I. Call to Order

II. Public Comment (6:30-6:35)

III. Approval of Agenda (6:35)

IV. Consent Agenda (6:35-6:40)
   A. Approval of May 16, 2018 Minutes (2)
   B. Director’s Report (3)
   C. Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries Report (4)

V. Action Items (6:40-7:00)
   A. Friends Gala Gift (5)
   B. Agreement with St. Paul Neighborhood Network (6)
   C. Shoreview Technology Purchase (7)

VI. Discussion Items (7:00-9:00)
   A. Maplewood Pre-Design Report (8)
   B. Strategic Planning (9)
   C. White Bear Lake Branch Update & Tour (10)
   D. Other

VII. Adjournment (9:00)

Scheduled Upcoming Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 18, 2018</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>RCL – Shoreview 4560 North Victoria Street</td>
<td>2018 Second Quarter Reports, Digital Literacy Overview, Collections Overview, Periodicals Contract, Write Off Uncollectible Debt, Strategic Planning Update, Capital Planning Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 15, 2018</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>RCL – Roseville 2180 Hamline Avenue North</td>
<td>Friends of the Library Overview, Community Engagement Overview, Strategic Planning Update, Capital Planning Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19, 2018</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>RCL – New Brighton 400 – 10th Street N.W.</td>
<td>History Project Overview, Volunteer Program Overview, Library Director’s Performance Appraisal, Strategic Planning Update, Capital Planning Update, Branch Update/Tour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Library Board
Craig Klausing, Chair
Paula Mielke, Vice Chair
Sida Ly-Xiong, Secretary
Debra Berry
Marisol Chiclana-Ayala
John Hakes
Sylvia Neblett

Library Director
Jill Boldenow

Administrative Office
4560 North Victoria St. Shoreview, MN 55126
Phone: (651) 486-2200
www.rclreads.org
LIBRARY BOARD PRESENT:
Deb Berry, Marisol Chiclana-Ayala, John Hakes, Craig Klausing, Sida Ly-Xiong, Paula Mielke, Sylvia Neblett

STAFF PRESENT:
Jill Boldenow, Library Director; Mary Larson, Library Board Coordinator; Lynn Wyman, Deputy Director; Jeff Eide, Senior Library Manager; Bill Michel, Maplewood Library Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:
Elizabeth Tolzmann, Ramsey County Policy & Planning Director; Ken Behringer, MELSA Director; Cyndi Cook, Friends of the Ramsey County Library Executive Director; Les Sipkema, Shoreview Resident

CALL TO ORDER:
Klausing called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Ramsey County Library in Maplewood, 3025 Southlawn Drive.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Les Sipkema, Shoreview resident, spoke about racial equity, consent agenda procedures, the Library Board’s fiduciary responsibility, the lease agreement with North St. Paul, and staff job assignments.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
No changes were made to the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Chiclana-Ayala made a motion to approve the minutes of April 18, 2018 as presented. Neblett seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
Important Dates: The Friends Book It! 5K Walk-Run is May 19. All libraries are closed May 28. The Summer Reading Program and Make It Festival kickoff is June 9 at Roseville Library with programs for kids and teens.

Here is great news from Marcus Lowry: “Be on the lookout at your branch for new materials in world languages in the coming months. We are making a greater effort to have books, DVDs, and CDs in the languages that many people in our community speak. In 2018, we have added Somali, Spanish, Arabic, Hindi, Tamil, Hmong, Chinese, and Vietnamese titles. Upcoming will be Minnesota area indigenous languages as well as Tibetan and Korean.” In addition to serving as Manager of Ramsey County Library in Mounds View, Marcus is the Library’s selector of world language collections.

On April 19, 105 Library staff participated in In-Service Day training. Boldenow kicked off the welcome session by thanking staff, sharing 2017 Friends grant outcomes, and reviewing the state of the Library—including the strategic plan, program highlights, upcoming planning, and County initiatives. Librarian and Teen Coordinator Amy Boese presented about her leadership experience as 2017 Minnesota Library Association President. Morning breakout sessions, led by staff and invited speakers, included: Hands-only CPR; ESL and Cultural Competence; Intro to Outlook; Inclusive Customer Service for Patrons with Disabilities; Circulation Q & A; and Summer Reading Sneak Peek. In the afternoon, staff returned to branch libraries to review safety procedures. Many thanks to the staff who organized and participated in this educational day.
On April 23, Boldenow presented at the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries on 2017 Friends grant outcomes. In 2017, in addition to capital campaign gifts and gala-supported collections funds, the Friends gave two grants—totaling $99,000—to the Library. These funds supported the following strategic objectives and initiatives:

**Literacy and Student Achievement**
- Children’s & Teen Programs ($9,000); Summer Reading Program ($20,000)

**Economic Prosperity and Racial Equity**
- Tech Literacy/Life Skills Programs ($25,000); Racial Equity Programs ($5,000)

**Community Engagement**
- Popup Library ($10,000); Newsletter ($6,000); Volunteer Program ($5,000)

**Vibrant Learning Spaces and Resources**
- Furniture ($5,000); E-Books ($9,000); Employee Development ($5,000)

**FRIENDS OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARIES REPORT:**
We are grateful to the Reading Friends Literacy Program volunteers who gave of their time and talent in the past 2017-18 school year: Aleli Balagtas, Susan Benjamin, Lyn Carieveau, Carol Diemert, Ruth Holm, Brad Larson, Nancy Lee, Susan Miller, Joann Morse, Gretchen Needham, Marilyn Pope, Mary Santi, Sophia Vigil, Beth Warren, and Jeannine Wiegert. Reading Friends volunteers shared good books and great times with children at Community Partners with Youth in New Brighton. They worked individually with K-5 children to reinforce literacy skills, assist with homework assignments, and help build children’s self-esteem. The lives of many children were enriched this year because of our dedicated and generous Reading Friends.

**Friends Board of Directors**
At the Friends Annual Meeting in April, the Board recognized and thanked departing Board members, Lynn Belgea and Pamela Harris for nine years of devoted service on the Board of Directors. The Friends also welcomed three new board members:
- Jan Rapheal, White Bear Lake
- Valerie Wise, New Brighton
- Kate Rong Yang, Shoreview

**Book It 5K Walk/Run**
With the sunshine and warmer weather, registrations have picked up and we are looking forward to a fun and successful event! We greatly appreciate our generous sponsors who make the Book It 5K Walk/Run possible:
- **Gold:** Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Retail Centers and Xperience Fitness Roseville
- **Silver:** Jaci Meyer Agency, State Farm and the Aplikowski Family
- **Bronze:** Huntington Learning Center, Maguire Agency, Moms on the Run, Nick and Nora Charles, Frank Harris, John W. Harris, and Pamela Harris

**Summer Reading Program Kickoff on June 9**
The Friends will be recruiting our board and members to volunteer at the Summer Reading Program Scavenger Hunt table again this year. We will also be inviting Ramsey County Commissioners and Library Board members to greet participants as they arrive—a great opportunity to meet families in a fun and energetic setting!

**Shoreview Capital Campaign Donor and Artist Reception**
The reception planning committee is currently seeking sponsors and volunteers for the event as well as donations of door prizes from Gallery 96 artists and local businesses. 450 invitations for the reception have gone out to Shoreview Capital Campaign donors/volunteers and public officials.
Upcoming Events
- **Friends Board of Directors** on July 23, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
- **Book It 5K** on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
- **RCL Summer Reading Program Kick-off** on June 9, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
- **Shoreview Capital Campaign Donor and Artist Reception** on June 15, 2018 at the Shoreview Branch
- “**POP-UP**” Used Book Sale, September 25-29, 2018 at the Shoreview Branch
- **Friends Author Luncheon**, November 3, 2018 at North Oaks Golf Club

FRIENDS SURPLUS GRANT:
At the end of each fiscal year, the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries close out their books and determine if additional funds are available to support Library programs and services. For 2018, the Friends indicated that $29,000 was available for a supplementary grant request.

Library staff identified several initiatives, which were approved by the Friends Executive Board. In accordance with Library Board policies, the Library Board must approve all grants exceeding $5,000.

Mielke made a motion to accept the surplus grant of $29,000 from the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries for 2018 initiatives identified by the Library. Ly-Xiong seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ROSEVILLE CHILDREN’S GARDEN PLAY SURFACE:
The Children’s Garden at the Ramsey County Library in Roseville includes a colorful play surface that is used for storytime programs and other events, as well as general play and passive programming in the garden. The surface was installed in 2010, and has reached the end of its life span.

Library staff earmarked funds for the replacement of this play surface from 2016 year end reserves. St. Croix Recreation of Stillwater, Minnesota, has a State Contract for park and playground equipment, including this type of poured-in-place play surface. The Library received a quote of $29,690 to install a new play surface and remove and dispose of the existing material.

Berry made a motion to authorize the Library to purchase a new play surface for the Children’s Garden at the Ramsey County Library in Roseville from St. Croix Recreation of Stillwater, Minnesota at a cost not to exceed $29,690.00 using 2016 year end reserves designated for the project. Ly-Xiong seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL:
Ramsey County Library in North St. Paul leases space from the City of North St. Paul at 2300 North St. Paul Drive. The Library and the City have agreed to amend the lease to give the Library use of a program room adjacent to the current Library space. The terms are set forth in the Amendment to Joint Agreement, which was produced by the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office.

Neblett made a motion to approve the Amendment to Joint Agreement for Lease, Financing, Operations and Use of the Ramsey County Library at the North St. Paul Community Center and authorize the Library Board Chair and Library Director to sign the Amendment. Berry seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

MELSA OVERVIEW:
Ken Behringer, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA), was present at the meeting to provide an overview of the agency, regional public library systems in Minnesota, and the benefits Ramsey County Library receives as a member of MELSA.
MELSA serves as the regional library system for the eight library systems in the Twin Cities metro area. Regional public library systems manage several State programs including:

- Regional Library Basic System Support (RLBSS)
- Arts & Cultural Heritage/Legacy Funds
- Regional Library Telecommunications Aid

Behringer outlined the financial support Ramsey County Library received as a member of MELSA in 2017, including support for:

- Library technology & interlibrary loan
- Electronic resources and downloadable content
- Children and teen programming and services
- Computer classes
- Staff training and development
- Promotional support
- General operations

RAMSEY COUNTY GOALS AND STRATEGIES:
Elizabeth Tolzmann, Director of Ramsey County Policy and Planning, was present to provide an overview of Ramsey County goals and strategies to provide context for the Library Board’s strategic planning process. She noted that the Library is part of Ramsey County’s Economic Growth and Community Investment service team. The County’s four goals are:

- **Well-Being.** Strengthen individual, family and community health, safety and wellbeing.
- **Prosperity.** Cultivate economic prosperity and invest in neighborhoods with concentrated financial poverty.
- **Opportunity.** Enhance access to opportunity and mobility for all residents and businesses.
- **Accountability.** Model fiscal accountability, transparency and strategic investments.

LIBRARY PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:
The Library Board discussed the drafts of the Ramsey County Library department overview and performance measures that were prepared as part of the County’s 2019 supplemental budget process. Library staff will work with County staff to revise the drafts before final submission in July.

