

Proposed Vision:

To promote literacy and learning, celebrate curiosity and diversity, and support transformation in thriving, safe, and inclusive spaces.

Oz commented that the use of the word *thriving* seemed odd when applied to *spaces*. *Thriving* should be applied to living things, not to a static space. So we agreed to look at this. Here's what we think:

- 1) First of all and respectfully, we challenge this. If you google 'thriving spaces', you will find that these two words are often found together. I liked the Feng Shui business that named itself, you guessed it, *Thriving Spaces*. So, whether thriving should modify spaces or not, it is a phrase in usage. Not that everything on the internet is correct...but it's in use; that is our only point;
- 2) Next, if you really don't like *thriving*, we suggest *activity-filled, bustling, healthy, or lively*. Are any of those words better? I think they more or less capture the same concept as *thriving*;
- 3) Finally, what if we dropped the word *thriving* all together and simply said *safe and inclusive spaces*?

Next, after agreeing that the Mission is a-ok, we looked at the Guiding Principles. Mostly, the group decided they liked them and that there wasn't a huge need to change them, but that a few concepts were missing. The group remembered the wonderful sign that we added to the entrance of the library (the language of which I sent you last week) and decided they would like to see those concepts incorporated.

So, Denise and I reviewed the guiding principles to determine which concepts might already be embedded in the guiding principles and which still needed to be added. Here is what we came up with:

Existing Guiding Principles:

The Library will:

- offer equal access to the vast range of information and resources for learning and entertainment;
- deliver library service to the whole community, conducting all interactions with respect and acknowledging the diversity and individuality of our community members;
- advance literacy and a love of life-long learning;
- ignite imaginations and help people reach their full potential as individuals and citizens by providing materials, services, and events which inspire and speak to the human spirit;
- serve as a community center, providing a place to gather and a space for people and ideas to connect;
- preserve and celebrate the record of our area's history;
- promote excellence in customer service via well trained and supported staff;
- embrace new and innovative ways to adapt to the changing needs of the community it serves;
- form partnerships to advance these values.

Plaque:

This is your library
Inspiring discovery
Championing the search for truth
Defending intellectual freedom
Protecting privacy
Open and safe for all
This is your library

Here's where we see the plaque's concepts currently embedded into the guiding principles and how we suggest adding a few strategic words to add the remaining concepts:

The Library will:

- offer **equal access** to the vast range of information **and through quality** resources **from all points of view** for learning and entertainment;
- deliver library service to **the whole community**, **conducting all interactions with respect and confidentiality**, and **acknowledging the diversity and individuality of our community members**;
- advance literacy and a **love of life-long learning**;
- **ignite imaginations** and help people reach their full potential as individuals and citizens by providing materials, services, and events which **inspire and speak to the human spirit**;
- serve as a community center, providing a **safe** place to gather and a space for people and ideas to connect;
- preserve and celebrate the record of our area's history;
- promote excellence in customer service via well trained and supported staff;
- embrace new and innovative ways to adapt to the changing needs of the community it serves;
- form partnerships to advance these values.

Legend:

Added word or phrase in bold

Reflecting the concept of **inspiring discovery**

Reflecting the concept of **championing the search for truth**

Reflecting the concept of **defending intellectual freedom**

Reflecting the concept of **protecting privacy**

Reflecting the concept of **open** and **safe**

I'm hoping my system of color coding works. If not, I can translate into text. For example, on the first guiding principle, the words **equal access** refer to the idea of the library as *open for all*, the added words of **through quality** referring to resources incorporates the idea of *championing the search for truth*; and the added words of **from all points of view** reflects the idea of *intellectual freedom*.