Library Board Agenda

Budget and Long-term Planning Committee

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA*

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2020

4. UPDATE: HCL INTERIM BUDGET & FINANCE DIVISION MANAGER

5. GENERAL DISCUSSION OF BUDGET UPDATE

6. ADJOURN*
Budget and Long-term Planning Committee

Meeting Summary
The Library Board Budget and Long-term Planning Committee met Thursday, June 18, 2020, via Microsoft Teams.

Attendees
Committee members: Tim Dolan, Jonathan Gaw and Rahfat Hussain
Library Board members: Christopher Damsgard, Erin Vrieze Daniels and Sheila Letscher
Staff: Janet Mills and Jeannette Lewis

Welcome and Call to Order
Chair Rahfat Hussain called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and welcomed attendees.

Approval of Agenda and Meeting Summary
Motion by: Tim Dolan
Seconded by: Sam Neisen
Motion passed.

Discuss Year 2021 Budget
Janet Mills introduced Interim Library Budget and Finance Manager Curt Haats. Curt has been with Hennepin County for over 30 years. Curt discussed the Library’s 2021 operating budget request. Because the budget request must account for zero increase in property tax revenue, cuts have been made but it is still not enough to reach the budget target. At this time a specific line item budget can’t be shared. Some FTE and collection reductions will need to happen to meet the budget target. County Administration and the County Board will make the final decision.
Adjourn
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m.
Motion by: Rahfat Hussain
Seconded by: Tim Dolan
Motion passed.
Overview
As we prepare our 2021 Budget for the Library, we want to intentionally embed equity considerations into our budget process. This worksheet is designed to guide Library Division Managers and budget managers in identifying whether our budget allocations advance equitable outcomes for residents, assess the equity impacts of budget decisions and ensure that programs, projects, plans and investments help to reduce disparities.

Equity considerations in our budgeting provide one way to identify and eliminate underlying drivers that cause inequities in our communities. As we review and make requests for our 2021 budget, we will assess how budget decisions positively or negatively affect communities of color and low-income communities.

References:
This worksheet was developed using resources shared in our Government Alliance on Race and Equity member network, specifically two budget equity tools used by Tacoma Washington and San Antonio Texas.

Budget Equity Worksheet
The worksheet includes nine questions that are designed to help us:

- apply an equity lens to assess equity impact
- be equity data driven –
- equitable community engagement and access

*Please note: For the Library’s 2021 budget, we are using only the first four questions from the Budget Equity Worksheet. Due to our budget timeline, current data collection practices and impacts of COVID-19, we are not asking budget and division managers to complete all nine questions. We hope to fully incorporate all questions in next year’s budget process."
Questions

1. In what ways will your overall (entire) budget be realigned for the next fiscal year in targeted ways to advance equity? (This can include shifts relating to staff time allocations for the purposes of advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion; equity trainings; and/or programmatic commitments that are intended to reduce or eliminate disparities experienced by communities of color and low-income communities.)

2. What are the recurring funding gaps or limitations in your budget that could inhibit your ability to advance racial and economic equity? (This can include funding beyond your control; time constraints; recognition that racial and economic disparities are wide and deep and that Departments are not funded to fully address these gaps, etc.)

3. Identify potential impacts of your proposed reductions, adjustments, fee changes (if applicable) on communities of color and low-income communities, and describe what strategies you recommend to mitigate any potential adverse impacts. (This can include waiving fees for specific populations; a reduction in funds for a critical community resource, etc.)

4. Indicate the racial and/or economic inequities experienced by Hennepin County residents that could be addressed via specific allocations in your budget. (Please include the data source(s) and community indicator(s) that you referred to in identifying racial and/or economic inequities. Example data sources are included in this document.)