

HENNEPIN COUNTY

LIBRARY BOARD




The public is welcome at all library board meetings.

February 11, 2026, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Hopkins Library | Meeting Room | 22 11th Avenue N | Hopkins, MN 55343

Library Board Agenda

POLICY COMMITTEE

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Attendance
-  3. Approval of Agenda*
-  4. Approval of November 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes*
5. Patron Use of Library Spaces Policy
6. Library Bill of Rights
-  7. Adjourn*

 *Denotes board action item

Library Board

Jessica Kraft, President | Lynn Stetler, Vice President | Amal Karim, Secretary | Erin Brudvik | Kimberly Connolly | Michael Hogan | Randy Klauk | Ashley Krohn | Rebecca Lowens

Library Director
Scott Duimstra



HENNEPIN COUNTY

LIBRARY BOARD

The public is welcome at all library board meetings.

Hennepin County Library Board Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

The Hennepin County Library Board Policy Committee met on November 19, 2025, at Ridgedale Library, Room 174, 12601 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka.

Attendees

Committee Members Present: Michael Hogan (Chair), Erin Brudvik, Erin Carney, Randy Klauk, Ashley Krohn

Library Board Members Present: None.

Hennepin County Staff: Scott Duimstra, Lillian Albrecht, Tonya Depriest, JR Genett, Kelli Koob, Amy McNally, Ayanna Muata

Call to Order

Chair Hogan called the Hennepin County Library Board Policy Committee Meeting of October 8, 2025, to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

Attendance of Library Board Members

Library Board Clerk Lillian Albrecht took the roll call. The Board met the quorum with 5 committee members present.

Approval of Agenda

One amendment was made to add public comment.

Motion: Ashley Krohn

Second: Erin Carney

Motion passed.

Approval of October 8, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Motion: Ashley Krohn

Second: Erin Brudvik

Motion passed.

Library Board

Jessica Kraft, President | Lynn Stetler, Vice President | Amal Karim, Secretary | Gordy Aune, Jr. | Jane Brissett | Erin Brudvik | Erin Carney | Kimberly Connolly | Michael Hogan | Randy Klauk | Ashley Krohn

Library Director

Scott Duimstra



Public Comment

6 speakers gave public comments opposing the removal of a recent book display.

A motion was made to allow a sixth speaker to give public comment.

Motion: Ashley Krohn

Second: Randy Klauk

Motion passed.

Patron Use of Library Spaces Policy

Committee members discussed the Patron Use of Library Spaces Policy with Library Services Division Manager Ayanna Muata. They reviewed feedback from library staff and the Library Youth Advisory Committee, and connections to the Patron Rules of Conduct. There was interest in adding a reference to a statute explicitly prohibiting drug sale or possession on the property. Library administration will consult with the County Attorney about adding this statute and bring the feedback to their next meeting.

A motion was made to table the policy until the February 11 committee meeting.

Motion: Erin Carney

Second: Erin Brudvik

Motion passed.

Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Motion: Ashley Krohn

Second: Erin Carney

Motion passed.

Amal Karim, Secretary

HENNEPIN COUNTY

LIBRARY

Library Board Policy Committee February 11, 2026

Patron Use of Library Spaces

Note: This policy is returning to the committee; the previous discussion was held November 19, 2025.

Request for staff (taken from minutes): *There was interest in adding a reference to a statute explicitly prohibiting drug use on the property. Library administration will consult with the County Attorney about adding this statute and bring the feedback to their next meeting.*

Staff consulted with County Attorney; advice is that the Library Board writes the policy; any changes made to the policy – or any Library Board policy – will be reviewed by the County Attorney’s office. County Attorney, Jeff Wojciechowski, will be available at meeting to answer questions, as needed.

(From previous meeting)

Background:

This policy communicates the library’s commitment to safe and welcoming spaces for our patrons. It outlines the roles and responsibilities of our patrons when they interact within both our virtual and public spaces.

This is a foundational policy; one that is directly connected to several other County and Library policies, as well as State Statutes. Most significantly, this policy is directly connected to the Patron Rules of Conduct administrative policy, which was updated January 2025.

Why This is Important:

“The purpose of this policy is to express the roles and responsibilities patrons have to ensure the library’s physical and virtual spaces are welcoming, safe, and secure.”

