregivers are responsible for monitoring and regulating the behavior of their charges, and ensuring their safety. If the behavior of a child or vulnerable adult becomes unacceptable according to the Library Rules of Conduct, the parent or caregiver will be asked to correct the problem. If the behavior continues, the parent or caregiver and their charges may be asked to leave. Chronic offenders may be denied use of the library.

Library staff are trained to assist children and adults with library materials or services. The Library is not equipped—and it is not the Library's role—to provide long- or short-term care for children or vulnerable adults. Staff are not responsible to look after children and vulnerable adults beyond normal use of library services such as assisting with the finding of materials, providing customer service, helping with research questions, recommending books to read, assisting with computer use, and assisting with program crafts.

Library staff members will intervene when a child or vulnerable adult is:

Found frightened or upset in the Library,
Doing something dangerous to him or herself, or to another person,
Subject to a perceived threat posed by another person,
Not following the Rules of Conduct and exhibiting specific inappropriate behavior, or is
Not met by a caregiver at closing time.

Library staff members will evaluate the situation and attempt to contact the parent, guardian or caregiver. In the event that the parent, guardian or caregiver cannot be reached, the child or vulnerable adult will be placed in the care of the Sheriff's Office.

Children who are kindergarten age or younger should be accompanied by a parent or caregiver at all times in the Library. Elementary school-aged children and teens may use the Library unattended for an appropriate amount of time determined by their behavior. Children and teens must follow the same rules as adults.

These policies are set for the safety of children and vulnerable adults and for the comfort of all those using the library facilities and services.

Policy Section 5.8

Date Proposed: May 9, 2017

Date Adopted: May 9, 2017

Date Implemented: June 1, 2017

5.8

Public Use of Youth Areas

Children's and Teen areas within the Library are special parts of the Library housing special collections, programs and services designed especially for children and teens. The purpose of these areas is therefore to provide youth and their caregivers with access to these special materials, programs and services.

5.8.1 Youth Areas

Children's and Teen areas are available for use by those patrons who are accessing the special materials contained in the youth collections, and for use by youth and their caregivers to sit, attend youth programs and utilize other services provided in youth areas. Patrons not included in these categories are required to leave youth areas and instead use other areas of the Library.

5.8.2 Youth Computers

- A. Public computers located in the Children's and Teen areas are for the exclusive use of youth and their caregivers. Caregivers should allow any youth who want to use the computers priority over their own use. Other adults may not use these computers at any time.
- B. Children and teens may only use designated youth computers.
- C. For exceptions to this policy, patrons should speak to staff.

Policy Section 6 - Physical Plant
Date Adopted: February 13, 1996
Date Implemented: February 14, 1996

6.0

The Director or his/her designee shall have responsibility for ensuring the ongoing maintenance of the building and grounds.

7.0 Social Media Policy

In keeping with the San Juan Island Library's mission statement and core values to "use its unique position as a neutral public forum to foster partnerships and build connections across a broad spectrum of individuals and organizations in order to strengthen and enrich our community" (2016 Mission Statement) the library incorporates various social media applications into its collection of tools and resources. San Juan Island Library's Social Media is defined as any web application, site or account created and maintained by San Juan Island Library which facilitates an environment for staff and library users to share opinions and information about library-related subjects or issues.

As technology changes and social media increasingly becomes an essential communication tool, the library seeks to reach new audiences, engage with users more effectively, and enhance services by allowing greater interaction and feedback. These social media applications are to be used for the following purposes:

- To enhance communication and collaboration between library staff and community members.
- To promote library services and programs.
- To provide a venue for patron-contributed content.
- To improve library services, programs, and resources based on patron feedback.
- To reach new and inactive patron groups.
- To establish San Juan Island Library as a leader in information services by utilizing technologies that are popular with the public.

7.1 Public generated content.

While San Juan Island Library recognizes and respects differences in opinion, all content posted to sites maintained by the library are subject to the San Juan Island Library's Rules of Conduct (Policy Manual, 2016) and this policy. Library staff reserves the right to review all comments and postings and delete comments that are inconsistent with the content created by the library staff. Staff may block a user who posts inconsistent comments or other inappropriate material from posting any further information to the library's social media sites.

