

Meredith Public Library Long Range Plan 2022-2024

Mission Statement

The Meredith Public Library's mission is to be the cultural heart of Meredith; a gathering place where community members can acquire and share knowledge.

Goals and Objectives

Building

Goal I: Residents of Meredith will have access to a clean, modern, well-maintained library building.

- Maintenance plan will be updated based on the needs of the facility and how it's being used.
- Invite the community to share in ideas on how to maximize the new space to meet community needs.
- Experiment with ideas on how to effectively use the space.
- Analyze the effects of changing library hours and what is feasible with the staff.

Public Relations

Goal 2: Residents will be made aware of the services and resources that the library provides and will have a means to communicate what they feel the library should be doing in the future.

- Update Library Logo.
- Keep Library Website current.
- Publish monthly articles in the news media.
- Communicate on regular basis through relevant social media.
- Survey residents annually about library services and collection development.
- At least annually analyze ways of reaching the community about library services beyond social media, newspapers and library newsletters.
- Have a "State of the Library" meeting each year.

Technology

Goal 3: Library users will have access to current information technology and will feel comfortable using this technology.

- Keep current with changing library technology services and the needs of the community.
- Continue outreach to the community for library technology assistance.
- Provide charging stations throughout the building.
- Equip, promote and use the Maker Space based on community needs.
- Explore more hybrid (in person/Zoom) library events.

Collection Development

Goal 4: Library users will have a fresh, contemporary and vibrant library collection in all media formats.

- Analyze each collection for potential shortcomings and plan to purchase items to fill these gaps.
- At the end of 2022, perform a collection analysis based on usage and reallocate budget based on that analysis.
- Consider what if any new virtual services should be added to collection budget such as streaming services.
- Continue offering new display opportunities.
- Continue to analyze what types of items are being ordered via ILL to determine where there might be collection gaps.
- Do more with Readers' Advisory.
- Improve signage in the stacks.
- Create a library of things for circulation.
- Create a seed library.

Services to Young Adults

Goal 5: Teens will view the library as a safe and welcoming place that supports their special interests and developmental needs, invigorates their interest in reading for pleasure, and helps to build skills for life-long learning.

- Keep current with teen interests.
- Continue partnerships with Inter-Lakes Middle and High Schools
- Continue to work teens to design teen program and collection.
- Create a homework space and seek a volunteer to assist in homework help. Add peer to peer tutoring.
- Research adding after school clubs.
- Research summer reading software.

Services to Children

Goal 6: The library will provide children of all ages with an array of materials and a variety of programs and spaces that foster a love of reading and intellectual inquiry.

- Create and continue partnerships with Inter-Lakes Elementary school.
- Create and continue partnerships with local daycares.
- "Library shelves" in places in the community where kids might go.
- Continue to provide programs and opportunities for children to engage with the library on and off site.
- Continue to create discovery opportunities in the Children's Room.
- Establish Safety protocols for volunteers working with minors.

Services to Adults

Goal 7: Adult residents will have access to a collection of current and popular materials and to a variety of workshops and lectures that stimulate thought and expand knowledge.

Collection Access

- Increase access to genealogical materials in the library by analyzing digitizing opportunities, in particular the *Meredith News* and NH Ref books in public domain that have not been previously digitized.

Workshops and Lectures

- Incorporate volunteers, particularly in the Maker Space to teach hands on classes and activities.
- Promote small business in the community by letting them teach classes and do demonstrations.
- Promote local artists and host openings.
- Provide spaces and help facilitate community programs hosted by community members.
- Create “how-to” programs such as fixing a toaster, gardening, etc.

Outreach and Individualized Patron Assistance

- Analyze Homebound Delivery Service and see if there are ways of reaching the members of the community who might benefit from the service through partnerships with other organizations.
- Collaborate with community organizations (such as New Beginnings, Veterans, Social Work, Food Pantry, Garden Club, Sadie’s Place, charities) offering partnerships with the library
- Find ways to promote beyond the traditional means Interlibrary Loan Service in the community.
- Provide genealogical assistance with weekly set hours for appointments and drop-ins.
- Continue “tech-help hours” by including a set time for drop-ins.
- Analyze ways to do more outreach in the community in areas that are underserved or may have trouble getting to the library.
- Provide Digitization services; set up times for a volunteer or staff member to work with patrons.
- Involve community in maintaining Little Free Libraries and similar services.

Staffing

Goal 8: Staff will have the skills and support to assist patrons with all technology, reference and readers' advisory needs.

- Create a succession plan.
- Pro-actively cross-train staff so that at least two people can do each job.
- All staff to update their "While I'm Out" information annually.
- Continue to support professional development opportunities for all staff.

Trustees

Goal 9: The Library Trustees will become more proficient at understanding and advocating library needs.

- Trustees make strides to get to know the staff. Resurrect "Meet the staff" at trustee meetings.
- All trustees should have a library card and use it.
- Each trustee should attend at least one adult and one youth library event per year.
- All trustees should have an understanding of library funding, where it comes from and how it's budgeted.
- Advocate for the library within the community.
- Continue to have two-way communication between the Library Trustees and the Select Board.
- Each trustee should attend at least one workshop, conference or webinar per year related to trustee leadership including advocacy.
- Create an environment that encourages everyone to speak up at meetings.
- Each Trustee should try to attend at least one event in the community annually and promote the library.
- Each trustee should join the Friends of the Library within thirty days of becoming a trustee and attend at least one of the Friends fundraising events annually.
- Have a full complement of library trustee alternates at all times.