

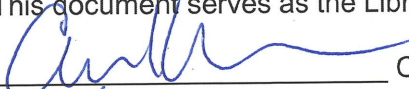
Memo Date: 7-20-2023  
From: Village of Cottage Grove Library Board  
RE: Library Board Commitment to Cottage Grove

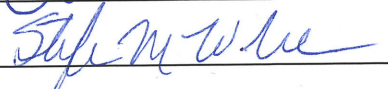
Library Board research since 2019 has shown that most Village of Cottage Grove residents strongly support libraries, library services, programs, and resources. As such, the Village Board has repeatedly indicated that this is a top priority for our community. Library infrastructure advances communities, providing technology access, literacy skills, and support for businesses, job seekers, and entrepreneurs. As positive indicators of municipal economic health and centers for community betterment, their safe, inclusive, and equal learning spaces are integral in today's social, political, and economic climate. Despite the strong support for a library and its significant benefits, there are multiple obstacles based on Village financial constraints and governmental procedures.

As a Library Board, we will continue to work towards the goal of creating a local public library as a core component of the Village's future public service plan. The Village of Cottage Grove Library Board suggests the following key goals:

- Continue consistent, high-quality, free library programming as an essential public service.
- Implement interim space needs for existing and future programming.
- Align the Library Board programming vision with the Village of Cottage Grove's core values.
- Work with Dane County Library Services to review interim library service needs and evaluate the potential to expand County resources throughout the Village of Cottage Grove to meet the needs of all residents.
- Continue to provide Library programming to residents emphasizing diversity, equity, and inclusion and work to reduce information inequity.
- Work with the Village of Cottage Grove to determine the long-term strategic plan to build a library when financially feasible.
- Revise our timeline and review the Village's financial landscape annually.
- Include the Village Board, Village administration and staff, Friends of the Cottage Grove Library Inc., and community stakeholders in discussions to continue the goal of transparency during this process.
- Develop fundraising strategy and materials and continue to identify novel revenue streams.

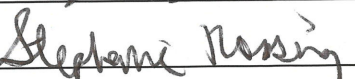
This document serves as the Library Board's commitment to serving the community into the future.

  
Cindi Kelm-Nelson, President

  
Stefan Wahe, Vice President

  
Ali Anger, Treasurer

  
Erik Braun, Secretary

  
Stephanie Rossing, Monona Grove School District Representative

  
Meaghan Swanson, Friends of the Cottage Grove Library, Inc.

  
David Peterson, Village Board Trustee

Signed: July 20, 2023