COMMUNITY SURVEYS:
The Library utilizes community surveys to collect data about residents, library usage, needs, and performance. Board members discussed key findings of three recent surveys, presented for discussion and to provide context for the Library Board’s strategic planning process. The Library Board requested library trend data be shared at the upcoming strategic planning retreat.

1. **Morris Leatherman Company—Residential Survey (2016).** This phone survey was conducted with 600 households from August 15-31, 2016. It provides statistically valid demographic data about suburban Ramsey County residents and Ramsey County Library users. It shows Library users’ service ratings, sources of Library information, and e-reader use.

2. **The Impact Survey (2016).** This online survey tool enables public libraries to understand how people use their public technology resources and services. This survey appeared from November 22-December 6, 2016 on the Ramsey County Library website, and it had 1,037 responses.
3. MELSA—Resident Survey: Technology Use and Access (2016). This survey was mailed to households in the MELSA region in 2016. A total of 5,393 surveys provided scientifically valid data. It shows home access to internet, computers, and other technology necessary to participate in e-government and e-learning. The survey shows residents’ use of library technology and interest in technology instruction. It also reveals disparities to access by race, age, and income.

CAPITAL PLANNING:
Library staff continue to work with MSR Design to produce pre-design options for Ramsey County Library in Maplewood. Staff will share recommendations to the Library Board when complete.

Ramsey County Property Management is issuing an RFQ to hire a consultant to produce a Ramsey County Library Facilities Master plan for 2019-2025. The RFQ is tentatively scheduled to be open from May 16-June 14. A consultant will be selected in mid-July, and work will occur from August to mid-December. Ramsey County Property Management will manage the RFQ process. The announcement will go to CERT program vendors, which includes certified minority-owned business enterprises, women-owned business enterprises, and small business enterprises.

Boldenow requested that a Library Board member participate on a proposal review and interview team, which will include Ramsey County Library and Property Management staff. Team members will review applicants’ proposals from mid-late June and take part in interviews tentatively scheduled for July 9-11. Mielke volunteered to serve as the Library Board representative on the review and interview team.

NEXT MEETINGS:
June 6, 2018—RCL Shoreview, 4560 North Victoria Street, 6:00 p.m. (Strategic Planning)
June 20, 2018—RCL White Bear Lake, 2150 – 2nd Street, 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:
Following a motion by Neblett and a second by Berry, Klausing adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Larson
Library Board Coordinator
May Staff Updates: Hired: Tyler Lopez, White Bear Lake Library Page
                      Doug Loll, New Brighton Library Page

Important Dates: All libraries are closed July 4.

Summer is here! We kicked off our summer of learning at the Ramsey County Library in Roseville on June 9. Thanks to Library Board Vice-Chair Paula Mielke and Commissioners Victoria Reinhardt and Blake Huffman for volunteering! Thanks to the Friends for supporting the Summer Reading Program!

Our program theme is R.E.A.D.—Read, Explore, Adventure, and Discover. Each week, kids and teens will find a stellar lineup of Library programs and self-guided activities. Kudos to the Children’s and Teen Librarians for producing another great season of opportunities. Thanks to Pa Na Lor and Kristi Saksvig for our colorful program materials. I also want to credit the team effort that launched the Library’s newest digital platform—Beanstack—just in time for June 9. Beanstack enables kids and teens to log reading, activities, and reviews online and track earned badges and prizes. The platform also provides personalized reading and event recommendations.

We have further enhanced the summer learning experience by launching “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten,” a nationwide program to encourage parents/caregivers to read to their newborns, infants, and toddlers. Participants can use Beanstack or our new, printed reading logs to track program progress and earn prizes along the way.

Our summer meal program is expanding. For the second year, Ramsey County Library in Maplewood is a site for the USDA Summer Food Service Program. Youth 18 and under may have a cold lunch and/or an afternoon snack Monday through Thursday, courtesy of Youthprise. We will also offer late afternoon bag lunches for youth in the reading garden at Ramsey County Library in Roseville, delivered weekdays by the St. Paul Public Schools food truck.

The Library has been well-represented in recent press. Check out the book recommendations by Librarians Tami Lee, Marcus Lowry, Erica Redden, Anna Haynes, and Holly Pierson in a StarTribune piece by Laurie Hertzel. “Great summer books picked by the experts, your Twin Cities librarians,” is found at http://strib.mn/2LQpVHJ. Library Manager Meg Lloyd Robertson’s collaboration with WIC is highlighted in the June American Libraries article, “Bringing Libraries to WIC.” With the help of the Friends, Meg secured a grant to provide early literacy toys, books, and brochures to clients of the WIC clinic in the New Brighton Community Center, where the Library is located. This article is here: https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2018/06/01/bringing-libraries-to-wic.
Friends Update

June 2018

2017 Recap
Thanks to our generous donors, members, volunteers, and event sponsors, the Friends were able to provide $174,441 to the Ramsey County Library in 2017 to support vital programs/resources and added $33,000 worth of donated books to the library collection. Our enthusiastic volunteers put in 7,505 hours valued at $185,298 to make that happen.

Book It 5K Walk/Run
120 participants crossed the finish line at the 2018 Book It 5K Walk/Run helping to raise more than $5,900 to support the Ramsey County Library Summer Reading Program in Maplewood, Mounds View, New Brighton, North Saint Paul, Roseville, Shoreview and White Bear Lake.

As the sun came up on Saturday, May 19, Book It committee members and volunteers were busy marking the course, setting up water stations, and preparing the parking lot and registration area for the arrival of walkers and runners. Ramsey County Library set up their new Pop Up Library, the Roseville Fire Department rolled in with a firetruck, and sponsors set up tables and canopies to provide fitness technology demos, kids games, and lots of fun giveaways. Bliss Yoga led a soothing warm up session and Xperience Fitness pumped everyone up with some great Zumba moves. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MN Retail Center sounded the air horn and the racers hit the trail. As a special treat while we waited for the race results to be tabulated, kids ages 3 to 12 ran in the new “Library Lap” and walked away with a free book to start their summer reading off right. The Book It 5K Walk/Run not only raised funds for a terrific cause, it also provided a fun and memorable experience for families from throughout the suburban Ramsey County area.

Legacy of Literacy
On June 4-5, 2018, the Friends joined forces with the Minnesota Association of Library Friends to raise awareness about legacy giving opportunities at the Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Probate and Trust Law Section Conference. We had the opportunity to meet and greet hundreds of probate and trust attorneys, sing the praises of the Ramsey County Library, and encourage attorneys to share information with their clients. Legacy gifts enable the Friends to continue to provide vital financial support for the public libraries in suburban Ramsey County.

Save the Date for Friends Gala 2019
The 6th annual Friends Gala will be held at the Ramsey County Library in Roseville at 2180 Hamline Avenue North on Saturday, February 2, 2019. To express our admiration and respect for the impressive Ramsey County Library system and their amazing staff and volunteers, the Gala theme for 2019 is “Hats off to the Library!” If you have questions, or are interested in sponsoring or donating to the Gala, please contact Caitlin Carroll at 651-486-2213 or caitlin.carroll@rcIreads.org.
Upcoming Events

- **Friends Board of Directors** on July 23, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
- **“POP-UP” Used Book Sale,** September 25-29, 2018 at the Shoreview Branch
- **Friends Author Luncheon,** November 3, 2018 at North Oaks Golf Club
- **Friends Gala 2019,** February 2, 2019 at the Roseville Branch
SUBJECT:
Friends Gala Gift

BACKGROUND:
The Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries held their 5th Annual Gala in March. Proceeds were earmarked for the Library’s collection budget, to replace well-worn favorites and bring in popular new releases. The Gala met its goal of raising $30,000 for the adult and children’s lending collections, with a minimum of $6,200 from the “special giving moment” restricted to the children’s collection.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
To accept the proceeds of $30,000 from the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries 5th Annual Gala, designated for the adult and children’s lending collections, with a minimum of $6,200 restricted to the children’s collection.
# Request for Library Board Action

**Meeting Date**  
June 20, 2018

**Action Requested**  
Approve Agreement

**Presented By**  
Mary Larson,  
Library Board Coordinator

**SUBJECT:**  
Approval of CTEP Agreement

**BACKGROUND:**  
Since 2010, Ramsey County Library has contracted with St. Paul Neighborhood Network’s AmeriCorps program to serve as a host site for the Community Technology Empowerment Project (CTEP). For the 2018-2019 program year, Ramsey County Library was awarded four full-time CTEP workers, who will support digital literacy programming for teens and adults. Two CTEPs will be assigned to Roseville, one will be at Maplewood, and one will be assigned to Shoreview.

CTEPs serve full-time (about 35 hours a week) for a year in a community technology center located within libraries, immigrant services organizations, employment centers, museums or media centers in the Twin Cities. They receive a living stipend, a health care option, and an educational award upon completion of service. About a third of AmeriCorps CTEP workers choose to do a second service year of CTEP.

As a host site for the CTEP program, the Library agrees to pay a site fee of $8,000 for each member, plus an additional $2,000 for any current member who decides to serve a 2nd year at a Ramsey County Library location. A travel stipend may also be included for some members.

The Library Board must approve contracts of $25,000 or more. A copy is attached for Library Board review. The agreement has been reviewed by the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**  
Approve the 2018-2019 Host Site Agreement with St. Paul Neighborhood Network for four Community Technology Empowerment Project (CTEP) members at a maximum not to exceed cost of $40,000, and authorize the Library Director to sign the agreement.
2018-2019
HOST SITE AGREEMENT

By and between

Sponsor: Community Technology Empowerment Project (CTEP),
An AmeriCorps program of Saint Paul Neighborhood Network

And

Community Partner Agency: Ramsey County Library

Instructions for Community Partner:

1) Site will receive a pdf version of the agreement already signed and dated by the Executive
   Director of Saint Paul Neighborhood Network.
2) Both authorized signer and site supervisor should read the entire agreement thoroughly.
3) Discuss any concerns or suggestions for amendments with CTEP staff
4) Authorized signer should print out and sign the agreement on page 15.
5) Return to CTEP staff by June 15, 2018. Please scan the entire co-signed document and
   email it to krogstad@spnn.org.
6) Keep a co-signed agreement for your records.

This document defines the responsibilities of the Sponsor and the CTEP Community Partner
with respect to CTEP AmeriCorps Member(s) to perform services to strengthen and supplement
efforts to improve the technology literacy for low income families, recent immigrants, and
residents who may have physical or mental disabilities.

Member Award
The Community Partner is awarded the following members for the 2018-19 program year:

- 3 Full-Time (1700 Hours)

Questions?

Contact Joel Krogstad, CTEP Program Director, at (651) 298-8918 or krogstad@spnn.org.
I. Terms of the Contract

A. This Agreement shall become effective on the start date of the Member and shall terminate on the last day of service, unless terminated early by either partner. Any early termination of the Host Site Agreement between the Sponsor and the Community Partner will result in the termination of all provisions within this Host Site Agreement, with the exception of financial obligations outlined in Section III. Full-time CTEP Members will begin service as early as September 4, 2018 in order to complete the required 1700 hours of service by August 31, 2019.

