

Haines Borough Public Library Board Questionnaire

Is there any facet of the library or library operations of particular interest to you?

What strengths can you offer to the Library Board?

What specific contributions would you like to make to the Library?

What are your thoughts about censorship?

If you disagreed with library policy how would you handle the situation?

Could you serve as a liaison between the Library and another special interest group?

Have you ever been involved in other volunteer activities, and if so, what was your part in each activity?

Would you be willing to attend Borough meetings as a Library Board representative?

Any other comments you'd like to share?

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.

- 1) 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.
- 2) 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.
- 3) Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- 4) Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- 5) A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- 6) 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.

D. Policy Regarding Intellectual Freedom

The Haines Borough Public Library Board believes in the importance of intellectual freedom. By following the guidelines for selection of materials as stated in this manual, the Board supports the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, a copy of which is included in this manual.

"The choice of library materials by users is an individual matter. A person may reject certain items for himself/herself or for his/her family, but he/she does not have the right to restrict access to these materials by others.

Responsibility for materials used by children and adolescents rests with their parents or legal guardians. Library materials are not marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of their contents.

The same policy applies to materials and programs sponsored by the Haines Borough Public Library, as well as displays provided by public agencies.

The Library takes no responsibility for copyright infringements and other illegal use of library materials by patrons." (Quoted wording taken from Video Policies and Procedures for Libraries by James C. Scholtz, adopted March 19th, 1992.)

Should a request for reevaluation of a library material arise, the user's concerns or complaints should originally be directed to the Library Director. A "Request for Reevaluation of Library Material" form will be given to the patron for completion. When a form has been completed, the staff will be given copies and the staff will review the materials with the selection policy, the Library Bill of Rights, intellectual freedom, etc. as a guide. The patron will be informed of the staffs' decision by the Library. Board approval is required for removal of a material.

If the patron wishes to appeal the staff's decision, the Director will bring the complaint and supporting documentation to the Library Board at their next regularly scheduled board meeting. The complainant will be notified and asked to attend. A decision by the Board will be made in a timely manner using the selection policy, the Library Bill of Rights, and intellectual freedom, as guides. The patron will be notified of this final decision.

Further appeal must be referred to a court of competent jurisdiction.