

Putnam Valley Library Long Range Plan

Mission Statement:

The Putnam Valley Library will inspire creativity, encourage lifelong learning, and strengthen our community by providing access to information, education, culture, and recreation. Our community is the heart of the Library. We strive to be a Library that is the heart of the community and integral to the lives of all residents, and to be responsive to the changing needs of the community through excellence in collections, programs, and services. We pledge to create a library that will be a place where disparate aspects of the Putnam Valley community can come together to create understanding through learning and communication.

Long range areas of focus, 2020-2023:

1. Promoting literacy and lifelong learning through innovative technologies and collection development;
2. Expanding community programs for all ages;
3. Improving physical space for access by individuals with diverse physical abilities, greater interaction, and flexibility of purpose;
4. Achieving financial sustainability;
5. Protecting and preserving the building and other physical assets of the Library;
6. Developing the website to promote distance-based use of library resources;
7. Serving as a source of information, news, services, and communication for the Town of Putnam Valley.

These areas of focus emerged from the community feedback sessions, on-line feedback, and yearly library meetings. We have identified our most important goals and strategies for each focus area:

Area 1

Promoting literacy and lifelong learning through innovative technologies and collection development by:

- * Promoting hands-on learning for people of all ages by hosting such programs as STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts, mathematics), historical and environmental programs, (partnering with the Putnam Valley Historical Society and other local groups); language programs, computer training, and cultural and other (yoga, craft, mah jongg) game activities, museum/event passes, book clubs.
- * Reviewing collection and develop strategies for shifting formats in the media landscape: e.g. e-readers, hot spot devices, in-house computers, scanners and printers for patron use.

- * Creating and building online access for patrons and that which will support distance learning, such as services like Hoopla, Kanopy, Libby, and all e-books, audiobooks, magazines, and other online offerings.
- * Augmenting physical technology resources to include 3-D printer opportunities.
- * Creating a virtual suggestion box.
- * Seeking on-going feedback from the community and library staff.

Area 2

Expanding community programs:

- * Hosting interactive games/events for adults and children.
- * Creating programs and lectures of interest to the community.
- * Improving communications via electronic sign, improved website, calendar of events.
- * Providing "Little Libraries" - satellite "bookshelves" around town.
- * Creating a Food Pantry and community garden.
- * Partnering with Senior Services for transportation to the Library.
- * Expanding the collection to include non-traditional items such as tools, fishing equipment, baking equipment, gardening items.

Area 3

Maintaining and improving physical space for greater interaction and flexibility of purpose:

- * Ensuring library spaces are safe.
- * Bringing facilities up to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards.
- * Updating bathroom facilities.
- * Improving HVAC and Heating systems.
- * Improving community room and kitchen.

- * Enclosing outside dumpster area to comply with town code.
- * Assessing/updating skylight with improved materials.
- * Enhancing outside space for patron use and educational programs.

Area 4

Achieving financial sustainability:

- * Conducting ongoing reviews of the Library's investments and strategies.
- * Actively holding ongoing fundraisers.
- * Supporting and coordinating with Friends of the Putnam Valley Library in their ongoing efforts.
- * Continuing liaison with Town Board officials.
- * Forming a grant committee to continually look for additional revenue for specific projects/programs.

Area 5

Protecting and preserving Physical Assets/Building:

- * Establishing a comprehensive facilities plan.
- * Adopting a facilities maintenance and improvement schedule.
- * Continuing to have regular building & grounds evaluation and maintenance.
- * Adhering to the New York Library Association's Sustainable Library Certification Program.

Area 6

Enhancing the website to promote transparency and distance-based use of library resources and enhanced communication with the community:

- * Upgrading library website using MHLS resources.

- * Enhancing the “about us” sections to include current and ongoing information about the library.
- * Adding ongoing accomplishments of the Library.
- * Adding a virtual suggestion box.
- * Making other changes as needed

Area 7

Providing a source of communication for the townspeople of Putnam Valley:

- * Erecting an electronic billboard that promotes not only the Library’s offerings but also other events in the community.
- * Providing a space for displays of artwork, books, and other presentations of interest by members of the community.
- * Encouraging residents to provide programming for the Library and the Town commensurate with their particular skills and specialties.

Adopted March 13, 2022