B. The Sponsor may transfer a CTEP AmeriCorps Member from one Community Partner to another if the Sponsor determines that the Community Partner has a consistent pattern of not being able to meet the obligations of this agreement, and after attempts at redress it appears unlikely that necessary compliance from the Community Partner can or will be met.

II. CTEP Role and Responsibilities

The CTEP AmeriCorps Program will:

A. Pay living allowances on a bi-weekly schedule, as well as provide a health insurance option, and worker’s compensation for the Member.

B. Work to assist the Community Partner recruit incoming CTEP Members and conduct a first interview with all applicants to ensure that they meet AmeriCorps eligibility and are a strong match with the mission of CTEP and partner organizations. CTEP staff performs criminal background checks on all applicants who accept position offers but before they begin their term of service or sign their acceptance letter. The check will include a fingerprinted FBI background check, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA statewide check) and a check of the National Sex Offender Registry. CTEP will provide a copy of the background results only if the host site requests the documents, and member consents that the information can be shared with the site. If for some reason the background check is not complete by their start date, the applicant may participate in the pre-service orientation but cannot serve community participants alone at their site until the record is received. CTEP in most cases will not place applicants who have been convicted of a violent crime.

C. Provide an orientation for Members and Host Site Staff. Site Supervisors will receive information and training on:

1. Instruction on time and activity reporting, and other documentation on AmeriCorps and Program personnel policies and grievance procedures;

2. The AmeriCorps and the National Service movement and the Program operation, goals and objectives; and
3. Supervision of Members.

D. Serve as provider of training and technical assistance for Members throughout the program year. Such assistance includes:

1. Development and implementation of training sessions, Member meetings, community service projects, and statewide Member events;

2. Site visits by the CTEP program staff three times a year;

3. Provision of service gear for Members; and

4. Provide other support and assistance as needed to host sites and Members.

E. Develop and instruct the Community Partner and CTEP AmeriCorps Members on systems for the effective evaluation of their Member(s) performance, including time and activity reports, monthly, semi-annual and annual reports, Member evaluations, and training session evaluations.

F. Maintain and update Member service records including timesheets, enrollment and eligibility documentation, Member agreements, status changes and exit forms as required by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

G. Provide accounting and fiscal management services.

H. Discipline or release a Member from service early either for cause or for compelling personal circumstance. For the Member’s first violation of their member contract, CTEP staff will issue a verbal warning to the Member. For the Member’s second offense, CTEP staff will issue a written warning that will go in the Member’s file. For the Member’s third offense, the Member will be suspended for two weeks without pay. After suspension, the Member will enter a probationary period for the final duration of his or her service. For the fourth offense, CTEP may release the Member for cause.

I. Complete an assessment of the host site at mid-year and end-year for compliance with the agreement. This review tool serves as an indicator to assist CTEP staff in determining current and future partnership with the site. Visit www.spnn.org/ctep under Site Partner Resources to see a copy of the Site Review Tool.
III. Community Partner Roles and Responsibilities

A. The CTEP Community Partner must assign their Member a Site Supervisor who oversees the Member’s service and performance. CTEP expects that the site supervisor has previous experience in supervision, has an understanding of digital divide issues, manages day to day operations in the program area where the member serves, and prioritizes the necessary time to supervise the member. This Site Supervisor donates at least 15 hours a month of his/her work-time to CTEP program and Member support as in-kind hours for a full time Member. This can come from performing anything CTEP-related, including responding to emails, CTEP re-application, on-your-own CTEP related planning, in meetings with CTEP and other site staff, and will include recruiting and hiring for your CTEP position even before the member has begun. The site supervisor records this time on a timesheet through the online OnCorps system, and must submit the timesheet by the first Wednesday of every month in order for CTEP to prepare its monthly financial report to ServeMinnesota. The Site Supervisor’s salary must come from a non-federal source to be able to be counted for in-kind purposes. If a portion of all of the salary comes from a federal source, the Community Partner agrees to pay a higher site fee as detailed below in section B3.

1. Site Supervisor must disclose to CTEP administration the amount of his/her loaded salary (total wage plus benefits) in order to calculate the site in-kind contribution. This information is kept confidentially by CTEP administration. Site Supervisor is required to update his/her loaded salary amount whenever there is a change.

2. Per federal regulations, Site Supervisor must complete the same criminal background check process as the CTEP member: fingerprinted FBI check, BCA statewide check, and a National Sex Offender registry check. CTEP will provide specialized consent forms and reimburse Site Supervisor for all costs related to the check. Site Supervisor must complete check even if site has older background check records on file at host site. Supervisor check results must be received by CTEP staff before the service year begins. Returning CTEP supervisors do not need to be rechecked every year.

3. If the Community Partner wishes to change the site supervisor for any reason, selection of a new site supervisor requires the approval of CTEP staff. Training of the new site supervisor would be a joint responsibility of site staff as well as CTEP staff. If the site cannot identify a new site supervisor who can adequately supervise the member, then this would be grounds for CTEP ending the agreement and transferring the member to another location.
B. The Community Partner agrees to pay Saint Paul Neighborhood Network a site fee to meet the organization’s matching funds for living allowances, benefits, or other agreed costs as they may apply to the Member(s) serving the organization. The Community Partner agrees to pay the site fee by Oct 4, 2018, 30 days after the start date of the program. Check should be made payable to the Saint Paul Neighborhood Network. The Community Partner will receive an invoice for this fee not later than the first week of the Member’s service, unless the Community Partner requests that the invoice be sent earlier. The site fee is $8000 for each full-time Member, plus an additional $2000 for any current member who decides to serve a 2nd year at a Ramsey County Library site. Federal dollars cannot be used as the source for the cash match, unless the site provides a written statement from their federal funder stating that the federal funder consents to its funds being used as match for another federal program.

1. A ten percent late charge may be added to any site fee that is not paid by Oct 5, 2018. Failure to pay 60 days after start date of the member may cause immediate termination of the contract.

2. If a member is not able to be placed at the site due to changes in federal AmeriCorps funding, no site fee will be charged. In the event of an early Member termination either for compelling personal circumstances or for cause, Saint Paul Neighborhood Network will return a prorated amount of the Member fee to the CTEP Community Partner only if 1) the Member had completed less than 510 hours (30 percent of their total service year), and 2) the site does not refill the slot with a new member during that program year.

3. If the Site Supervisor has 40% or more of their salary come from a federal source, the Community Partner will offset the loss in in-kind contributions through a pro-rated increase in their site fee. This additional cost will be due the same time as the site fee. Example amounts are included in the following graph:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of Supervisor Salary from Federal Source</th>
<th>Additional cost above site fee for a complete program year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Below 40%</td>
<td>Zero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>$800 extra</td>
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<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$1000 extra</td>
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<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>$1500 extra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>$2000 extra</td>
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</table>

If Federal source percentage of Site Supervisor salary changes during the course of the program year, the Community Partner is required to notify CTEP staff immediately and resubmit a new Loaded Salary Form. In the event that the percentage changes moves to 40 percent or above and there is more than one quarter (3 months) remaining in the program year, the Community Partner will pay a pro-rated additional cost at that time. For example, if a Site Supervisor’s salary moves from zero percent federal to 40 percent federal one
quarter into the program year, the Community Partner will agree to pay CTEP three-quarters of the 40% rate above, or $600. In the event that a partner moves below 40% during the course of the year or reduces its federal percentage, the opposite process occurs and CTEP will agree to pay the Community Partner back a pro-rated portion of the additional site cost in similar fashion.

C. The Community Partner provides transportation or reimburses for transportation costs at the current non-profit rate for CTEP AmeriCorps Project Members IF their service activities require them to travel during the workday from one site to another.

D. The Host Site Supervisor agrees to the following Member support:

1. Be available ideally on a daily basis for the Member. At the very least, a weekly meeting for a minimum of an hour is required between Member and Supervisor.

2. Supervisor should have some organizational authority in specific program where the CTEP AmeriCorps Member serves.

3. Advocate for the CTEP AmeriCorps Member within the organization. The Site Supervisor is the translator to the rest of the organization about AmeriCorps, what is appropriate for an AmeriCorps Member and what is not appropriate. The Site Supervisor is the first line of defense if the Member is looking for support. CTEP staff will become involved if a Supervisor and Member cannot resolve an important issue.

4. Be the only person at the site who gives the Member service tasks. No one else at the site can give the Member a standing responsibility. If there is a situation where other site staff also need to direct the AmeriCorps Member, this must be approved by CTEP staff beforehand.

5. Inform CTEP staff if a Member has violated the terms of their contract in some way (unprofessionalism, repeated tardiness, not turning in work on time, etc). CTEP staff can then determine what corrective action is necessary. A Site Supervisor does not have the ability to unilaterally suspend a CTEP Member from their site unless they determine that personal safety is involved.

6. Provide necessary training opportunities for CTEP AmeriCorps Members to be able to perform their specific site tasks.
E. The Community Partner assures that the CTEP AmeriCorps Member is not involved in any **prohibited activities** while they are serving hours or representing AmeriCorps or the site. These activities include:

1. Any activity that attempts to influence legislation, an election or aid/endorse a partisan political organization or candidate, or supporting a non-profit that engages in lobbying;

2. Voter registration drives. In addition, Corporation funds may not be used to conduct a voter registration drive;

3. Help or hinder union activity, contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements;

4. Engage in religious instruction, provide service as a part of a program that includes mandatory religious instruction or worship, engage in any form of religious proselytizing (effort to convert others to a certain faith), or construct, maintain, or operate facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship;

5. Organize or engage in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes;

6. Provide a direct benefit to a for-profit entity;

7. Discriminate against any person because of age, race, religion, color, disability, sex, marital status, physical condition, arrest or conviction record, drug abuse, alcohol abuse or alcoholism, developmental disability, sexual orientation, ancestry, or national origin; or

8. Perform clerical or receptionist duties.

9. Providing abortion services or referrals for receipt of such services;

10. Raise funds for living allowances or for an organization’s general (as opposed to project) operating expenses or endowment;

11. Write a grant application to the Corporation or to any other federal agency;

12. Such other activities as the Corporation for National and Community Service may prohibit.

13. AmeriCorps members may not engage in the above activities directly or indirectly by recruiting, training, or managing others for the primary purpose of engaging in one of the activities listed above. Individuals may exercise their rights as private citizens and may participate in the activities listed above on their initiative, on non-AmeriCorps time, and using non-
CNCS funds. Individuals should not wear the AmeriCorps logo or otherwise represent themselves as an AmeriCorps member while doing so, to avoid an allegation that the AmeriCorps program is involved in the prohibited activity even if that is not the case.

F. The Community Partner recruits in a timely fashion. Once CTEP staff sends a candidate's application for a site's consideration, the Site Supervisor has two working days to let CTEP know if they intend to interview the candidate and contact the candidate to let them know of their intention to interview or not. Schedule your interview within a week of contacting the candidate. Decide to offer or not offer within a week of interview. Let CTEP staff know that you intend to offer a position and receive our approval before you make an offer to the candidate.

G. The Community Partner codifies a service plan for the use of CTEP AmeriCorps Members no later than 30 days after the start date of the Member. Throughout the course of the Member's service year, the Site Supervisor must correct the Member's service plan as soon as possible if a Member does not have enough to do or is behind on hours, or if there is a substantial change in a Member's service plan. Any changes to the Member's service plan must be approved by CTEP staff before implementation.