Library Administration

12601 Ridgedale Drive | Minnetonka, MN 55305
612-543-8500 | hclib.org



Hennepin County Library's physical and virtual spaces are exceptionally well-used by patrons. Due to the high volume of visits, it is critical that staff are prepared to address behaviors that could impact the safety and security of others.

This policy encompasses all the ways patrons engage in our library, such as interacting with library staff in person, online, or via phone, browsing the collection, picking up holds, attending programming, using public computers and technology, studying at tables, reading in lounge areas, or playing in early learning play spaces.

The data below gives you a snapshot of how active our spaces are:

Note: Library visits measure the number of visits to our 41 physical library locations.

- HCL saw nearly **4.8 million visits** to our spaces in 2024, a 29% increase from 2023, and the highest visit volume since 2019. This is **3.7** visits per Hennepin County resident.
- Through mid-October 2025, HCL has had over **4 million visits**, a 1.3% increase over the same period last year.
- An especially fast-growing use of library public space is patron use of HCL's **meeting and study room spaces** within our libraries, with nearly **71,500** public meeting room reservations in 2024, a 17% increase from 2023, and a 47% increase from 2019. 2025 is projected to be even higher yet, with a 9% increase through April over the same period last year. [Note: This is the most recent data available as this number is not automatically calculated.]
- Patrons also connect with library staff virtually through **Ask Us services**, with **39,000** interactions in 2024 across call, text, chat, and email.

This data reflects both increased demand from patrons, as they increasingly share that they value space to meet, collaborate, and work. Visits to physical library spaces are not decreasing, even as patrons increasingly borrow materials in digital formats compared to physical materials.

This policy supports staff in making the public library a space where patrons trust staff will provide a safe and secure environment for all.

Engagement:

- In October I met with the Library Youth Advisory Board (LYAC), they shared their thoughts and comments about this policy. Insights from that meeting include:
 - The team members are engaged and curious; they asked more questions than I did and they grounded themselves in understanding the purpose of library policies. They learned the difference between Library Board Policy, Administrative Policies, and Procedures.
 - Their overall reaction to this policy was positive. Here is what stood out to them:
 - Clearly stated roles and responsibilities for patrons; they appreciate knowing what is allowed/not allowed
 - Stated accountability if "rules" are not followed
 - Plain language, clearly written, easy to understand

- Recognized that some items were more specific than others; this led to a discussion about behavior not always being rooted in intentional “misbehaving”. The approach to behavior may depend on the situation and the language of the policy supports that.
- Appreciation that the policy is regularly reviewed.
- When asked what was inspiring about this policy, here is what they had to say:
 - Appreciation that time is taken to consider all the perspectives; not forgetting stakeholders.
 - Inclusiveness: this policy is for everyone.
 - “All word choices are specific. Effort was put in to make it come out in a specific, yet broad way.”
- When asked what concerned them:
 - The note that parents or caregivers are responsible for kids; the lived experience of the individual is one that did not involve parents or caregivers joining them in their library visit.
- The question, what is the importance of this policy, how does this policy apply to you?
 - General responses from everyone were that they like rules so they know what they can/cannot do. Also, they like rules so they can let their peers know if they are breaking those rules.
 - They don’t think they are the “target audience” for this policy as they agreed that they follow the rules.
 - Having rules makes them feel safe.
 - Knowing the rules saves them from embarrassment. They do not want to be called out for not knowing the rules.
- Final question, what guidance and recommendations do you have for the Library Board Policy Committee?
 - Again, they thought the policy was clear, it made sense to them, and they appreciated having an opportunity to share their input and ask questions. They said that this engagement shows respect, and they feel like they are collaborators.

Known Changes:

- Update Mission
- Update Review Dates

Discussion:

- After reading the draft Patron Use of Library Spaces Policy, what stands out to you? What are your initial thoughts?
- What questions do you have about the policy?
- What implications does this policy have?
- Is anything missing from this policy?
- What changes may be required to this policy?

What Next:

- What further steps should be taken?
 - More information from staff?
 - Questions that require answers?
 - Ready for decision?
- How do you prefer to receive information from engagement?

