

**LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

Policy Title: MEETING ROOM USE BY COMMUNITY GROUPS

Lincoln City Libraries, in response to the needs of community residents, provides meeting areas in the Library for public use on a request basis. The ultimate goal of providing for public meeting space within the Library is to recognize the available library materials, resources, and services within the Library and to promote awareness in the community that the Library is an active informational and educational service of the local government.

Library programming is an important aspect of the Library's service to the community; therefore, Library needs will take precedence over public use of the meeting areas. The Library reserves the right to cancel reservations for meeting rooms if the space is needed for library activities.

Meeting rooms may be used by local groups and organizations for educational, civic, and cultural purposes. Meeting rooms are open to all groups in the community regardless of the beliefs and affiliations of their members. The meeting rooms may be used when one individual tutors another in literacy skills; or when vacant, as study rooms for individuals or small groups at the discretion of the Branch Manager.

All meetings conducted by groups using meeting rooms for activities not related or sponsored by Lincoln City Libraries shall observe the following rules and such other rules as may be adopted by the Library Board from time to time and published. The library reserves the right to deny the use of the meeting rooms to any party not complying with the rules in effect at the time of request or violation. The library reserves the right to interrupt or cancel any meeting that interferes with routine library operations.

- Groups must be authorized to use library meeting rooms by the Library Director via completion of meeting room use form. The person responsible for the meeting and signing the use form must have a valid Lincoln City Libraries borrower card in good standing.
- Groups authorized to use library meeting rooms must provide information and program services to all persons without regard to race, age, color, national origin, religion, gender, or physical challenges.
- Meetings must be open to the public. Public attendance cannot be restricted through tuition or admission/registration fees. Libraries and their associated organizations, and governmental entities, may use the meeting rooms for training and may charge a fee to recoup expenses.
- Use of the meeting rooms for political campaigning is not permitted.

Reviewed by Law Department:

July, 2022

Reviewed by Library Board:

July 19, 2022

Revised by Library Board:

August 17, 2021

Adopted by Library Board:

July 9, 1975

- ❑ Meetings involving the sale, advertisement or promotion of commercial products or services or the solicitation for the future sale of commercial products, are prohibited.
- ❑ Fundraising events or solicitation of any kind are not permitted unless sponsored by the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries, or an agency of the City of Lincoln or Lancaster County.
- ❑ All users of the meeting rooms must conduct themselves in an orderly manner and observe Library Rules and Library Behavior Policy.
- ❑ Approval to use library meeting rooms is not transferable to another person or group.
- ❑ Groups must not exceed the legal posted capacity of the meeting room as determined by the Bureau of Fire Prevention or Directed Health Measures in force at time of use.
- ❑ Meetings need to end in time to ensure that rooms are vacated prior to the Library closes to the public. A fee will be assessed if the room is not vacated prior to closing time.
- ❑ No user of the meeting room is to imply in any way or represent that their activity is sponsored by Lincoln City Libraries. No publicity in connection with any meeting to be held at the Library is to make reference to the Library except to designate meeting location.
- ❑ The applicant and any agents, members, participants, and invitees shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless City, its officers, agents, and employees from and against claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from this application or use that results in any claim for damage whatsoever, including without limitation, any bodily injury, sickness, disease, death, or any injury to or destruction of tangible or intangible property, including any loss of use resulting therefrom that is caused in whole or in part by the intentional or negligent act or omission of the applicant, owner, or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable. This indemnification shall not include damages or injuries to the City, its officers, agents, and employees caused solely by the negligence of the City, its officers, agents, and employees.
- ❑ The applicant and any agents, members, participants, and invitees shall fully comply with these Rules for the application, as well as all applicable statutes, municipal ordinances, rules, and regulations. Failure to fully comply as set forth therein may result in immediate termination of the use.

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