H. The Community Partner provides adequate space to permit CTEP AmeriCorps Members to perform their assigned duties, and provides a value of this space as an in-kind contribution to CTEP at the end of the year. Providing adequate space includes:

1. phone with personal answering machine;
2. access to a computer at all times that has
   a. internet and access to site email
   b. computer applications needed for their work
   c. place to save work files electronically on site;
3. access to printer and copier with paper;
4. materials and supplies related to the performance of assignments;
5. access to refrigerator and microwave;
6. place to keep personal belongings (preferably secured);
7. adequate time in schedule when they are uninterrupted by clients to better concentrate on capacity building projects and direct service preparation (minimum of two hours a day should be standard); and
8. The site should be accessible to people with disabilities, such as allowing use of a wheelchair.

I. The Community Partner provides business cards to the member with site organization logo within 45 days of the Member's start date. The only exception to this is if no other staffs with the community partner have business cards. Card information should not refer to the Member as an "employee" or "staff" of your organization or of CTEP/SPNN. The member should be listed as "CTEP AmeriCorps member" as well as their service site role title such as "Community Technology Coordinator."

J. The Community Partner understands that the CTEP AmeriCorps Member is not required to serve over 1700 hours for the year which is written into their contracts. Only 1460 of the total 1700 hours are required to be served at the service site. Over the course of the year, the Member will serve 100 hours on CTEP collaborative projects, and then 160 hours of CTEP staff-led professional development trainings. The site should schedule their Member for an average of 35 hour service weeks during a non-Corps day week and 28 hour service weeks during a Corps day week. If the Member falls behind in their target hours (due to vacation or illness) to complete their 1700 hour service commitment, the site and CTEP staff will implement a corrective plan with the Member that will increase site requirements for weekly hours served. It is in the Member Contract that the Member must seek approval from the Site Supervisor for any time they need to leave a site during regularly scheduled hours for CTEP collaborative projects, vacation, or other. Any Member vacation length of over a week must also be approved by CTEP staff in addition to the Site Supervisor.

1. Lunch Policy: Members may count service time spent eating lunch or another meal if they are at their service site talking with other site staff or involved in other site-related issues. Breaks and non-working meals may not be counted on a timesheet. This policy supersedes any site policy that requires employees to not count lunch hours or take mandatory unpaid breaks.

2. Independent Service Hours Policy: Members can in some cases collect service hours for unsupervised events such as attending an outside training or event, or an individual independent civic engagement activity. Members must receive prior approval via email from CTEP staff and their site supervisor. Members can take up to 10 hours per independent civic engagement activity, and 25 hours total for the service year. For either outside trainings or individual group civic engagement activities, the Member must indicate on their timesheet at the bottom in the general comments area the following: the location, contact person, phone number or email of a contact OR the name of training and training source/host organization.
3. Serving Site–Related Hours Outside of Office (Telecommuting): Members are generally discouraged from performing site-related service work from their homes or other locations, even if this is capacity building so that they can better integrate with their service site and perform their service publicly. However, there may be some instances including sickness, office site closure, or weather where it makes more sense for the member to complete service hours on a specific day outside of their office. In this case, the member must receive pre-approval by email from their site supervisor, and this must be documented in the Member’s timesheet in the description section.

K. The Community Partner provides the first recourse to the Member(s) assigned to it for resolution of disputes or grievances related to service with the organization. If the performance doesn’t improve, the Supervisor should provide the Member and the AmeriCorps Program Director with a written statement specifying necessary areas of improvement. A written statement describing the areas of improvement needed and a setting a probationary period should be signed by all parties. The site should also determine if staff can help the Member to improve performance through additional training, instruction or support. At the end of the probationary period a meeting with the Member should be set to evaluate performance and if there is no evidence of improvement a decision will be made whether to extend the probationary period, or to terminate the Member’s placement at that site.

The Community Partner must notify CTEP staff immediately regarding unscheduled changes of status and conditions of CTEP AmeriCorps Members, such as arrests, hospitalization, and absence without leave. The Community Partner understands that they can tell a Member not to report back to the site until a conflict has been resolved, but the Community Partner cannot unilaterally dismiss the CTEP AmeriCorps Member without agreement from the Sponsor.

L. The Community Partner maintains reporting concerning matters involving CTEP AmeriCorps Members and the project as the Corporation may require. The CTEP Community Partner agrees to retain such records as the Corporation may require for a period of three years after completion or termination of the project, or longer if required for administrative proceedings and/or litigation purposes, and to provide access to such records to the Corporation for the purpose of litigation, audit, or examination. This includes:

1. approving Member timesheets. Site Supervisor will keep track of and be able to verify Member hours for the timesheet categories of direct service, training, and capacity building. CTEP staff takes responsibility for verifying Corps day hours and CTEP project hours. A Supervisor has until the Wednesday after a timesheet period is due to approve a timesheet once he/she has received it electronically from the Member. CTEP is not able to pay the Member their stipend until hours have been approved by the Supervisor.
2. **tracking in-kind hours for Supervisors**, to be submitted by the first Wednesday of the following month.

3. reviewing **quarterly reporting** on the achievement of Members such as volunteers mobilized, direct service outcomes for community residents, capacity building projects, etc.; and

4. completing a **mandatory mid-term and year-end performance evaluation** of CTEP AmeriCorps Members.

**M.** The Community Partner allows CTEP AmeriCorps Members to participate in local emergency disaster relief efforts if needed.

**N.** The Community Partner allows CTEP AmeriCorps Members to participate in Days of Service, i.e., Martin Luther King Day of Service, National AmeriCorps Week, Make A Difference Day, should activities be organized in the communities where the Members are in service.

**O.** The Community Partner allows CTEP AmeriCorps Members to participate in special trainings and independent/corps project days, including all day CTEP AmeriCorps Member training days on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, and committee meetings as they arise.

**P.** The Community Partner references and promotes the CTEP AmeriCorps program in any internal or external communications that reference projects that include Member service activities.

**Q.** The Community Partner posts an AmeriCorps sign provided by CTEP staff to identify the site as an AmeriCorps site. The sign should be placed in a public space at the site.

**R.** The Community Partner provides letters of support to help CTEP raise funds to support the AmeriCorps Program if requested.

**S.** The Community Partner Site Supervisor agrees to **attend up to three meetings a year** with CTEP staff and other CTEP Community Partners to discuss ongoing logistics of the program and strengthen the community network. The community partner agrees to cover all necessary costs associated with sending Community Partner Site Supervisors to CTEP AmeriCorps orientation workshops and quarterly meetings.

**T.** The Community Partner may **not compensate the Member in the form of salary or other direct monetary compensation** beyond the living allowance that the Member is receiving from Saint Paul Neighborhood Network, **unless the compensation is for transportation reimbursement between service sites.** Nondirect monetary compensation in the form of decreased costs such as...
paying for bus passes, offsetting rent or housing expenses, and gift cards are acceptable.

U. The Community Partner must **use Corporation approved language when referring to their Member.** Specifically, the Community Partner should use:

i. AmeriCorps member **not** AmeriCorps volunteer, AmeriCorps staff, AmeriCorps worker, or employee

ii. Living allowance **not** salary or paycheck

iii. Serve or service **not** work

iv. Service position **not** job

v. Service Site **not** job, work, or jobsite

vi. Position description **not** job description

vii. Education Award **not** scholarship

The use of unique language is meant to show that national service is unique from both employment and volunteering. This protects specific legal benefits of national service that employment or volunteering do not qualify for, such as the living allowance not counting as earned income for the purpose of receiving state assistance. Use of AmeriCorps terminology also serves to highlight the impact that AmeriCorps makes in our communities, and not confuse AmeriCorps with staff replacement which is forbidden.

IV. **Ownership of Products Created by Member**

As CTEP Members are not employees of the Community Partner Agency, all products created by the Member such as curriculum or other materials may be shared with CTEP staff, within the CTEP network, and posted for public use on the website of the Technology Literacy Collaborative at [www.tlc-mn.org](http://www.tlc-mn.org) or at [www.spnn.org](http://www.spnn.org). The TLC website includes a repository of curricula largely developed by CTEP members over the years.

V. **Safety of Member**

Both parties to this Host Site Agreement shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that the health and safety of the CTEP AmeriCorps Members are protected during the performance of their assigned duties. Neither the Sponsor nor the CTEP Community Partner shall assign or require CTEP AmeriCorps Members to perform duties that would jeopardize their safety or cause them to sustain injuries.

VI. **Member Fundraising Policy**

From Corporation for National & Community Service §2520.40-45

The Member may raise resources directly in support of your program's service activities. Examples of fundraising activities AmeriCorps members may perform include, but are not limited to, the following:

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2018-2019 CTEP AmeriCorps Host Site Agreement  page 12
1. Seeking donations of books from companies and individuals for a program in which volunteers teach children to read;

2. Writing a grant proposal to a foundation to secure resources to support the training of volunteers;

3. Securing supplies and equipment from the community to enable volunteers to help build houses for low-income individuals;

4. Securing financial resources from the community to assist in launching or expanding a program that provides social services to the members of the community and is delivered, in whole or in part, through the members of a community-based organization;

5. Seeking donations from alumni of the program for specific service projects being performed by current members.

The Member may not:

1. Raise funds for living allowances or for an organization's general (as opposed to project) operating expenses or endowment;

2. Write a grant application to the Corporation or to any other Federal agency.

An AmeriCorps member may spend no more than ten percent of his or her originally agreed-upon term of service, as reflected in the member enrollment in the National Service Trust, performing fundraising activities, as described in §2520.40.

VII. Non-Duplication/Non-Displacement Policy

From Corporation for National & Community Service §2540.100

Nonduplication:

Corporation assistance may not be used to duplicate an activity that is already available in the locality of a program. And, unless the requirements of nondisplacement are met, Corporation assistance will not be provided to a private nonprofit entity to conduct activities that are the same or substantially equivalent to activities provided by a State or local government agency in which such entity resides.

Nondisplacement:

1. An employer may not displace an employee or position, including partial displacement such as reduction in hours, wages, or employment benefits, as a result of the use by such employer of a participant in a program receiving Corporation assistance.

2. An organization may not displace a volunteer by using a participant in a program receiving Corporation assistance.
3. A service opportunity will not be created under this chapter that will infringe in any manner on the promotional opportunity of an employed individual.

4. A participant in a program receiving Corporation assistance may not perform any services or duties or engage in activities that would otherwise be performed by an employee as part of the assigned duties of such employee.

5. A participant in any program receiving assistance under this chapter may not perform any services or duties, or engage in activities, that—
   a. Will supplant the hiring of employed workers; or
   b. Are services, duties, or activities with respect to which an individual has recall rights pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or applicable personnel procedures.

6. A participant in any program receiving assistance under this chapter may not perform services or duties that have been performed by or were assigned to any—
   a. Presently employed worker;
   b. Employee who recently resigned or was discharged;
   c. Employee who is subject to a reduction in force or who has recall rights pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or applicable personnel procedures.
   d. Employee who is on leave (terminal, temporary, vacation, emergency, or sick);
   or
   e. Employee who is on strike or who is being locked out.

