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Reconsideration of Materials

The Bitterroot Public Library acknowledges that occasional objections to materials will be made despite the care taken and the procedures followed in selection or rejection. Each request is taken seriously; the decision will be based solely upon whether the material is appropriately selected under the Collection Management Policy.

Materials being reviewed will not be removed or added during the review process.

The presence of material in the library does not indicate an endorsement of its contents by the library board of trustees, staff or funding agencies.

To ensure intellectual freedom for our patrons, the Bitterroot Public Library Board of Trustees and library personnel support the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and the American Library Association's "Library Bill of Rights" (see Appendix).

Procedures for Reconsideration of Materials

1. Citizen's concerns about materials in the library shall be referred to the Library Director who shall attempt to resolve the concern informally.
2. If an informal resolution is not possible, the citizen shall be invited to complete and return a signed Reconsideration Request form (see Appendix).

- a. The citizen must be a current Bitterroot Public Library cardholder and be at least 18 years old.
 - b. Separate forms shall be completed for each topic or item to be considered.
 - c. In the absence of a fully completed form there is no complaint and no action shall be taken.
 - d. Reconsideration will not occur if the material has been reconsidered in the last three years.
3. Upon receipt of a completed request form, the Chair of the Board of Trustees shall appoint a review committee, if one is not currently standing, and shall appoint a committee chair. The committee shall consist of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, one other trustee, the Library Director, one community library professional and one community member at large. The committee shall be appointed within 30 days of the receipt of the written comment request.
4. Each committee member shall review the material(s) or topic(s) in question and make an individual assessment. Committee members shall follow the “Instructions to the Review Committee” (Appendix) and any other information which may be provided in the review packet. The committee shall complete the review in a reasonable length of time.

5. The Committee Chair shall arrange a meeting of the committee members to discuss the concern(s). The committee shall submit a written report, including its recommendation in the form of a resolution, to the Library Board of Trustees.

6. The resolution will be on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting at which the Board of Trustees shall vote to adopt or not to adopt the committee report in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. The Chair of the Board of Trustees shall inform the citizen in writing of the Board's decision. The Board's decision is final.