- A. No Inappropriate Language or Behavior-** Inappropriate or abusive language is prohibited. No obscene or racist comments, violent or abusive language, and/or cursing will be allowed.
- B. No Public Displays of Obscene Material-** Public displays of obscene or visually disturbing material that interfere with the ability of others to use the library or that which is prohibited by law is also prohibited.
- C. No Selling, Soliciting, or Mass Distribution of Materials-** Any user selling or mass-distributing information as spam using San Juan Island Library-maintained sites will be blocked from usage.
- D. No Personal or Private Information-** Patron-generated content containing personal or private information about themselves or other people will be immediately removed.
- E. No Harassing Behavior-** Harassment using San Juan Island Library-maintained social media sites is prohibited. Harassing behavior may include, but is not limited to unwanted conversations and

advances of a personal or sexual nature, intentionally monopolizing staff time so that performance of duties is materially disrupted. This may take a variety of forms and may include an overabundance of comments or posted content to San Juan Island Library-maintained sites.

- E. No Following/Stalking-** Cyberstalking is strictly prohibited and may include excessive messages to a single staff member or library patron and/or seeking out another's personal information using San Juan Island Library-maintained social media sites.
- F. No Unlawful Behavior-** No unlawful behavior of any kind will be permitted including potentially libelous statements, use of plagiarized or copy-written material posted without permission or authority from the copyright holder, or photos or other images or audio-visual materials that fall into the aforementioned categories.
- G. Agree to Terms-** If any user does not agree to these terms, they are not to use the service, as violation of the terms can lead to legal liability.
- H. Indemnification-** By posting content, the user agrees to indemnify San Juan Island Library and its officers, employees and agents from and against all liabilities, judgements, damages and costs (including attorney's fees) incurred by any of them which arise out of, or are related to, the posted content.

7.2 Library content, guidelines, and actions

- A.** San Juan Island Library reserves the right to monitor content posted on all of its social media sites and accounts, and to modify or remove any messages, postings or comments that it deems, in its sole discretion, to be abusive, defamatory, in violation of copyright, trademark right or other intellectual property right of any third party, or otherwise inappropriate for the service. Staff may also block a person who posts inconsistent or inappropriate materials from posting any further information to the library's social media sites. Notwithstanding the foregoing, San Juan Island Library is not obligated to take any such actions, and will not be responsible or liable for content posted by any subscriber in any forum, message board, or other area within the service.
- B.** The library staff reserves the right to remove comments, postings, and/or hyperlinks not related to the content created by the library staff.
- C.** San Juan Island Library will not sell, distribute, or disclose a user's name or personal information unless required by law. San Juan Island Library will not give or trade this information to any third party vendors.
- D.** The Social Media Policy will be updated as needed to reflect current social media trends as sites and uses will change as technology continues to expand and improve.

TO: San Juan Island Library District Staff Members
FROM: San Juan Island Library District Director
SUBJECT: Policy Manual and Personnel Policy Manual

These Policy Manuals do not in any way create a contract, expressed or implied. These Policy Manuals simply provide general statements of policy, which are not intended to be part of the employment relationship. These policy statements are not promises of specific treatment in specific situations and are not binding on the Library.

These Policy Manuals do not guarantee employment for a definite period of time or alter the “at will” relationship between employer and employee.

These Policy Manuals supersede all previous Policy Manuals and all previous written or unwritten policies on any of the subjects discussed in these Policy Manuals. The Library reserves the right to modify the policies contained in these Policy Manuals at any time in accordance with Policy Section 1.2.

I acknowledge receipt of the San Juan Island Library District Policy Manual and Personnel Policy Manual, and acknowledge that it is my responsibility to read and become familiar with the policies contained therein. If I have any questions regarding the Policy Manuals, I understand that I should bring those questions to the attention of my direct supervisor or the Library Director without delay.

_____Date
Employee

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, 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.

Adopted June 18, 1948.