VIII. Civil Rights Policy

From CNCS CEO Wendy Spencer: The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has zero tolerance for the harassment of any individual or group of individuals for any reason. CNCS is committed to treating all persons with dignity and respect. CNCS prohibits all forms of discrimination based upon race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, political affiliation, marital or parental status, or military service. All programs administered by, or receiving Federal financial assistance from CNCS, must be free from all forms of harassment. Whether in CNCS offices or campuses, in other service-related settings such as training sessions or service sites, or at service-related social events, such harassment is unacceptable. Any such harassment, if found, will result in immediate corrective action, up to and including removal or termination of any CNCS employee or volunteer. Recipients of Federal financial assistance, be they individuals, organizations, programs and/or projects are also subject to this zero tolerance policy. Where a violation is found, and subject to regulatory procedures, appropriate corrective action will be taken, up to and including termination of Federal financial assistance from all Federal sources.

Slurs and other verbal or physical conduct relating to an individual’s gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or any other basis constitute harassment when it has the purpose or effect of interfering with service performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive service environment. Harassment includes, but is not limited to: explicit or implicit demands for sexual favors; pressure for dates; deliberate touching, leaning over, or cornering; offensive teasing, jokes, remarks, or questions; letters, phone calls, or distribution or display of offensive materials; offensive looks or gestures; gender, racial, ethnic, or religious baiting; physical assaults or other threatening behavior; or demeaning, debasing or abusive comments or actions that intimidate.
CNCS does not tolerate harassment by anyone including persons of the same or different races, sexes, religions, or ethnic origins; or from a CNCS employee or supervisor; a project, or site employee or supervisor; a non-employee (e.g., client); a co-worker or service member.

I expect supervisors and managers of CNCS programs and projects, when made aware of alleged harassment by employees, service participants, or other individuals, to immediately take swift and appropriate action. CNCS will not tolerate retaliation against a person who raises harassment concerns in good faith. Any CNCS employee who violates this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination, and any grantee that permits harassment in violation of this policy will be subject to a finding of non-compliance and administrative procedures that may result in termination of Federal financial assistance from CNCS and all other Federal agencies.

Any person who believes that he or she has been discriminated against in violation of civil rights laws, regulations, or this policy, or in retaliation for opposition to discrimination or participation in discrimination complaint proceedings (e.g., as a complainant or witness) in any CNCS program or project, may raise his or her concerns with our Office of Civil Rights and Inclusiveness (OCR). Discrimination claims not brought to the attention of OCR within 45 days of their occurrence may not be accepted in a formal complaint of discrimination. No one can be required to use a program, project or sponsor dispute resolution procedure before contacting OCR. If another procedure is used, it does not affect the 45-day time limit. OCR may be reached at (202) 606-7503 (voice), (202) 606-3472 (TTY), coc@cnsc.gov, or through http://www.nationalservice.gov/. Wendy Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, Date: 5/2013

IX. Modifications

This Host Site Agreement may be amended at any time by an Agreement in writing executed by authorized representatives of the Sponsor and the Community Partner.

X. Authorization

Saint Paul Neighborhood Network/CTEP (Sponsor) and Community Partner hereby acknowledge by their signatures that they have read, understood, and agreed to the terms of this document.

For the Community Partner Organization:
Authorized Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________
Printed Name: ___________________________ Title: ___________________________

For the CTEP AmeriCorps Program:
Authorized Signature: ___________________________ Date: 19 Apr 2019
Printed Name: Martin Ludden Title: Executive Director, SPNN
SUBJECT:
Shoreview Computer Replacements

BACKGROUND:
When the new Ramsey County Library in Shoreview opened in January 2017, the Library installed existing laptops, computers, and other technology not yet at the end of a replacement cycle.

Now, this technology is scheduled for replacement as per established technology life cycles. The Library proposes to use remaining Shoreview building project funds to replace 27 staff computers, 22 public computers, and eight staff laptops for use at the library in Shoreview. The Library will purchase equipment from Ramsey County and/or State of MN master contracts for computers and laptops.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
Approve the purchase of replacement personal computers and laptops for Ramsey County Library in Shoreview utilizing existing County/State master contracts, with the total purchase price not to exceed $70,000.
SUBJECT:
RCL-Maplewood Pre-design Report

BACKGROUND:
Library staff have been working with MSR Design since January 2018, to produce pre-design concepts to improve the public spaces at Ramsey County Library in Maplewood. Pre-design is a discovery phase that identifies program needs, proposed spatial organization, and budget estimates. A pre-design concept serves as a guide to inform a design process.

Staff worked closely with consultants from MSR Design to assess a series of options and arrive at a recommended pre-design concept. This analysis will be woven into the Ramsey County Library Master Facilities Plan, which will be produced this fall. That plan will also be shaped by public input.

Susan Morgan, Architect (AIA, LEED AP BD+C) at MSR Design, will be present at the meeting to present findings and recommendations and answer questions. Library staff will also discuss plans to utilize this report.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
For information and discussion.
OBJECTIVES

• RESOLVE persistent issues affecting use, comfort, and service

• RESPECT the existing architecture: the quality of space, materials palette, and detailing

• REALIZE new approaches to space layout that enhance service, increase comfort, and encourage use
ISSUES

NOISE

SIGHTLINES

WORN FINISHES

LOBBY USE

CHILDREN’S

FIREPLACE AREA

COLLECTIONS

TEEN

STAFF
EXISTING FLOOR PLAN
ACOUSTIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- **USE ZONING** to separate noisy and quiet areas
- **UPDATE EXISTING CEILING TREATMENT** to increase acoustic performance
- **ADD CEILING TREATMENT** throughout so each portion of the ceiling has some form of coverage
- Provide **CANOPIES** at open-ceilinged areas to control noise (service desks, Children’s)
- Utilize **WALL TREATMENT** in Children’s, Teens, and other noise-producing areas (varies by scheme)
APPROACH

- CREATE DISTINCT COLLECTIONS AREAS FOR IDENTITY AND ACOUSTIC CONTROL
- PROVIDE A MIX OF SEATING TYPES IN EACH AREA FOR CHOICE AND COMFORT
- RELOCATE LIBRARY SERVICE COUNTERS TO ENHANCE VISIBILITY AND ADJACENCY TO PATRON SPACES
- DISTRIBUTE PUBLIC COMPUTERS, LIBRARY CATALOGS, AND SELF-CHECK STATIONS THROUGHOUT EACH COLLECTION AREA FOR EASE OF USE
PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN
PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN
PROPOSED REFLECTED CEILING PLAN

• HIGHER NRC ACOUSTIC CEILING TILE
• HIGHER NRC ACOUSTIC PANELS IN EXISTING FRAMING
• SELECTIVE USE OF SPRAY-APPLIED ACOUSTIC TREATMENT AT UNDERSIDE OF METAL DECK
• HANGING VERTICAL BAFFLES ALONG MAIN CIRCULATION CORRIDOR
• HANGING ACOUSTIC “CLOUDS” ABOVE OPEN COLLECTIONS AREAS
CAFÉ OPTIONS

GUT RENOVATION

PARTIAL RENOVATION

EXISTING TO REMAIN

Kvernstoен, Rönnholm & Associates
Acoustics

June 20, 2018
REQUEST FOR LIBRARY BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE
June 20, 2018

ACTION REQUESTED
Information and Discussion

PRESENTED BY
Jill Boldenow,
Library Director

SUBJECT:
Strategic Planning

BACKGROUND:
The Library is guided by the Strategic Plan 2016-2018. This plan identifies Ramsey County Library’s mission, strategic priorities, and guiding principles.

The Ramsey County Library Board launched a new strategic planning process on June 6, 2018, in a workshop with Board Members and staff led by consultant Kim Vanderwall.

At this meeting, Kim Vanderwall will facilitate a 90-minute strategic planning session. The session agenda, June 6 workshop notes, and current strategic plan are attached.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
For Information and Discussion.
AGENDA

I. Welcome and overview of the agenda (5 min)

II. Review summary of the 6/6 session (20 min)
   • Is there anything important missing?
   • Are these buckets helpful as presented? Are adjustments needed or helpful?
   • Does anything tighter emerge as the concise long-range goal?

III. Review relevance of the previous strategic plan and mission (20 min)
   • What from this plan is still highly relevant, given our long range vision?
   • How should this inform the plan we are developing for the next three years?

IV. Begin to identify strategic direction and/or potential future scenarios (40 min)
   • For each bucket, develop a draft directional statement (timeframe 3 years)

V. Closure and next steps (5 min)
### Questions

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<th>Access and equity for the changing population</th>
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<tr>
<td>• What can we do to continue to increase our capacity to do racial equity work at libraries?</td>
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<td>• Are we prepared to meet the needs of the county’s changing demographics?</td>
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<td>• How are we going to effectively serve our non-native speakers and new immigrant communities?</td>
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<td>• How can we build bridges and heal divisions among people in our community?</td>
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<td>• Does our mission reach POCI youth? How can we serve them better?</td>
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<td>• How to keep younger generations engaged in using their library?</td>
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<th>Future</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Increasingly bilingual. Mandarin, Spanish and English</td>
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<td>• Fewer white people</td>
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<td>• More older people</td>
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<td>• Today’s kids are the adults</td>
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<td>• Population density?</td>
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<td>• Increased income and equality gap</td>
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<td>• Prevalent jobs are different</td>
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<th>Vision for RCL</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Eliminating barriers. No cards, no fines, easier access</td>
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<td>• Bilingual staff, or access to interpreters</td>
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<td>• More equitable access.</td>
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<td>• More immigrant families use library services</td>
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<td>• More languages in collection</td>
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<td>• Bring the library to people. (Maybe with specialty focuses and community liaisons.)</td>
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<td>• Face-to-face intergenerational interactions</td>
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<td>• Free</td>
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<td>• Racial/equity knowledge</td>
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<td>• High usage compared to peers</td>
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<th>Challenges</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Disparate impacts: fines, languages, program times, hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Increased income disparities</td>
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<td>• Limited resources for new immigrants</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Transient housing. Lack of affordable housing</td>
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<td>• Lack of livable wage jobs. Skills gap</td>
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<td>• Cost of health care</td>
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<td>• Lack of cultural fluency in community</td>
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<th>Opportunities/ thoughts</th>
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<tr>
<td>• New immigrants, changing demographics</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Eliminate educational disparities. Work on this with partners, including schools and churches</td>
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<td>• Be embedded. Go to community sites (i.e. pop-up library)</td>
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<td>• Serve aging population. Combat social isolation and help them share their expertise with the library community. Within this is a wide range of ages and abilities. What will be required? Cross-generational activities? Different services. They want human experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Available to all” should be revisited. Accessibility is the next level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Exciting to think of the possibilities for new audiences</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Relieved that we put changing demographics at the top of the list</td>
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<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community engagement</td>
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<td>Questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mission and the evolving image of what a library is</td>
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<tr>
<td>• What are/will libraries be? (e.g. collections of books, internet access, etc.?)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• How do we balance differing expectations from the public?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• What new technology will be introduced?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• How will we provide the resources that communities need/want most to help them thrive?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Could RCL exercise better communications in dealing with prospective community presenters?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Staffing**  
• How can we increase staffing to take advantage of the opportunities that are coming our way? Staff for everything we’re doing and want to do?  
• With shrinking budgets and increasing demand for programs, how will the library increase staffing levels?  
• What do we need to do for our staff to better look like our patrons and community? | • More diverse population = more diverse staff | • **Staffing. More and more diverse. Race and language**  
• Fully funded and fully staffed  
• Interactive staff | • **Staff dedication, wisdom, experience, skill, customer service** | • Staff spread thin. Services limited by staff capacity. No time to debrief or exchange knowledge. Morale issue.  
• **Budget limits: staffing, collections, programs and tech**  
• Biggest strength leads to one of our weaknesses. The passion and dedication of staff  
• Lack of racial diversity of staff  
• Job titles for library are limited | • Train/ mentor Youth to be staff in 2030 or earlier.  
•
Strategic Plan 2016–2018

Mission Statement
CONNECT community, INSPIRE curiosity, CULTIVATE learning

Strategic Priorities
- Strengthen connections to community efforts and partners
- Foster literacy and student achievement
- Create vibrant learning spaces that engage the broad diversity of our community
- Promote economic prosperity and racial justice
- Ensure stewardship of public resources

Guiding Principles

Free Access
Offer collections and programs with no cost to use.

