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## Library Behavior Policy

In order to provide a safe and comfortable environment for library users and staff, the Library Center of the Ozarks adopts the following policy regarding patron conduct and responsibility. The Library is open to the public without regard to race, age, gender, religion, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disabilities. People entering the library are expected to respect the rights of other patrons. Shirts, pants, and shoes are required. Any behavior that is disruptive to library use is prohibited.

For the comfort and safety of our patrons and staff and the protection of library property, the following are not permitted in the library (meeting rooms have their own guidelines):

- Any activity in violation of federal, state, or local law
- Disorderly or disruptive conduct
- Using threatening or abusive language or behavior
- Using alcohol or illegal drugs
- Using tobacco products and smoking (including electronic cigarettes)
- Sleeping or loitering
- Drinks without lids
- Eating
  - Programs which include food or drinks will be acceptable based on library approval.
- Solicitation of any type, panhandling or distributing food, drinks, or pamphlets
- Unattended bags
- Animals, except for service animals or those used for library programs.

Patrons who harm or damage library property will be responsible for the cost of the item.

Library staff may revoke borrowing privileges and/or deny library privileges to patrons violating this policy. Any person who is asked to leave the library or library property and refuses to do so shall be considered a trespasser and may be subject to citation or arrest.

A patron whose privileges have been denied by library staff may appeal to the Board of Trustees in writing within seven days from the date the patron's privileges were denied. The Trustees shall review the request and hear from library leadership to determine such an appeal within fourteen days. The decision of the Trustees will be final.

Library leadership has the authority to establish guidelines and procedures as necessary to carry out this policy and ensure the safety of patrons and staff.

Approved 3.5.24