Amended February 2, 1961, and January 23, 1980,
inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996,
by the ALA Council.

THE FREEDOM TO READ

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label “controversial” views, to distribute lists of “objectionable” books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be “protected” against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture

depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings. 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 that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

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 should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

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.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

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.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

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.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

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.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

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.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive

provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

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 these 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.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

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

A Joint Statement by:

American Library Association
Association of American Publishers

Subsequently endorsed by:

American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression
The Association of American University Presses, Inc.
The Children's Book Council
Freedom to Read Foundation
National Association of College Stores
National Coalition Against Censorship
National Council of Teachers of English
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

FREE ACCESS TO LIBRARIES FOR MINORS

An Interpretation of the LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS

Library policies and procedures that effectively deny minors equal and equitable access to all library resources available to other users violate the *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, educational level, literacy skills, or legal emancipation of users violates Article V.

Libraries are charged with the mission of developing resources to meet the diverse information needs and interests 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 library resources. The needs and interests of each library user, and resources appropriate to meet those needs and interests, must be determined on an individual basis. Librarians cannot predict what resources will best fulfill the needs and interests of any individual user based on a single criterion such as chronological age, educational level, literacy skills, or legal emancipation.

Libraries should not limit the selection and development of library resources simply because minors will have access to them. Institutional self-censorship 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 in the library. 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.¹ Librarians and 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 material is not constitutionally protected.

The mission, goals, and objectives of libraries cannot authorize librarians or library governing bodies to assume, abrogate, or overrule the rights and responsibilities of parents. 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.” Librarians and governing bodies should maintain that parents—and only parents—have the right and the responsibility to restrict the access of their children—and only their children—to library

resources. Parents who do not want their children to have access to certain library services, materials, or facilities should so advise their children. Librarians and library governing bodies cannot assume the role of parents or the functions of parental authority in the private relationship between parent and child.

Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Librarians and library governing bodies have a public and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the community they serve have free, equal, and equitable access to the entire range of library resources regardless of content, approach, format, or amount of detail. This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Librarians and library governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors.

¹See *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 [422 U.S. 205, 214] 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 *Tinker v. Des Moines School Dist.*, *supra*. Cf. *West Virginia Bd. of Ed. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943).”

Adopted June 30, 1972; amended July 1, 1981; July 3, 1991, June 30, 2004, by the ALA Council.

[ISBN 8389-7549-6]

Reconsideration of Library Materials

The San Juan Island Library subscribes to the Library Bill of Rights as adopted by the American Library Association June 27, 1967 and its subsequent amendments. This document reads, in part: “As a responsibility of library service, books and other library materials selected should be chosen for values of interest, information and enlightenment of all the people of the community.”

Our Policy Manual includes the following statement of philosophy:

Selection and retention of books and other library materials shall be made on the basis of value or interest, information and enlightenment for all people of the District. No book or other library materials shall be excluded or removed because of the race, nationality, sex or political, social or religious views of the author; neither can the collection reflect inordinate responsiveness to any single individual. Choice of library materials for personal use is purely an individual matter and although anyone is free to reject for themselves materials of which they do not approve, they may not restrict the freedom of use and access for others; freedom of access for a minor is the responsibility of parents or legal guardians; it is not the responsibility of the library.

If you honestly feel that a book or other item in our collection has no place in the library of a free society, we invite you to fill out the form on the reverse side of this sheet and leave it at the front desk. It will given to the Library Director, who will be in touch with you regarding your concern.

Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Materials

San Juan Island Library
Friday Harbor, Washington

What library materials would you like us to reconsider? (please provide as much information as you can)

Title _____

Author (if applicable) _____

Format (book, video, etc.) _____

Other details _____

Your name _____ Telephone number _____

Address _____

Group you represent (if any) _____

Did you examine the entire work? _____ If not, what parts? _____

Specifically, to what in the material do you object? _____

What harmful effect do you feel might be/was the effect of your using this material?

Is there anything good or useful about this material? If so, what?

What prompted you to examine this item? _____

Can you recommend a replacement for this item? _____

Signature