Available to All
Provide services to the whole spectrum of the community.

Relevant
Adapt services and programs to serve the changing needs of our community.

Bold & Fun
Foster creativity and innovation in providing engaging opportunities for users.

User Focused
Develop processes that are convenient, welcoming and customer centered.
TRENDS IN THE SERVICE AREA

- Booming construction of new housing and retail near Centerville Road and County Rd 96.
- The Lakeshore Players have moved into their new home at the Hanifl Performing Arts Center.
- Stakeholders from all sectors of WBL have worked together to improve services to seniors, including new local housing and transportation guides and transport services.
- Population continues to become more diverse, though trailing other Ramsey County communities, with 88.0% white, 5.1% Asian, 3.4% two or more races, and 2.6% African American by 2017 estimates.

LIBRARY ISSUES AND SERVICE TRENDS

- Statistics for the last three years are skewed some due to closures of White Bear and neighboring Shoreview for parts of all three years, with 2015 artificially low and 2016 artificially high.
- Noise continues to bring conflict between young families and older adults with traditional views of the library. We are investigating acoustical remedies.
- Small study and group rooms are in demand, with almost daily queues at the door.
- Children’s programming is very strong. Teen program attendance is low.

LIBRARY SERVICES AND EVENTS

Number of weekly storytimes, book clubs or other on-going programs

- Family storytimes on Fridays, Baby & Me on Mondays.
- The Mystery Book Club has met here monthly for over 20 years.
- The WBL Area Historical Society continues to be our most popular monthly program.
- Drop-in tech help continues on Thursday mornings.
- Monthly TED talks are hosted during the school year by Senior Center staff – for all ages
- Monthly Lunch and Learn small-group sessions with Elder Resource Specialist.

What is special and important about the library

- Downtown, walkable, small-town feel to the Library.
- Ann and Therese do many outreach events in the community.
- Park Rx Kits are a pilot project, with RCL-White Bear being the only location.
- Sting, the Paws to Read dog, was an international social media sensation!

Collection Highlights

- Emphasizing children’s materials, especially people of color in new purchases
- Seed Library is established and other libraries come and tour it for ideas
- Park Rx Kits and State Park Passes
- WB Collection

Work Plan Project(s)

Racial Equity programs and collection building

Key Partnerships

- WBL Area Historical Society, ISD 624, Senior Center, MN State Parks, and BearPower
## WHITE BEAR LAKE AT A GLANCE 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR BUILT</th>
<th>1974, renovated 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SQUARE FEET</td>
<td>16,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| DAYS OPEN           | **Mon** 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
                        **Tues, Wed** 1 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
                        **Thu, Fri, Sat** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
                        **Sun** closed |
| HOURS/WEEK          | 45                    |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF PUBLIC COMPUTERS</th>
<th>32 + 15 laptops</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLLECTION SIZE</td>
<td>67,466</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>STAFF FTE</th>
<th>6.4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL STAFF</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOLUNTEER HOURS</td>
<td>1,076</td>
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</table>

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<tr>
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<th>2014*</th>
<th>2015*</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CIRCULATION</td>
<td>133,629</td>
<td>248,106</td>
<td>309,665</td>
<td>293,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILDREN’S CIRCULATION (TOTAL # AND % OF TOTAL CIRC)</td>
<td>51,694 46%</td>
<td>112,261 46%</td>
<td>143,919 46%</td>
<td>136,827 47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFERENCE</td>
<td>10,439</td>
<td>16,107</td>
<td>18,850</td>
<td>19,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPUTER HOURS USED</td>
<td>4,337</td>
<td>10,100</td>
<td>14,017</td>
<td>13,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIRELESS USERS</td>
<td>1,951</td>
<td>15,219</td>
<td>22,392</td>
<td>26,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNUAL VISITS</td>
<td>58,055</td>
<td>120,677</td>
<td>152,843</td>
<td>149,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILDREN’S PROGRAM ATTENDANCE</td>
<td>3,281</td>
<td>7,344</td>
<td>8,583</td>
<td>10,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULT PROGRAM ATTENDANCE</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>935</td>
<td>1,814</td>
<td>1,899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*WB was closed June 2014 and re-opened in April 2015
Media Happenings

May - June
Facebook Highlights

Chomp's Birthday Party

Chomp had so much fun celebrating his birthday with the kids at story time at the library. He loved reading and singing about fruits and veggies, and meeting new friends!

Like

Comment

Share

Write a Comment...

Susan Miller Wrote: Nice turnout! Who knew a carrot could pull such a crowd.

Like · Reply · 3v

Recommendations

4 people recommended 6 places

View 1 more comment

Juan B. Wrote: Not sure if best buy still takes them. I think IKEA does too.

Like · 4v

Jill A. Wrote: Tech Dump and Ramsey city. Hazardous waste

Like · 3v

Hazardous Waste Experts

Tech Dump St Paul

Ramsey County Library

Carleton Schaps: Tech dump takes them for a fee

Like · 3v

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota (Roseville, MN) is at Ramsey County Library.

The Roseville Retail Team ready for the event!
Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries added 105 new photos to the album: Book It 5K Walk/Run & Library Lap 2018 — at Ramsey County Library.

June 8 at 11:58am

A sampling of photos from the May 19 Book It 5K! THANK YOU to everyone who came out to support the Summer Reading Program and Ramsey County Library!

Participants: your 2018 times are posted at www.runningventures.com/BookIt5k2018.htm

Special thanks to photographer Frank Mazzocco Photography and others who've submitted photos.

Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor [?] May 20 at 12:00pm

"The creation of the Minnesota Author Project combined with MN Writes MN Reads — a suite of resources for writers to use to self-publish their work — gives libraries a chance to encourage new work from this growing group."

Union-Times

HOMETOWNSOURCE.COM
Libraries launch statewide author contest

Minnesota writers of young adult and adult fiction have a chance at...

1,189 people reached

Pa Na Lor, Liz Gadbois and Dana G. Williams

Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor [?] May 25 at 10:13am

As part of their Journey Project, Girl Scouts Troop #16763 have left book quotes throughout the library in Shoreview. If you have a chance to visit Shoreview, tell us which one was your favorite quote?
Meet Carly Kreger, New Librarian at New Brighton focused on outreach and programming

Who I am:
An adaptable, empathetic, practical extrovert/introvert.

I am currently reading:
"Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover and "The Jaguar's Children" by John Vaillant

One item on my bucket list is:
Hiking through the Appalachian Mountains state by state with my mother. So far, we are half way there.

Ramsey County Library

829 people reached
Teresa Freeland, Kara Sommerfeld and 18 others

Ramsey County Library

"If you're looking for something good to read, there's no one better to ask than a librarian."

246 people reached
Patti Nault, Monique Fischer and 25 others

Great summer books picked by the experts, your Twin Cities librarians

1,031 people reached
Bonnie Bassett, Susan Thiets Heather and 18 others
The Summer Reading Festival is off to a good start! Stop by the library in Roseville 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. to join us.

Twitter Highlights:

paul the duck @pylduck - May 17
I'll be running the Book It 5K this coming Saturday, May 19 in support of the summer reading program at @rcreads. I would greatly appreciate your sponsorship via a donation if you can! weblink.donorperfect.com/FriendsoftheLibrary...

Heidi Smith Ferris @GrowGreenHearts - May 23
Plant a rainbow of flowers & herbs with #growgreenhearts 10:30am Thurs May 24 at Roseville Library! #storytime @rcreads #earlylearners #pollinators
Flowers, bugs, shovels, soil & water all make great toys! Early learners played & planted this rainbow for pollinators today @rcrreads in Roseville! Nice job kids!

Thanks @rcrreads for coming to teach our students about SUMMER READING! #623Reads

Excited to partner w/ @rcrreads in innovative program that gives our students access to more resources! #isd624tech

Don't even remember these... O_O
St. Paul City GOP @STPCityGOP · Jun 8
@rcreads Minnesota Author Project Contest. Deadline for Submissions June 30, 2018

Minnesota Author Project Contest, Deadline for ... it's amazing what you'll see at the Library. Here is a contest for local Minnesota Writers that self-publish the books they write. We've know some fantastic writers

@sentpaulrepublicans.us

Wayne Groff @WayneRGroft · Jun 6
Early voting in Ramsey County starts in just 3 short weeks! If you live in @RosevilleMN, you can vote early at Ramsey County Library @rcreads in Roseville! Thank you for your support!

2:35 PM - 6 Jun 2018
2 Likes

Wayne Groff @WayneRGroft · Jun 6
Early Voting in Roseville is available the week before the August Primary. The dates are August 7-13. Follow the link for all early voting information!

MPCA @MnPCA · Jun 6
Prevent textile waste! Bring your damaged clothing in need of repair to RamseyCounty's special Mend-It-Clinic on Saturday, June 23 from 10:30am-1:30pm at the Roseville @rcreads: ow.ly/ydWYc3QjBVe

Laura Given @LibLaura5 · Jun 7
2nd graders loved our visit with Nicole from @rcreads who shared THE LITTLE RED FORT by @MaierBrenda & Sonia Sanchez & about R.E.A.D. rcreads.org/kids/summer-re... #623Reads #WeAre623

St. Paul City GOP @STPCityGOP · Jun 4
Replying to @ChasAnderson @TimPawlenty @michelleschb
should read the book "Gusher of Lies" by Robert Bryce. Written by a guy who bought into the whole renewables nonsense and put solar panels on his house in San Antonio. amazon.com/Gusher-Lies-Da... It's at the @rcreads library too.

St. Paul City GOP @STPCityGOP · Jun 8

Earl y voting in Ramsey County starts in just 3 short weeks! If you live in @RosevilleMN , you can vote early at Ramsey County Library @rcreads in Roseville! Thank you for your support!
White Bear Lake has 10 "Park Ru" kits, each of which contains a pass that provides free entry to any of MNstateparks for seven days. Check it out and start exploring!