Library Bill of Rights - ALA

Background:

- This policy is verbiage taken directly from the American Library Association (ALA); the Library Bill of Rights is commonly endorsed by libraries across the country. The purpose of the policy is to affirm and endorse these rights. This policy is referenced in many of our other policies; these rights guide our decisions and affirm our commitment to the services we provide.

Why This is Important:

ALA defines the purpose of the 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."*

This policy is referenced in seven of our policies, affirming our support. Access to information for all; protecting data; providing collections that include differing opinions; equitable access to all of our resources, including materials and spaces – all of these rights are foundational to our own mission to inspire, facilitate, and celebrate lifelong learning.

Known Changes: Review date

Discussion:

- After reviewing the Bill of Rights, what stands out to you? What are your initial thoughts?
- What questions do you have about the policy?
- What implications does this policy have?

What Next:

- What further steps should be taken?
 - More information from staff?
 - Questions that require answers?
 - Ready for decision?

Patron Use of Library Spaces Policy

Hennepin County Library Board Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to express the roles and responsibilities patrons have to ensure the library's physical and virtual spaces are welcoming, safe, and secure.

Principles

- The library's mission to “inspire, facilitate, and celebrate lifelong learning” is achieved in part by the willingness of its patrons to respect one another and coexist in library spaces.
- Physical and virtual library spaces are designed to be used for multiple purposes and are intended to be used by a diverse community of patrons.
- Public library spaces are precious community assets that rely on the stewardship, mutual support, and goodwill of all.

Roles and Responsibilities

Patrons are participants in a shared, public use environment and must conduct themselves accordingly. They will be courteous, considerate, and understanding of library patrons and staff.

Parents and caregivers are responsible to supervise the activities and choices of their charges.

Patrons are stewards of the library and its resources. They will value and respect library resources and conduct themselves in a safe and orderly way.

Patrons will comply with federal, state, and local laws and policies.

Library staff will work in partnership with security staff to ensure that library spaces are safe and welcoming to all. Staff will work with individuals or groups to ensure compliance with the policy. Failure to comply may result in loss of library use privileges. Illegal conduct may be referred to the proper authorities for legal action in accordance with the Minnesota Statutes cited below.

Associated Policies and Laws

This policy is subject to all federal, state, and local laws and policies including but not limited to:

- Hennepin County. [Diversity, Non-discrimination and Respectful Workplace Policy](#)
- Hennepin County. [Tobacco Free Property Policy](#)
- Hennepin County Library. [Patron Rules of Conduct](#)
- Hennepin County Library Board. [Internet Public Use](#)
- Hennepin County Library Board. [Library Bill of Rights](#)
- Minnesota Statute 609.541. [Protection of Library Property](#)
- Minnesota Statute 609.595. [Damage to Property](#)
- Minnesota Statute 609.72. [Disorderly Conduct](#)
- Minnesota Statute 609.XX. Drug use [PENDING INPUT FROM HC AO, TONYA TO CONNECT]

Process

This policy is reviewed by the Library Director (or designee) every four (4) years, who then makes recommendations to the Library Board Program/Policy Committee. The Committee reviews and revises as necessary and advances to the full Library Board for approval.

The Library Director (or designee) will maintain an associated administrative policy that further defines the patron conduct that is necessary to ensure the equitable and consistent application of this policy.

Policy History

Next Review Date: 2023 ~~2025~~

Date Last Reviewed: ~~9/21/2021~~ [INSERT DATE BOARD APPROVES]

Previous Policy Named: Customer Use of Libraries

Library Bill of Rights

Hennepin County Library Board Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to affirm and endorse the following Library Bill of Rights as adopted by the American Library Association.

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.

- I. 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.
- II. 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.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. 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.
- VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019. Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Although the Articles of the Library Bill of Rights are unambiguous statements of basic principles that should govern the service of all libraries, questions do arise concerning application of these principles to specific library practices. See the documents designated by the Intellectual Freedom Committee as [Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights](#).

Process

This policy is reviewed by the Library Director (or designee) every four (4) years, or more frequently as needed. Recommendations are forwarded to a Library Board committee. The committee reviews and revises as necessary, endorses and advances to the full Library Board for approval.

Policy History

Next Review Date: 2030 2026

Date Last Reviewed: [Insert date Board approves]

~~Revised: June 2022~~

~~Date Approved: 2018~~