

## **Wells Public Library Solicitation and Petitioning Policy**

The Library Board of Trustees is committed to preserving the right to privacy of its patrons. Patrons are entitled to use the library without being asked to declare their opinions or allegiances to any causes.

### **Financial Solicitations**

In order to maintain the impartiality of the library and the confidentiality of library patrons, the Library Board of Trustees prohibits the use of library premises for:

- Selling goods or services
- Soliciting donations or otherwise raising funds

The Library Board of Trustees does, however, allow and encourage fundraising efforts that are directly related and beneficial to the library and town including:

- Friends of the Wells Public Library book sale and other activities.
- Sales of books/materials at a library-sponsored event.
- Events and business promotions/partnerships approved by the Wells Public Library Foundation.
- Any town-sponsored event.
- Or any event specifically approved by the Board of Library Trustees.

### **Petitioning**

Wells Public Library is supported by the taxes of people with varying political, social, and religious beliefs. The library provides a forum for opposing viewpoints in its programming, its collection development, its exhibit spaces, and its meeting rooms.

With respect to the above, no petitioning may occur within the library building. Petitioning may occur outside the building along the sidewalk on the east side of the building with the following limitations:

- Petitioner is not to block any entrance to the building. Traffic flow by users and staff entering and exiting the building shall not be impeded. Traffic, parking, and parking spaces must also not be impeded.
- If a petitioner wants to have equipment such as a table and chairs, these must be provided by the petitioner and be placed on the grass on the south east corner of the building as to not limit the accessibility of the walk way, parking spaces, or harm the building's landscaping.
- Signs may be allowed, but they must be attached to the petitioner's table. Signs may not be placed on or in the library building or grounds
- Petitioner must in no way affiliate him/herself with the Library or the Town of Wells either through written publicity, signage, or verbal statements.
- If an employee would like to sign a petition, they must do so on personal time.
- Aggressive solicitation is not allowed.
- All petitioners must adhere to the library's behavior policy.

**Right of Appeal:** The library has a “Policy on Appeals of Library Decisions Involving Library Policies,” a copy of which is available upon request. Appeals may be made in accordance with that policy.

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees: May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Revised: 02/08/2017