 Whether you are a new MNstateparks visitor or a regular looking for something new, our Summer Guide is just what you're looking for! There's something for everyone! mn.dnr.gov/summerguide

Why is it only the White Bear Lake library that does this? What about the other branches?

This is a pilot project that we are first trying at the library in White Bear Lake. If it's successful we may be able to bring it to the other libraries next year.

Learning about slime w/ Dr Fun @RosevilleMN @rdreads. Drawing huge crowds but has already declared he is not challenging @MayorDanRoe's re-election bid.

There's make your own bookmark, window art and cakerspace in the teen area until 4 p.m. #TeenSummerReading #SummerFun #librarylife #Roseville

Time out. What is cakerspace?

Nobody can beat Dr Fun
Today from 3 - 5pm at the Roseville Library visual artist Chiaki O'Brien will be teaching Bengal Soil Dyeing! Participants can dye a scarf or two, choosing from among 12 natural colors. #MNArtists @rclreads htUj/BP2230ksOKW

Hungry for veggies with no place to grow? Check out a book on container gardening from @hclib or @rclreads, a gardening kit from @MagrathLibrary, or find a community garden near you! gardeningmatters.org/find-garden

Book I picked at @rclreads sale
*TheLaborSpyRacket (1937)
About companies hiring private security to stifle labor organizing.

Unique design for cover.....can tell thirties style.
Facebook / Google / Yelp Reviews

Ramsey County Library - Mounds View
2576 Moundsview Dr, Mounds View, MN
4.7 ★★★★★ 15 reviews

Giulia Priore
2 reviews
★★★★★ a month ago
I am not that neat so there app helps a lot with finding my books

Ramsey County Library - North St. Paul
2305 N St Paul Dr, North St Paul, MN
4.1 ★★★★★ 11 reviews

Michael Frisby
2 reviews
★★★★★ a week ago
A little small but it's a good library.

Ramsey County Library - Shoreview
4580 Victoria St N, Shoreview, MN
4.5 ★★★★★ 32 reviews

Amulet Seacrest
2 reviews
★★★★★ 2 weeks ago
The shoreview library is the most best library i have ever been to they are so nice and i love the tuesday game night and the thursday brain box .best library ever!!

Ramsey County Library - White Bear Lake
2150 2nd St, White Bear Lake, MN
4.6 ★★★★★ 17 reviews

Amulet Seacrest
2 reviews
★★★★★ 2 weeks ago
White bear library is really amazing the people there are so nice they have the best books comics dvds games and the library is so close i can just bike there.

Jon Goetz
Local Guide 212 reviews 1,002 photos
★★★★★ a month ago
Wow. This library will be the heart of WBL's promotion of continuous growth and learning for decades. Great facility, great activities, and open to everyone. 10 stars.
CELEBRATING LIFE AROUND THE LAKE
White Bear Lake
OUR COMMUNITY. OUR MAGAZINE.

A beauteous, blossom-filled, botanical take on the
BEST OF 2018
freshly picked favorites
CHosen by YOU

HOME GROWN
HAND PICKED
Naturalist Pam Larson Frink dishes the dirt on the White Bear Lake Seed Library.

**How Does It Work?**
The seed library is a repository of free open-pollinated seeds available for community members to grow, enjoy and save seeds for future seasons. It is located inside the Ramsey County Library - White Bear Lake branch and open during regular library hours. Anyone can utilize the seed library—you do not need a library card, nor do you have to reside in Ramsey County to take seeds from the seed library.

**What is the Process?**
- Select which plants you want to grow; the seed packets are sorted in drawers.
- Fill out a membership form.
- Take the seeds home and grow the plants.
  (No pesticides, please!)
- Save some seeds and return to the seed library. (If you cannot save seeds, please purchase a commercial packet of open-pollinated seeds to donate to the library.)

**What Kinds of Seeds Can Folks Get?**
The seed library has all open-pollinated vegetable, herbs, annual and perennial flowers and native plant seeds. Primarily the seed library emphasizes 'easy-to-save' seeds such as tomatoes, peas, beans, lettuce and native plants.

**By the Numbers**
The seed library has 42 varieties of tomatoes, 20 varieties of beans, 15 types of herbs, 26 kinds of native plants and many, many more kinds of peas, lettuces and other vegetables and flowers. In 2017, over 1,500 packets of seeds were ‘freed’ to start their life in gardens around the area.
REMEMBERING NICK COLEMAN

We remember former Pioneer Press columnist Nick Coleman, who died this week at age 67, with a couple of examples of his work.

Coleman and John Camp, a Pulitzer Prize winner here and later bestselling author, co-wrote an award-winning 1987 series with lasting impact: "The Great Dakota Conflict," about causes and effects of the dispute in 1862.

For several years in the early '90s, Coleman invited riders — and readers — along on The Ride Across Minnesota, a border-to-border bike trip across the state to raise money for the Minnesota Multiple Sclerosis Society. (The Pioneer Press was among sponsors.)

He brought them together in a 1992 column, inviting bicyclists to join him on the ride:

Dream, he wrote, "of a beautiful July morning, with a gentle, fresh breeze in your face. You're on your bike, coasting down a hill when you catch a glimpse of the Minnesota River, shimmering below in the early morning light, a patch of fog rising above the water. A hawk floats lazily above as you come to a roadside marker at the spot where the Dakota Conflict began ... For a moment, you imagine that the river valley looks just as it must have on a summer morning 130 years ago."

SUPPORTING OUR TEACHERS
Ecolab last week lived up to its reputation as one of our city's corporate points of pride. The water, hygiene and technology company's foundation made a $250,000 grant to the St. Paul Public Schools to support teachers' efforts to inspire and engage students.

The Ecolab Teacher Grants Program is a continuation of the foundation's previous Visions for Learning program, which provided $2.1 million over the past 10 years to educators throughout the district.

"Teachers have an important job to do, and we are proud to support their work and the school district through this program," Ecolab's Kris Taylor said in a statement.

The grant application asks teachers to align their classroom projects with aspects of the district's new strategic plan, the statement noted. It quoted Superintendent Joe Gothard saying that the program will help bring the plan to life.

**MORE CORPORATE LEADERSHIP**

Another nod for corporate leadership goes to Securian Financial Group — for representing St. Paul and the east metro among winners of 2018 Minnesota Job Honor Awards announced last week.

The initiative recognizes Minnesotans who overcame barriers to employment and companies that hire them.

Securian was honored for inclusive hiring practices and its longstanding commitment to hire disadvantaged candidates, including people with disabilities. It partners with Lifeworks Services, a nonprofit serving people with disabilities in the Twin Cities and greater Mankato areas, according to a statement from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, which partners to present the awards.

"Securian is a leader. They've been doing this for a long time," Jeffrey Brown, Lifeworks chief executive officer and president, said in the statement. "Our history with Securian goes back about a quarter of a century. They want to make a difference in their community, and they want to make a difference in people's lives. I have huge respect for that."

So do we.
The awards program was launched in Iowa in 2014 and is expanding nationally under the banner of America's Job Honor Awards.

"MY STORY, MY TRUTH"

A film in which 20 men and women of color share their experience with discrimination will be shown at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview.

“My Story, My Truth,” filmed in January at the CTV community media studio in Roseville, demonstrates “that when you create opportunities for those stories to be told and listened to, something amazing starts to happen,” the event co-sponsor Do Good Roseville says in a statement.

The screening will be followed by a short discussion led by the film’s creator, Nyia Harris. Another showing is at 5:30 p.m. May 31 at the Hennepin County Library in Brooklyn Park.

Do Good Roseville describes itself as a nonpartisan organization, noting that it is not associated with any religion and does not receive funding from the city of Roseville.

A PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP

A junior at St. Catherine University in St. Paul was selected last month to receive one of the nation’s most prestigious scholarships.

Andrea Duarte, from Worthington, Minn., was honored in the Truman Scholar program that awards $30,000 to students who show exceptional leadership skills and plan to pursue careers in public service.

Congress in 1975 created the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation as the nation’s “official living memorial” to the former president. The foundation’s mission, according to an announcement from St. Kate’s, is to select and support the next generation of public-service leaders.

Duarte is studying political science and wants to continue her education with a master’s degree in public policy and a law degree, the announcement said, noting that she aims to dedicate her career to public service and advocacy for immigrant and women’s rights.
ON A PATH TO THE FUTURE

More than 8,000 students in St. Paul Public Schools are a step closer to jobs that will help them on the path to a successful future.

They're participants this school year in courses, career opportunities and internships available through the district's Career and Technical Education program.

It aims to prepare them for a wide range of high-wage, high-skill, high-demand careers, the district says, noting that an advisory group of educators, business leaders, industry experts and community members met recently to hear success stories. Watch some at https://is.gd/OJjPc.

Further, tempus sure does fugit, Opinuendo sayeth not.

Tags: PP Editorials

Pioneer Press Editorial Board

As you comment, please be respectful of other commenters and other viewpoints. Our goal with article comments is to provide a space for civil, informative and constructive conversations. We reserve the right to remove any comment we deem to be defamatory, rude, insulting to others, hateful, off-topic or reckless to the community. See our full terms of use here.
In January, two Roseville women asked 14 people to tell their stories of personal discrimination on film. They wanted to give a voice to the voiceless in honor of Black History Month.

After successfully debuting the film "My Story, My Truth" in April, the women now plan showings at the Shoreview and Brooklyn Park libraries.

“As a society, we’re too quick to judge. We think we know the story without actually knowing the person, so this is a way … to get to know somebody before you judge them and know a little piece of their story,” said Nyia Harris, one of the film’s creators.

Harris and Carolyn Halvorson put the initiative together for Do Good Roseville, a grassroots community group.

The film will be shown:

- At 6:30 p.m. May 24 at the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview, 4560 N. Victoria Street. Harris will lead a short discussion after the film.
- At 5:30 p.m. May 31 at the Hennepin County Library in Brooklyn Park, 8500 W. Broadway Ave.
Great summer books picked by the experts, your Twin Cities librarians

By Laurie Hertzel (http://www.startribune.com/laurie-hertzel/10645026/) Star Tribune

JUNE 1, 2018 — 2:08PM

If you're looking for something good to read, there's no one better to ask than a librarian. Think about it: They live their lives surrounded by books. So we asked eight librarians from Hennepin and Ramsey counties what they plan to read this summer, and what they recommend for others. They responded with a stack of books so big it threatens to topple and crush us. Life is good.

Here are their recommendations:

Saad Samatar, Hennepin County Library

As you're heading to the cabin this summer and celebrating the natural beauty of Minnesota wilderness, "The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit" by Michael Finkel is a fascinating read about the true story of a man who left modern life for the woods of central Maine.

Muslim refugees escaping from civil wars, poverty and religious fanaticism in the Middle East and Africa have made Europe their home. "Journey Into Europe: Islam, Immigration, and Identity" is a fascinating and well-researched book by scholar and writer of Islam Ahmed Akabar. The author captures the historical significance of Islam in Europe and describes contemporary Islamic identities. This book is a must-read for anyone seeking to understand the dynamics and relationship between the Europeans and Muslim communities.

