

## Pickerington Public Library

### Meeting Room Policy

It is the policy of the Pickerington Public Library to encourage free discourse of information and ideas within our community. Therefore, we are privileged to make meeting room space available to our patrons so that an informed citizenry can be nurtured and supported.

The primary purpose of meeting rooms is to promote library services through programs, meetings and other library activities presented by library staff, the Friends of the Library or other organizations affiliated with the library. When the meeting room is not being used for a library activity, the space will be available to the public for governmental, non-profit, civic, cultural or educational programs or meetings that are **non-soliciting (see item #13 below)** in nature. Access will be provided on equal terms, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting use. In doing so, it must be noted that the library does not endorse the views expressed by any group or individual using our meeting rooms, but does endorse their right to express their views as long as these groups and individuals abide by the rules and regulations governing the use of library meeting rooms. At no time is the use of a meeting room to be publicized in such a way as to imply library sponsorship of the reserving party's meeting or event, unless that activity is being co-sponsored by the library. Artistic performances by individuals will be permitted only when co-sponsored by the library.

The following rules and regulations for public use of library meeting space have been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Pickerington Public Library.

All meetings must be open to the public. Organizations conducting business meetings or presenting programs may wish to restrict or limit public comments during all or part of their meeting or programs. Any such restrictions should in no way interfere with the public's ability to attend, observe or listen to the program.

1. Use of the meeting rooms shall be for group use. An adult, eighteen (18) years old or older must be present during the entire use of the room by the group. Groups of children are welcome to use the room, but application must be made by an adult and adult supervision of the group must be maintained at all times.
2. The person making the meeting room reservation must be at least (18) years old, a registered patron of the library, and have a Pickerington Public Library card in good standing.
3. Reservations for meeting rooms shall be made by submitting a completed meeting room reservation form at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the requested meeting time. All information contained in the completed form (except the library card number) shall be available to the public.
4. Programs or meetings must end prior to library closing time.
5. Reservations are considered on a "first-come, first-served" basis.
6. Reservations are not transferable from one group to another.
7. Reservations may not be made more than three (3) months in advance of the requested meeting date.
8. Meeting space is provided free of charge. However, donations will be accepted to assist in the cost of maintaining meeting room facilities, equipment and supplies.
9. Groups using library meeting space may not charge admission to their meeting or request donations.
10. The library may, on occasion, sponsor classes offering instruction in skills. Tuition fees to cover costs of supplies may be charged. The library may also allow its meeting rooms to be used by local school systems, area colleges and universities, or governmental entities. In such cases, tuition fees may be charged.
11. Only the Pickerington Public Library or groups affiliated with the Pickerington Public Library may use the meeting room facilities for fund-raising activities.
12. The use of meeting rooms for private social functions such as birthday parties, dances, wedding receptions, etc is not permitted.

13. Meetings planned by a company or individual to promote, advertise or lead to the sale of a product or service are not permitted, nor are employee orientation or training programs.
14. The individual or group which reserves the meeting space shall assume responsibility for all loss, damage or injury arising from the use of the meeting space.
15. The library assumes no liability for theft or damage to property brought onto library property or for injuries which occur as a result of actions of sponsors or participants in activities in meeting rooms.
16. Room set-up will be the responsibility of the individual or organization reserving the meeting space. This same individual or group is responsible for returning the room to its original condition.
17. Refreshments may be served only in Meeting Room A. The library will not provide any food service or equipment. Any food, beverages, or items left in the meeting room will be discarded. Smoking and alcoholic beverage are prohibited in the library. If refreshments are served in the meeting space, a ten dollar (\$10) fee will be charged to defray the cost of clean-up and maintenance. The fee must be submitted with the application. An additional fee may be charged if the group's use of the room results in the need for repair to library furnishings or equipment or if excessive clean-up is required by library staff. Imposition of this additional fee will be at the discretion of the Library Director.
18. If a scheduled meeting is cancelled, it is preferable that the library be notified at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance.
19. Library use of the meeting space takes precedence over any other use and the library reserves the right to cancel the use of the meeting room space if the Library Director determines that the meeting space is needed for library purposes. The library assumes no liability if such an action occurs. An attempt will be made to provide an alternative date or time for the group.
20. The Library Director, or his/her designee, may for good cause, deny or cancel any application for reservation of meeting room space and, for good cause, may waive any meeting room regulation. The library assumes no liability if such action occurs.
21. Meetings held in our facility must not disturb normal library operations. The library reserves the right to stop meetings that are disruptive to normal library operations.
22. An appeal of any meeting room regulation, or any decision regarding the use of any meeting room should first be made to the Library Director. Any further appeal shall be to the library's Board of Trustees.

It is the intent of the Pickerington Public Library that groups shall follow the above rules and regulations so that our meeting rooms will be utilized in an orderly and efficient manner. It is expected that all groups or individuals reserving a meeting room will honor the spirit in which these rules and regulations are intended and will adhere to them when reserving and using a library meeting room.

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