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**Bitterroot Public Library**

306 State Street  
Hamilton, MT 59840-2759  
(406) 363-1670 FAX (406) 363-1678

June 9, 2009

Michael Spreadbury  
Box 416  
Hamilton, MT 59840


Dear Mr. Spreadbury,

As the library director I am responsible for materials in our collection. After consideration, I am denying your request to have your discourse in our library. Enclosed is a pertinent page from our Collection Management Policy which lists several reasons for not accepting your discourse. Your personal opinion on what is needed to be available in our community is not authoritative or objective. There are several local and state newspapers available in our library for anyone interested in similar information.

As was suggested at a previous meeting with staff, there are other means for voicing your opinion in our community, e.g., a newspaper editorial.

Your request has not been "deferred to the governing board" as you stated in your letter of June 8, 2009 as it is not a board issue. The public is welcome to attend the library Board of Trustees meetings, however public comment is limited to three minutes.

Very truly yours,

  
Gloria Langstaff  
Library Director

*Enclosed is the page  
I overlooked sending  
the first time.*

*Gloria  
Langstaff*

2. Selection Responsibilities and Criteria

Recommendations for acquisitions include, but are not limited to, the following resources in determining the development of the collection:

- a. library user recommendations;
- b. Partner holds frequency,
- c. interlibrary loan requests,
- d. professional library journals,
- e. other reputable local and national periodicals,
- f. recommended bibliographies,
- g. the expertise of the director and staff.

Criteria for selection of materials in all formats:

- a. relationship and importance to the entire collection;
- b. authoritativeness, reputation or qualifications of author, artist, publisher or producer;
- c. significance of subject matter, permanence or timeliness of subject;
- d. relevance to needs of the community;
- e. current demand;
- f. accuracy, objectivity, clarity and logic of presentation;
- g. suitability of format to library's purposes, that is, quality of technical production (binding, margins, typography, quality of paper, etc.);
- h. extent of publicity or critical review;
- i. facility of use, difficulty and comprehensiveness;
- j. inclusion of title in standard or special bibliographies or indexes;
- k. availability of material elsewhere;
- l. date of publication;
- m. price;
- n. shelf space;
- o. hard covers are preferred although some needed titles are available only in paperback;
- p. duplicates may be added for high-demand titles and children's classics, as shelf space and budget allow.

The final responsibility for acquisition of materials, both purchased and donated, is with the library director. Each fiscal year the director recommends a materials budget to the library trustees for their approval. The materials budget revenues include monetary donations, investment returns designated for collection materials and a portion of the tax revenue.