



# MEETING SPACE POLICY

## A. MEETING SPACE

1. Marion County Library has no dedicated meeting rooms and only limited seating capacity.
2. The purpose of any approved event is to allow the public to attend informational, educational, cultural and civic meetings, and to promote the principle of intellectual freedom by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas.
3. Approval to use the library as a meeting space does not in any way constitute the library's endorsement of the organization's/group's/individual's policies or beliefs, and no claim to that effect may be used, explicitly or implicitly, in advertising such a meeting.
4. The library neither approves nor disapproves of content, ideas or subject matter presented in meeting space and does not accept responsibility for ensuring accuracy of that presentation, or that all points of view are represented.
5. An entity wishing to use the library for an event must contact the library Director and complete an application
6. The Marion County Library and the Board of Trustees are not responsible for accidents, injury, or loss of individual property while using the meeting space.

## B. LIBRARY RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENTS

1. The library reserves the right to change or cancel reservations for meeting space.
  - a) If changes or cancellations are necessary, the library will provide the designated contact person of the affected entity with as much notice as possible.
  - b) It is the designated contact person's responsibility to notify the public and all affected persons of the change or cancellation NOT the library's responsibility.
2. The library reserves the right to publish/post a list of meetings taking place in the library, which will contain the name of the meeting sponsor and the time of the meeting.



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3. The library requires prior notice, and must approve, of any needed assistance from the library staff. Library personnel will have open access to meeting space at all times. Failure to meet this requirement may cause the library to terminate the meeting and may be grounds for denial of future use of library meeting space.

### C. USES NOT PERMITTED

1. Commercial uses, *e.g.* bazaars, special benefit sales, retail sales and programs designed to promote the purchase of products or services.
2. Fundraising events that do not directly support Marion County Library
3. Parties, *e.g.* birthdays, anniversaries, baby showers, weddings, playgroups
4. Political rallies supporting or opposing a specific candidate or cause
5. Meetings requiring or soliciting admission fee or donation.

### D. RESPONSIBILITIES OF USERS

1. No entity meeting in the library will discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, race, or handicapped status in the provision of its service.
2. Those using meeting rooms/space are responsible for maintaining order. Appropriate conduct is expected as a condition of use.
3. Nothing may be affixed to walls, flooring, woodwork, ceiling or furniture
4. Use or sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited
5. No lit candles, open flames, or smoking
6. Abuse to a meeting space, to the library building or to the contents of the library may result in the termination of the privilege to use the library's facilities. Matters of abuse include but are not limited to:
  - a) Damage to the room, building or contents. The group using the room when the damage occurs, including the soiling of carpets, walls, furnishings, *etc.*, is responsible for the cost of repair, cleaning or replacement.
  - b) Failure to leave the space or building in a neat and clean condition by the standard time of the library's closing.



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- c) Failure to notify the library of meeting time changes or cancellations.
- d) Excessive noise or activity which disturbs other library patrons.
- e) Failure to adhere to library policies
- f) Failure to comply with this policy may result in denial of future use of the library meeting space, financial liability for damages, and/or immediate removal from the meeting space.

### E. APPEAL

An incident that results in meeting space privileges being terminated or denied may be appealed to the library board in writing within two weeks of the termination or denial. The decision of the library board is final.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Ramos".

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Linda Ramos, Chair