Anna Haynes, Shoreview

I've been compelled by the recent explosion of publications (finally) by people of color to help expand my understanding of experience outside my own. Fiction is my first love, so I am very much looking forward to reading "There There," by Tommy Orange, a Cheyenne Arapaho who grew up in Oakland, Calif. I just finished reading the memoir "Heart Berries" by Terese Marie Mailhot.

Two nonfiction books sound both terrifying and un-put-downable to me. The first, "Goodbye, Sweet Girl," by Kelly Sundberg tells the story of her 10-year marriage and the savage beatings she endured through all of it in the name of love, security, and maintaining the relationship between her son and his father. The second, "I'll Be Gone in the Dark," by Michelle McNamara, is the story of a serial rapist and murderer in California who was only recently caught.

Finally, "Bearskin," by James A. McLaughlin sounds like a mash-up of Ron Rash, Daniel Woodrell, and the TV series "Ozark." A thriller set in the Virginia Appalachian Mountains about a biologist caretaker being pursued by a Mexican drug cartel, it sounds intriguing enough to keep me reading through any summer distractions.

Ray Lockman, Minneapolis Central

Nonfiction doesn't get enough credit as page-turning beach-read fare. For me, a compelling memoir or fast-moving and taut collection can feel like as much of a treat as a teen dystopia (and for the record, I adore teen dystopias). As the warmer weather unfreezes my brain, I also feel nimble enough to process subtle arguments and challenging cultural commentaries.

"This Will Be My Undoing," Morgan Jerkins' new essay collection sharing her take on black feminism, landed on my virtual nightstand not only because she's exploring a topic I love to read about, but also because Roxane Gay endorsed it. Enough said.

I'm eager to read Samantha Irby's "We Are Never Meeting in Real Life" because I am an unabashed sucker for funny queer authors, especially those who can tackle brutal subjects in quirky ways. Our current opioid crisis has me ready to crack open "The Recovering" to see how Leslie Jamison melds her personal sobriety story with research-based narrative.

After being disappointed by J.D. Vance's ridiculously popular "Hillbilly Elegy" last year,
I'm going to try a different lens on the topic with Elizabeth Catte's “What You Are Getting Wrong About Appalachia.”

Tamara L. Lee, New Brighton

As a children’s librarian I am required (and want) to read books that are oriented toward my little patrons. My big push in preparation for summer book clubs and other kid-related book activities is usually January through May, but once June hits, it’s all about what I want to read. That said, I do have a few kid books that I’m looking forward to reading this summer: “The Parker Inheritance,” by Varian Johnson; “Ghost Boys,” by Jewell Parker Rhodes, and the Track series (“Ghost,” “Patina,” “Sunny”) by Jason Reynolds.

Adult titles that I’m looking forward to are: “An American Marriage,” by Tayari Jones; “Eloquent Rage,” by Brittney Cooper; “Destroyer,” by Victor Lavalle.

And one highly recommended read that I recently finished: “So You Want to Talk About Race,” by Ijeoma Oluo. Whether you are starting out on the journey of dismantling racism and white supremacy, or have been on the path for a while, Oluo’s book is packed with great advice, facts and personal anecdotes that will educate and encourage everyone taking part in this complex conversation.

Kia Vang, Wayzata

I love books that stay with me long after I have finished them. When I read children and young adult books, I see the innocence and resiliency of youth reflected in the characters, and it gives me hope. An Na’s “A Step From Heaven” was the first young adult book I read as a grownup, in which I could see myself in some of the experiences of the young protagonist.

Most recently Michelle Cuevas’ book “The Care and Feeding of a Pet Black Hole,” about a young girl dealing with grief over the loss of her father, has broken my heart and mended it at the same time while also making me laugh in between. I also highly recommend the picture book “The Heart and the Bottle” by Oliver Jeffers for the remarkable artwork and moving, original story.

This summer, I look forward to reading “Girls Made of Snow and Glass” by Melissa Bashardoust, a novel that draws inspiration from “Snow White” and “The Snow Queen.”

Marcus Lowry, Mounds View

One of the joys of working in a library is being able to share new titles that I love. The graphic novel “Brazen: Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World,” written and illustrated by Pénélope Bagieu, is filled with all kinds of amazing women to be inspired by — great for young adults and adults alike. A new book by Helen Dewitt should always be the cause of a national holiday, and “Some Trick: Thirteen Stories” is no exception. Erudite, slyly humorous and filled with gorgeous writing, I would recommend this for intellectually curious readers.

And finally, “The Overstory” by Richard Powers is a vital, interlocking story of trees, ecological activism and hope.

Erica Redden, Maplewood Library

I love reading young adult/teen books because not only are they fun, they also are often much more interesting than standard fiction. Most YA books are powerful coming-of-age stories. Many of them give me a lot of insight about the issues that teens are facing as they grow up, and helps us understand them better.

For this summer, I'm recommending: “The Belles,” by Dhonielle Clayton, a dark fantasy novel about beauty and the dangers of getting what we want. “Dread Nation,” by Justina Ireland, an alternate history of the aftermath of the Civil War, where zombies are ravaging the country. “The Astonishing Color of After,” by Emily X.R. Pan, a story of a grieving girl who travels to Taiwan to meet her deceased mother's parents for the first time. Jen Wang's “The Prince and the Dressmaker,” a graphic novel about a prince who seeks out an unusual dressmaker to help him realize his dreams. “Monday's Not Coming,” by Tiffany Jackson, a mystery of a girl searching for her best friend, and unearthing twisted and dark things in the process.
Holly M. Pierson, Ramsey County Library

I like a mix of feel-good stories and new content that challenges me to consider new perspectives. First on my list is “Anna and the French Kiss,” by Stephanie Perkins. It reads like a fun romantic comedy: a little predictability mixed with lots of international boarding school escapades.

Next would be the four novels in “The Lunar Chronicles” by Marissa Meyer: “Cinder,” “Scarlet,” “Cress” and “Winter.” These quick-read novels are reimagined fairy tales set far into the future with surprising twists and turns. “The New York Regional Mormon Singles Halloween Dance,” by Elna Baker, will follow for a good laugh.

When I’m ready for something with more depth, I’ll reach first for “The Poisonwood Bible,” by Barbara Kingsolver. “Fascism: A Warning,” by Madeleine Albright, is on hold for me at the library and I can’t wait to delve into her insight about today’s world leaders. Finally, I hope to read “The Hate U Give” by Angie Thomas, which has been touted as one of the most timely reads about race, power and identity in the United States today.

From novels to mysteries to YA, 45 books you’ll want to read this summer

Our summer books guide highlights novels, mysteries and young-adult fiction.
(http://www.startribune.com/from-novels-to-mysteries-to-ya-45-books-you-will-want-to-read-this-summer/482598191/)

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Inquiring Minds: Will the library buy a particular author’s books?

Submitted by admin on Tue, 06/05/2018 - 1:21pm
Q. How do I go about asking the library to buy a particular author's books?

A. You can suggest items you'd like the library to consider purchasing on our website under the option Suggest a Title. You can find a link on our homepage here: https://www.rclreads.org/books/suggest-title

Our staff will review your suggestion; if we are able to purchase the item for the library, your name will be added to the request list for it. We promise to consider any title suggested for purchase, but we cannot guarantee that we will buy it. In general, we buy only newly published items through the Suggest a Purchase option. This is because an older title can usually be obtained for you more quickly through the Interlibrary Loan process, which means that we will borrow it for you from another library system. Of course, we try to be responsive to library patrons' interests. The more people that request a particular item, the more likely we are to buy it.

(Library procedures.)

Do you have a question for the staff at the Roseville Library? You can call them at 651-724-6001 or ask your question in person at the Information Desk, Roseville Library, 2180 Hamline Ave. Library hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

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Program at Roseville Library will explore ‘Is it Time to Move?’

(redirect/202533)
One of the most difficult decisions in later life often is deciding when it is time to move — from a house to an apartment, or to assisted living, or even to a nursing home.

The issue may arise with the death of a spouse, changing physical abilities, or a diagnosis that means you may soon need housing that is easier to care for, or offers more services to help you live well.

That will be the topic of a program called “Is It Time to Move?” from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 14, at the Roseville Library, 2180 Hamline Ave. N. It is free and open to anyone. There also will be time for questions.

The event is part of a series called Dementia Caring & Coping, sponsored by the Roseville Alzheimer’s and Dementia Community Action Team — Roseville A/D. The series is aimed at helping area residents understand the issues of dementia, and to help individuals and families better cope with Alzheimer’s and related diseases.

Speaking at the June 14 event will be area families who have wrestled with those issues recently, including people who have moved and some working to remain in their current home.

Among them will be John and Virginia Sweeney, who moved several times after her diagnosis of dementia and live at Applewood Pointe in Roseville; Dave Wetherford, diagnosed with young-onset Alzheimer’s disease and in the process of moving to a townhome with his wife; Carolyn Klaver, talking about the “sandwich generation” effect of caring for both aging parents and a daughter; and John and Pam Solstad, who moved into Applewood Pointe after he was diagnosed with dementia. Now Pam’s mom has joined them there.

Sometimes a diagnosis of dementia means that moving sooner is more effective, some experts advise, so the affected person can become used to the new environment before the disease makes adjustment more difficult.

Roseville A/D was formed in 2013 and has offered dozens of presentations to help make Roseville a more dementia-friendly community. The volunteer group includes current and former caregivers, staff from the City of Roseville and its fire department, the Roseville Area Senior Program, Ramsey County Library, and senior housing and service providers.

— Warren Wolfe
The summer reading program, R.E.A.D: My Summer Library Experience, is now being offered at Ramsey County libraries now through Aug. 12.

Ramsey County Library's 2018 summer reading program is designed to inspire and encourage children of all ages to Read, Explore, Adventure and Discover throughout the summer.

Ages 4 and Under

Pick up a reading record at any Ramsey County Library and participate in the 1,000 Book Challenge. Read familiar titles, new titles, non-fiction titles or even the same title more than once. After reading 100 books, bring your record in for a prize. Ask for additional reading records and continue the journey reading 1,000 books before kindergarten.

Why 1,000 books?

Studies have shown that reading with your child builds listening, memory, and concentration skills; assists with language development; increases vocabulary; and introduces concepts like letters, numbers, shapes and colors in a fun way.

Ages 5-11

Pick up your summer activity booklet and read, explore, and create with activities listed inside. After
eight activities and one Read, Write, Draw form are completed, bring your booklet to any Ramsey County Library and receive a prize.

Ages 12-19

All summer long, we'll be holding weekly drawings for prizes such as gift cards and Minnesota State Fair tickets. Enter by submitting book reviews online with an easy form or by coming to teen events at the library.

Please note: The summer reading program is not competitive. Not all activities and prizes are appropriate for children under 5 years old. Prizes for children 11 and under will be available beginning July 1. All prizes available while supplies last.

The summer reading program is sponsored by the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries, Melsa Summer at your library, Minnesota Twins, Minnesota State Fair, Ramsey County Parks & Recreation, Battle Creek Waterworks, Crayola Experience, SeaLife at the Mall of America.

(Submitted PHOTO)

The Ramsey County summer reading program will continue through Aug. 12.