

Great Neck Library  
Long Range Planning Committee

Monday, May 16, 2022  
Main Library  
6:00 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Josephine Mairzadeh, Chair  
Mimi Hu  
Scott Sontag  
Donald Panetta

**LIBRARY STAFF**

Denise Corcoran	Nicholas Camastro <i>absent w/ notice</i>
Steven Kashkin	Kathryn Baumgartner
Adam Hinz	Jamie Lagasse
Rachel Sferlazza	Alana Mutum
Christy Orquera <i>absent w/ notice</i>	Ever Zelaya
James Pagano <i>absent w/ notice</i>	Gina Chase

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**Call to Order**

JM called the meeting of the Long-Range Planning Committee to order at 6:07 p.m.

**Recap of Last Meeting**

JM said that at the last meeting the committee went over certain components of a long-range plan with a focus on values and vision. At this meeting, we will be focusing on other parts of the plan specifically the strategic priorities and goals.

**Review Patron Survey Forms**

DC shared the responses to the survey forms asking “What is important to you about the Library?” She noted that they are from a short-term comment period collected from library users. DC stated that, overall, positive feedback was received. MH asked if surveys will continue. DC responded that going forward the library will continue to survey both within the library and outside of the library with community partners.

**Review Action Items - Discussion**

Values

DC presented a draft for the values of the library.

*Inclusion - We welcome and bring visibility to all facets of our community*

*Integrity - We strive for transparency in all of our interactions*

*Partnerships - We work to build partnerships which strengthen our library and community*

*Sustainability - We acknowledge our responsibility to make choices which support our community’s environmental sustainability and to intentionally plan for the fiscal sustainability of the Library*

*Service - We endeavor to provide reliable information, diverse collections, and innovative programs*

DC asked the committee if this is what they envisioned the library's values to be per their discussion at the last meeting. They went over the sustainability portion of the values with recommendations to change the wording. After some deliberation, the committee agreed to the following revision.

*Sustainability - We responsibly make choices which support our community's environment. We intentionally plan for the fiscal stability of the Library*

### Vision

DC presented a draft of the vision of the library.

*Great Neck Library will be a center for community connection, inspiration, culture, education, and recreation.*

DC said that if we meet our mission this is what the future of the library will look like. The mission is the library's purpose. After discussion, the committee agreed to the following revision.

*Great Neck Library will be a cornerstone for connectivity, inspiration, culture, education, and recreation.*

### **Strategic Priorities**

DC shared the library's mission statement and noted that the library's strategic priorities need to support its mission.

*To engage our diverse community, inspire ideas, and accelerate lifelong learning through traditional and innovative library services:*

- *To inspire personal and professional growth.*
- *To foster a collaborative and welcoming environment within and beyond the Library.*
- *To contribute to the development of a curious, compassionate, and resilient community.*

The committee began a discussion on the bullet point "To foster a collaborative and welcoming environment within and beyond the Library." DC asked the committee what they would like to create to support this. AH stated that a welcoming environment is about service. He said that the library should provide a physical space that allows people to use the library in the ways they will like whether it be studying in a group, individually, or just having a place to talk and socialize. DC noted that to make this a priority we need to ensure that our physical spaces are safe, welcoming, and accessible. MH shared that she feels welcome when she walks into an establishment and knows the staff by name. She added that providing ample signage throughout the building also helps patrons connect with the library. DC summarized the goals of a welcoming environment. AH

wondered how many strategic priorities the committee wants to build on. DC responded that the maximum should be five as they need to be things that are measurable and achievable. JM said that part of hospitality is feeling comfortable and suggested expanding the options of the vending machines so that patrons can eat and chat and feel at home. The committee agreed to revisit the library's current food and cell phone policy. MH recommended also evaluating the outdoor space to determine if it meets the library's current needs. Enhancing the outdoor space may allow for more outdoor programming and improve the overall feeling of the library. SS suggested also increasing the green space inside the library.

### *1. Environment*

- *Welcoming environment is about service (hospitality)*
- *Provide a physical space that allows people to use the library in the ways that they will like, such as, studying in groups, individually, or having a space to talk and socialize.*
  - *Meeting patron needs*
  - *Accessible*
    - *Increased signage*
    - *ADA*
- *Evaluate outdoor spaces to see if they meet our current needs*
  - *More outdoor programming*
  - *Green spaces inside/outside the library*

The committee moved on to discuss the second priority “Develop resources reflective of our community’s needs and interests.” Under this priority, the committee determined the need for friendly and knowledgeable staff. This would come about by supporting the professional development of staff. Collection development, including increased author visits and expansion of the local history room, was also identified as necessary for this priority.

### *2. Develop resources reflective of our community’s needs and interests*

- *Friendly and knowledgeable staff*
  - *Support professional development*
- *Collection development*
  - *Increased author visits*
  - *Expand Local History*

The committee concluded with the third priority “Programming” MH stressed the importance of ease of registering for programs. She added that appropriate publicity is also vital to the success of the programs. The committee discussed the possible expansion of the STEM lab to meet demand and the induction of the Library of Things.

### *3. Programming*

- *Accessibility to register*
- *Publicity*
- *Library of Things*

- *STEM lab services*
  - *Expand, develop, and introduce new machines*
  - *More staff*
  - *Reevaluate space for the lab*

The next meeting will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Main Library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Submitted by Gina Chase

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**Action Items**

All Committee Members

1. Go back and look at the library's mission statement to see what other goals, objectives, and initiatives we want to think about. They should support the mission and align with our vision and values.