

Barrington Public Library 2018 Vision/Mission/Goals Statement

Mission Statement

The Barrington Public Library provides equal opportunity for everyone to access, share, and create information. As a welcoming and inclusive community center, we connect our citizens to educational, recreational, and technological resources that enhance their lives. Freedom of speech, freedom of information, and the right to privacy are cornerstone principles for all library policies, programs, and services.

Vision Statement Barrington Public Library

The vision of the Barrington Public Library is to provide current materials in a variety of formats, services, programs, and current technologies to meet the educational, informational, and recreational needs of community members of all ages. The library especially recognizes its role as the first place where the children of Barrington develop basic literacy skills with their families and strives to support and enhance school based learning through innovative and interesting before and after school programs geared for this demographic.

The library will provide a space that is suited to multiple citizens pursuing learning and recreational reading simultaneously, as well as areas for meetings and programs that foster literacy, community, and civic discourse. The Barrington Public Library is the learning center of our community and the place people turn to for the discovery of ideas, the joy of reading and the power of information. We offer opportunities for a collaborative work space where innovation and sharing ideas can thrive. Community needs drive our services and we take a personal interest in ensuring that they are delivered in a welcoming, convenient and responsive manner.

The library will provide sufficient service hours and qualified staff to serve community needs and reaches beyond its own resources to gain access to materials and programs that we cannot provide within our budget. We partner with other organizations for the same purposes, thus building cooperative ties that benefit our community at large. The Barrington Public Library is dedicated to making the Town of Barrington a rewarding, attractive, and pleasant place in which to live, work, and visit.

Service Goals: 2018

The library will strive to meet the needs of all citizens, but the following goals have been chosen as focal points for service over the next year in response to community demographics, current use patterns, and community requests for more programming, materials, and services in the noted areas. Services to adults will focus on materials collection and tech support services as well as programming, while services for children will encompass a variety of programs for both preschoolers and those of school age. These goals are geared to maximize our effect with limited staffing and funds.

- Serve as the **Preschoolers Door to Learning**
- Provide **Quick & Easy** Access to Information on Current Topics, Titles, & **Trained Staff** to Answer Reference Questions
- Serve as a **Community Commons** and Build Strong Community Partnerships
- Serve as the center for **Lifelong Learning** in the Community
- Provide a **safe, clean, and appealing** work environment and library space for the community

Objectives

Both short and long-term objectives required for meeting goals are set forth below to keep the library working effectively and with focus:

Goal 1: Serve as the Preschoolers Door to Learning & A Resource for Families

Objectives:

- Increase the number of lap sit and story times from 4 per week to 5 when necessary to meet demand and avoid wait lists.
- Increase participation in the 1000 Books before Kindergarten program through more PR and outreach.
- Provide a summer reading program that includes books, programming, and incentives for approx 300-400 participants. Circulation goes up 25-30% and the number of children/teens visiting rises approx. 50% from June-August. **(Fund yearly online SRP Module fee & programs)**
- Ensure suitable desk coverage during summer months to also serve the Summer Camp Program run by the Rec. Dept. with reading times for campers and room space for movies. **(Maintain 2 Desk Clerks in budget)**
- Maintain our collection of picture books, phonics readers, preschool console games, and book and CD sets for young children. Allow enough funds to get current items being published which parents are requesting.
- Maintain the number of outreach visits to local preschools (3 per month).
- Provide sufficient devices and services to meet the growing needs of digital materials for families. **(Increase funding for further digital download programs and upgrade tablet devices to meet current technology...maintain Hoopla as access for families online to movies, music, & books.)**
- Work closely with the ECLC & Barrington kindergarten to provide resources to students. The full day Kindergarten has requested visits by all Kindergarteners; they do not have a library and therefore we will be working with them to provide

library services daily. Every Kindergarten class will come once a week for story time and selecting materials. **(Maintain funding for materials for this age group)**

- Provide more **STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math)** related after-school and summer activities, and materials. LEGO engineering Club and STEAM Creation workshops at Middle School and in the Library & LEGO Club for ages 5-9. **(Maintain programs budget for needed program supplies and materials budget for creation kits for the collection)**

Goal 2: Provide Quick & Easy Access to Information on Current Topics, Titles, & Trained Staff to Answer Reference

Questions

Objectives:

- Increase the availability of the technology librarian to the public to answer advanced questions & provide classes in software products, 3D printers, and other up and coming technologies. **(2018 increase budget to make position full time)**
- Maintain number of non-fiction and fiction bestseller titles purchased; this cuts down on already high Inter-Library Loan requests
- Find an alternate access to a digital magazine service that provides current issues of popular titles. (Overdrive ceased this service last year) **(2018 Technology Librarian & Director to explore options/costs)**
- Maintain the online circulation system, software, and services which allow patron access to the collection. **(2018 contract fees)**
- Minimize the number of days patrons must wait for new titles through purchasing multiple copies. (Less than 1 month wait)
- Maintain access to our popular digital service for e-books and downloadable audio books. **(add funds for Overdrive access increases 2018 to digital materials line)**
- Weed out-of-date & non-circulating materials from fiction and non-fiction areas to allow for new topics/books/space. **(approx. 1,000 titles year)**
- Provide staff and public training on new technologies and materials through attendance at conferences and seminars, and in-house training of staff by Library Technology Assistant as needed.
- Maintain the current access to databases such as Ancestry, Heritage Quest, Ebscohost, Pronunciator language learning, legal forms databases, and add funds for Chilton's Car Repair online access. **(Contract fees 2018)**
- Provide displays concerning current topics, highlighting library resources and online information.
- Update and maintain the reference resources pages on the website including adding further technology training modules to the tech page.
- Provide more time for staff to learn about our digital offerings so they can better assist the public. **(Full time tech. lib. 2018 budget)**

Goal 3: Serve as a Community Commons and Build Strong Community Partnerships

Objectives:

- Provide up-to-date information on Town events, meetings, and issues via website calendar, social media postings, and the e-newsletter.
- Work with other local non-profits like the Conservation Commission & Historical Society to bring in innovative programs.
- Provide resources for genealogical and town historical information by keeping Ancestry and Heritage Quest databases available and begin work on developing a local database of Barrington vital records not found on other online resources.
- Provide community bulletin board space and a jobs board for local employment listings.
- Meet demand for use of the meeting space by local groups for discussions, meetings, and town business.
- Keep people informed through e-mail newsletters, Face book, Twitter and news in Foster's Daily Democrat. Increase print PR methods such as flyers in local businesses/outdoor signs to inform more citizens of offerings. Schedule staff time to visit town events and hand out informational materials on library services. **(2018 Create an outreach committee of volunteers and Trustees to do outreach activities.)**
- Be able to serve the large number of people visiting the library in a timely manner. **(Under 5 minute wait for services)**
- Library workers and Trustees will participate in collaborative efforts with other town agencies. (David yearly acts as a judge at BES invention fair...more like this to create stronger bonds between departments and we joined forces with the Rec. Dept. this year to provide a State Park's Pass)
- Host more community competitions like the Gingerbread House and new Peeps contest to bring out creativity in the community and share fun experiences. **(2018 continue the baking competition fundraiser)**
- Provide an enriching environment for teens during after school hours through scheduled events, ample materials for browsing, and drop-in activities or volunteer opportunities by maintaining our summer volunteer program and working with the schools to provide services there. Provide further technology opportunities for teens with Maker Space activities and access to public PCs/training from staff. Provide after school activities at BMS, run by library staff, so students who cannot get here can participate. **(2018 continue the newly popular kids cook book club and Dungeons & Dragons Clubs)**
- Maintain **suitably staffed** evening hours for commuters and groups wishing to meet. **(2018 survey patrons about hours they would like to see added to the schedule, if any, for planning purposes)**

- Work with the food pantry to provide free books to families in need in Christmas baskets yearly. Add a box of books in the pantry we fill with donations periodically. Take books to outreach activities. **(2018 Explore the idea of little free library kiosks in underserved areas of town supported by the library and/or library Friends group)**
- Maintain the home delivery program to homebound residents by PR to Meals on Wheels and volunteer help. Maintain the delivery service to school via volunteers and staff time processing requests.
- Partner with local businesses to highlight library services.
- Serve local businesses with a strong collection in business, taxes, marketing, and provide space where small business owners can work online utilizing our Internet connection.

Goal 4: Serve as the center for Lifelong learning in the Community

Objectives:

- Provide up-to-date reference materials **and digital access to online reference resources** as well as updated non-fiction titles in a wide-variety of subjects.
- Provide enough computers to meet the demands of students, job seekers, and recreational use patrons **(6 stations/1 Laptop)**
- Provide staff training in reference services through State Library courses and in-house training. (1-2 per year)
- Provide adequate staff to help students with research during after-school hours (3-4 staff to cover desk, research, and office)
- Increase awareness about our online reference services by offering training classes for the public, and staff doing one on one help.
- Produce information sheets, listing print and online resources, on topics for school reports and adult inquiries as requested.
- Interlibrary loan staff member to assist middle school book groups to obtain suitable numbers of copies needed for multiple teen book groups.
- Expand our new adult arts and craft program modules. One a month. Locate residents willing to share skills to help defray instructor costs for some modules. **(Maintain programming budget 2018 to cover costs)**
- Work with the Friends of the Library and other local groups to provide seminars and occasional special events to the adult public in town at least 6 times a year.
- Provide computer classes for townspeople on a wide variety of devices and platforms. Explore the possibility of offering 3D printer classes and/or access to a 3D printer.
- Visit teacher's meetings to get them all cards and show them the resources they have access to at the library (yearly)
- Continue school visits for the Summer Reading Program. (Yearly)
- Provide training to the public on the use of the library's electronic resources and E-Readers (one on one as needed)
- Purchase curriculum supporting materials as needed to help students meet the demands of school projects.
- Provide speakers as the community expresses interest in topics (NHHC Grants applied for 2 times a year)
- Provide resources to those seeking GED & HiSet information and new adult readers seeking materials.
- Provide assistance in locating scholarships and grants, and doing research into colleges for teens.
- Provide exam proctoring services for those taking online courses.
- Provide space for groups with special interest topics such as knitting, gardening, scrapbooking, politics, etc.

Goal 5: Provide a safe, clean, appealing, and accessible work and library space for the community

Objectives:

- **Work with the town and new Library Foundation to develop plans for a new, larger, library facility.**
- Weed collections and organize yearly to ensure patrons with mobility issues can navigate our building even with our crowded stacks.

The Barrington Public Library will provide:

- The information community members need to succeed at work, school, and in their personal lives
- Reading, viewing, listening materials, and programs that stimulate thinking and improve the quality of leisure time.
- Outreach services that foster the love of reading and learning, and focus on under-served populations.
- Electronic access to information and computers for public use as well as training materials and programs in the use and evaluation of these technologies for the purpose of research and communication in the modern world. Provides wireless hotspot access as well. **(Continue funding our technology capital reserve fund at \$3,000 this year)**
- A community meeting place and center for local information and services. **(Continue exploring building options for a larger facility in the coming year.)**
- Programming that meets the needs of Barrington's large family population, including preschool activities, programs for children and young adults, and family oriented materials, including home school resources. **(Maintain Programming Budget)**
- Knowledgeable staff with sufficient working hours to meet the needs of current programming and the office work related to providing books and services to the community. **(Increase technology librarian to fulltime in 2018)**

How the Library Helps the Town Meet the Goals Set by the Selectmen: Quotes from the Town Mission Statement

“seek to shape a future that values our past, preserves our natural and human resources while working together with the public toward a bright economic and community-oriented lifestyle through quality education and the provision of effective governmental services that characterize a healthy, dynamic community.”

- The library provides community support by highlighting and housing local collections, genealogy information, and hosting events that focus on local history, authors, and conservation issues. It works to provide resources to support economic growth with literature for small business owners on taxes, business plans, and other related topics, as well as assisting job seekers with a jobs board, Internet access for job searches, resume building software, and assistance from trained staff in all these areas. We also support those who are applying for unemployment, seeking job training opportunities, and we provide a place for teens and adults to get job experience as volunteers. We support a community oriented lifestyle by providing programs of local interest, space for local groups to meet, story hours that bring families together, and opportunities for people to discuss local issues. We support education by providing early learning opportunities for preschool age children, programs for school age children during after school hours, as well as adult education opportunities through technology training, seminars, and classes in various topics. We are happy to partner with the local schools as a library resource, especially the ECLC and Kindergarten where no library is located within the school. This saves Barrington money in the long run as the schools do not need to build and staff a library in the ECLC. We support a healthy community by providing CPR courses, First Aid, and Babysitting courses as well as assistance with programs such as the ACA and other programs which citizens require help navigating. This year we expanded and provided courses geared towards relaxation and stress reduction such as meditative drawing and meditation/mindfulness workshops.

“overseeing a friendly, cost-effective, efficient government that promotes public safety, wise preservation and development of the social and natural environment, maintenance and development of infrastructure, and support for community services that assure quality of life.”

- The library consistently provides a friendly face and welcoming service that highlights how much help municipally funded services can be to the public. When citizens ask what they get for their taxes, we can point to a wide array of resources they have access to here that can make their life easier and more cost efficient. We promote public safety by providing a place for children during after school hours as well as a place where people come during power outages, Internet outages, and other incidents where heat and electricity in their own homes are interrupted. We also provide information on Town services that can assist them during these times. We developed and provided a welcome packet for new residents to Town offices this year. We also hosted a “Coffee with a Cop” event to promote interaction between the police and the public and we offered a seminar time in conjunction with the Town Planning board where folks could ask questions of the department. We have also co-hosted candidate nights for those seeking election to public office.

The library is a service that assures quality of life for many of our citizens and it provides this in an exceptionally cost-effective manner. We circulate more items, provide more programs, and are open more hours than many town libraries our size that have much larger budgets.