

DUBLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Strategic Planning Sub Committee Meeting
11.00am Weds January 26th 2022

Attending:

Nancy Cayford, Julie Rizzo, Meg Page, Maureen Huslander, Bess Haire
n/a Rachael Lovett, Celeste Snitko

Welcome

Minutes of last meeting Weds December 15th 2021.

Discussion of results of community wide survey seeking input feedback about Library use with a view to creating a long-term strategic plan for DPL.

104 surveys completed online

In Dec a Postcard was circulated with info about how/where to access the survey.

Survey access via Library website.

Question 1. How long have you lived in Dublin?

Noticed that 47 +8 of the 101 responses are from longtime residents.(over 15yrs or most/all of life. Useful to compare those responses with responses from newer residents.

Question 2. How often do you visit the Dublin Public Library?

Looking at numbers 44% come few times per year.

Implication here for ways Library can work to increase library use and attendance by more people. Also, useful to survey this question in 2-3 years, to learn if changes made affect this number. Suggestion to use evaluation forms for participants to complete after all programs.

Question 3. What is the purpose of your visit? (Check all that apply)

Biggest response from those who answered they come to

Request/ Browse/ Look/ Attend Mtg or gathering/Program for adults

Several came to read newspaper- Monadnock Ledger

Meet Candidates in town election.

A couple of comments indicated that Library was used more when children were young.

After becoming 'empty nesters' they found less to draw them in.

Question 4. What would encourage you to use the Dublin Public Library more often?

(Check all that apply)

96 responses 5 Skipped the question

Biggest response from those who answered they would come to the Library for

Speakers/Public Figures/Authors, Cultural & History Exhibits,/ Book Clubs Discussions & Writing Groups/, Genealogy research.

Nancy shared that a speaker has been invited to present a program on family research and genealogy for Feb but Covid has meant those plans are on hold at the moment.

Kanopy App was requested- it is an app that enables viewers to download films. The Library TV could be used to watch documentaries in future programs?

Overall, there were a number of responses that indicate people are not aware of the services library offers. We need to communicate better!

Question 5. Do you use any other libraries?

100 responses 1 skipped

Many survey responders use other libraries- locally and in other states and access other collections in colleges/universities.

Could Dublin Library offer online links to other libraries or share future programs?

Libby: A free App to borrow books or digital audio books and magazines from the public library.

Question 6. Where do you prefer to go for information about what's happening at Dublin Public Library?

101 responses 0 skipped

Most popular responses include email: Library Newsletter(new), Website, Dublin Advocate, and the Sandwich Board in front of the library.

Suggestion: The new library Newsletter include a corner for news updates from the Library Trustees, (and Library Friends?) Also, helpful to keep the sandwich board 'fresh'- update with new info.

Question 7. How helpful do you find the library website (www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org)
85 responses

Weighted average response gave DPL a score of 3.8 approval.

Perhaps some responders did not know how to use the slider to record number of stars as the way to show approval?

Suggestion: To visit other library websites or in person for inspiration and comparison. Nancy suggested Henniker, Antrim, Jaffrey and Curtis Memorial Library.

Question 8. Where does your child attend school? (Check all that apply)

21 responses 80 skipped

High Mowing HS / Pine Hill in Wilton was not included in the list of schools.

The data gathered may not be immediately useful, yet it demonstrates the spread of attendance at wide range of schools.

Question 9. In what ways does the Dublin Public Library support your child's learning? (Check all that apply)

20 responses 81 skipped

Most popular answers included Encourage reading, Introduction to new ideas, explore/discover new hobbies, art music performances and offers STEAM opportunities.

Question 10. What would encourage your child to visit the library more often?

16 responses 85 skipped

Survey answers to school age related questions indicate that the majority of people who completed the survey do not have school age children.

Some answers suggest that more volunteers would be welcome to help supervise numbers of children who attend after school programs.

Question 11. Feedback- Is there anything else you'd like to share?

67 written responses

This section of the survey yielded many ideas suggestions and comments for further analysis.

The range of responses illustrate how 'the library is much larger than the building'-(8) as one response noted.

Suggestion: Fridge magnets showing Library hours

Suggestion: Flag outside flying when library is open.

Suggestion: All Outside Lights on when library is operating and open.

Suggestion: Get to know library staff by Interview/promote in Advocate interview, Newsletter or on website with photo & bio (if they agree).

Request for a Memory Depot- for scrap booking, photo digitizing, genealogy etc.

Action Items:

Julie will update newest survey responses and format the survey into a printable document.

Maureen offered to help with format.

Julie invites all to submit 5-7 strategies or short term/long term goals for discussion at next subcommittee meeting. Keeping to big picture topics where appropriate.

Intention is to complete survey analysis and present complete 5-year Strategic Plan for Library

by May. Originally planned for March 12th Town Meeting this deadline is now changed.

Maureen offered to map out everyone's 5-7 strategies into a PowerPoint presentation. Julie will seek feedback about the survey from Celeste and Rachael.

Next meeting: 12noon Weds 23rd February 2022