

Amy Johnson

From: Dana & Doug Barricklow <dbarricklow@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 05, 2019 7:16 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: The Big Weed
Attachments: Agenda.pdf

The big weed of the library collection must stop. I agree with Jim Scheppke totally. We need to have the biggest and best collection in the state because we are the seat of government with the highest number of library patrons in the state. Getting rid of “classics” is an abomination as is weeding poetry and the arts. My family has used the library for fifty years. Make it better not a shadow of how it used to be.

Douglas Barricklow
3065 Winslow Wy NW
Salem

<https://salem.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=652616&GUID=D4749CA8-F1B5-4820-B1E1-C0E0B8CBD947>

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: CLIFFORD SMITH <cliffordsmith@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 05, 2019 5:24 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: July 8 Council Meeting Agenda Item 6 b

Salem City Council

July 8 Session

Agenda Item 6 b

As a retired professional librarian for almost 50 years and former division manager for Salem Public Library for 30 years—and a part of the collection development team-- I am totally dismayed at the unnecessary aggressive weeding of the library collection over the last several years and want to lend my voice in strongly urging you to put an end to what is referred to as “The Big Weed” before further, irreversible damage is done to the collection. The current weeding policy is clearly wrong, outside the bounds of common sense, established professional criteria, and cause for great alarm. It is just one of many indicators of the downward direction of our once-great library. I hope you will take the necessary steps to reverse this trend.

Cliff Smith, SPL Extension Services/Circulation Divisions Manager, Retired

7/5/19

Amy Johnson

From: Jim & Jo <jimjohock@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, July 08, 2019 9:40 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Salem Library Book Collection Policy

Dear City council Members:

I have been concerned that the current library policy for book removal has been too aggressive. I know what new books cost. It seems that there needs to be more consideration of replacement costs before books are eliminated. Also, there is a value to older books that goes beyond monetary value. Many older books simply cannot be replaced as they are not currently being published. There is value in the singular edition with special illustrations or fine binding or an important preface.

I have met with library staff who were also concerned about the quality of current book bindings and admitted that these do not hold up for long. Why discard books with well made bindings due to imperfections because of their use by library patrons?

Please ask the library staff to use caution in their book removal decisions.

Thank you,
Jo Hockenhull
1705 Church St. SE
Salem, OR 97302

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of bootharris@q.com
Sent: Sunday, July 07, 2019 12:00 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Sandra L Harris
Your Email	bootharris@q.com
Your Phone	5036237894
Street	1434 SE Academy St.
City	Dallas
State	OR
Zip	97338
Message	<p>Good morning, My husband and I often use the Salem Library. We were dismayed to see that they are getting rid of so many books. We can't find any of the sci-fi classics and many other genres. Most of the fiction now, is murder mysteries, thrillers and chic lit. What happened to the diversity of literature? The library should be encouraging people to read many different types of books. Please stop the throwing away of so many books. Sincerely, Sandra Harris Robert Booth</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 7/7/2019.

Amy Johnson

From: Jeff Schumacher <jeff.schumacher@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 08, 2019 11:01 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Item for July 8th City Council meeting
Attachments: SCAN Resolution on Book Removal - March 13, 2019.pdf

Hello City Recorder:

Attached is a resolution from the South Central Association of Neighbors concerning the library's recent book removal activities. We submitted this resolution previously when this issue came before Council, but I would like to submit it again so that it can be included in tonight's meeting as testimony for the written record to be considered by our Councilors and Mayor.

Thank you,
Jeff Schumacher
SCAN chair, 2018-19

SCAN RESOLUTION OPPOSING MASS LIBRARY BOOK REMOVAL

Adopted by the SCAN Board on March 13, 2019

WHEREAS, in October, 2018, the management staff at the Salem Public Library ordered librarians to begin a project they called the "Big Weed" to remove many thousands of books from the library collection in advance of the upcoming library renovation project; and,

WHEREAS, before the project was suspended in December, 2018, because of concerns expressed by members of the Salem City Council, over 2,000 books were removed, mostly from the adult nonfiction collection, including many important books of lasting value; and,

WHEREAS, before the book removal project began the collection at the library was already seriously depleted because of aggressive book removal over the past five years that resulted in over 200,000 books removed, an average of about 10% of the collection per year which is twice what professional standards recommend; and,

WHEREAS, our library has a book collection of only 1.6 books per capita as compared to the average for libraries in Eugene, Corvallis, Hillsboro and Beaverton of 2.1 books per capita; and,

WHEREAS, since 1973 our library has been responsible for serving as the major resource library for fifteen smaller community libraries in the Chemeketa Cooperative Regional Library system which serves a combined population of 465,000 people in Marion, Polk, Yamhill, and Linn counties.

WHEREAS, our library's budget for purchasing new and replacement books is deficient — less than half the budget at the Eugene Public Library that serves a population of similar size; and,

WHEREAS, at their meeting on February 13, 2019, the Library Advisory Board voted to recommend to the Salem City Council that the mass book removal project be resumed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Central Neighborhood Association requests that our Councilors support a permanent end to the mass book removal project, and instead support a policy of rebuilding the library book collection to meet the norm for Oregon libraries.