

Southold Free Library Long Range Plan

Vision Statement

The Southold Free Library will be an important contributor to the intellectual and cultural life of the Community. Contributions will include:

- Provide access to information, knowledge and ideas
- Continue partnerships with community groups
- Bring people together to foster a sense of community
- Support collections that are broad and in varied formats for information and entertainment.
- Provide outstanding customer service
- Provide an inviting facility

Acquisitions and Collection Development

Goal: The Library will continually update its collection in terms of both content and format. Content will address the broad spectrum of human knowledge and culture, and by its emphasis reflect the desires of the community. Acquisitions will include print and electronic media, with the relative weight of the different formats reflecting user preferences.

The Library will continue its current practice of allocating approximately ten percent of its annual budget towards acquisitions and collection development.

Marketing, Public Relations, and Outreach

Goal: The Library will establish and maintain relationships with community organizations and groups to ensure that all members of the community have access to Library resources and services.

Objectives

- 1. The Library Director will arrange a meeting (either in-person or zoom) with the Director of Community Action in Southold Town and the Director of Social Services for Southold Town. If possible, representative(s) of advocacy groups will also be invited to the meeting. The agenda will be a discussion the low participation rate in library programs and services by people whose native language is not English with the goals being**

- a. **Identifying root cause(s) of the low rate of participation for this population.**
 - b. **Developing strategies for increasing the rate of participation for this population.**
2. **Restart the English as a Second Language support programs as soon as it is safe to do so.**
3. **Restart informal gatherings of students after-school, as soon as it is safe to do so.**
4. **Increase use of Book Cottage by people whose native language is not English.**

Education and Continuing Education

Goal: The Library will provide programs and services that develop literacy, a love of reading, and a commitment to life-long learning.

The Director and selected staff will continue to provide the programs and services designed to develop adult and family literacy, and to enhance the education and development of young adults.

Preservation and Conservation

Goal: The Library will engage in activities designed to preserve and protect artifacts, annals, print materials, and other items that have historical or cultural value to our community.

The Director and selected staff will continue current efforts in preservation and conservation.

Professional Development and Research

Goal: The Library will provide resources to support staff in their continued professional development. The Library will continue to provide resources at the current budgetary level.

Programming and Events

Goal: The Library will provide programs and events that enhance the intellectual and cultural life of the community.

The Library will continue to provide programs and events that can be supported at the current budgetary level.

Technology and Innovations

Goal: The increasing level of digitization of information in society has made it imperative for the Library to continually update and modernize its information technology. Information technology is viewed as a utility (e.g., electricity, water, etc.) that needs an annual stream of resources.

Facility

Goal: The Library facility should be warm and inviting, accessible to all, and support the various programs and services provided by the library. Appropriate spaces for children, young adults, quiet study, group study, small and large group programs, and display spaces should all be available to the community.

Fund Raising

Given that the Library's ability to raise taxes is very limited, some of this plan's objectives (e.g., facility enhancement, technology plan, business center) are not attainable. While some additional funding may come from the efforts of the grants committee, it is likely that additional fund raising will be necessary to meet some of the objectives in this plan.

Goal: The Library will develop a strategy for initiating and coordinating fund raising efforts.

November 2020