

Meeting Room Use Policy

(Please Keep for Your Records)

The Board of Trustees recognizes article 6 of the ALA Library Bill of Rights that states, "Meeting rooms should be made available to the public served by the given library on an equitable basis, regardless of beliefs, affiliations of individuals, or groups requesting their use." To that end, the Board of Trustees encourages the use of the Karen Littlefield meeting room for any local organization engaged in educational, civic, and cultural non-profit, activities which are free and open to the public. Board meetings by local non-profits are also considered acceptable use.

Fees (or voluntary donations) to cover the cost of materials used by attendees, or speakers' fees, are acceptable if the proposed fee is shown to cover the costs of the program or class ONLY; fees providing revenue or income for the sponsoring organization or business/employees of said business, will not be approved. Any group wishing to charge a fee, or accept voluntary donations at the door, may do so only with the permission of the Library Director. If voluntary donations are taken in to cover costs, any donation amount in excess of the stipulated program cost (proof of costs must be provided to the Director before approval of room use) will be considered a donation to the library for use of the library facilities. The library will not be responsible for registering participants or notifying attendees for non-library use of the meeting space. In order to prevent fraud, registration may be done by the organization before the event, but NO FEES or donations shall be taken in until the time of the event. Library staff, in conjunction with the room user, will count all income to ensure that no excess above the costs stipulated at booking has been charged to patrons.

The meeting room also serves as the children's room and must be made available for all children's programs and for drop-in time for parents using the facility. All meetings must start and end on time in order for this dual purpose to be served.

The following rules shall apply to use of the meeting room:

1. Library functions shall have precedence over all other meetings. Every effort will be made to accommodate groups with regularly scheduled meetings but groups should research alternate meeting space in the event the library needs to use the facility.
2. Booking shall be on a first come, first served basis. The space may be used for one-time events, monthly meetings and classes, or weekly events at the discretion of the Library Director who is responsible for maintaining the room schedule. Reservations are mandatory for use and should be made a minimum of 30 days prior to the meeting date if possible as time slots fill quickly. Groups may book recurring meetings up to 12 months ahead. Meetings may not interrupt the normal functioning of the library. The library reserves the right to revoke meeting room privileges should groups fail to follow all rules contained within this document, or, the Director and Trustees determine that said meeting causes undue security threats to the facility or staff. Appeal of this decision should be made in writing to the Library Board of Trustees.
3. The library reserves the right to cancel any meetings due to inclement weather, power outage, or other dangerous situations. The Director will notify the contact person listed on the agreement form. The user is responsible for notifying the members of such a closure.
4. Groups MUST call 664-9715 a minimum of 24 hours in advance if they will not be using the room for a scheduled event. This will allow the library to make the room available to another organization if one is on a wait list.
5. Use of the room does not constitute endorsement of the group by the library and no announcements or advertisements should imply such. The library may not be used as a mailing address or headquarters address for any organization nor will the library staff take phone calls for people attending meetings.
6. The meeting room is only available during regular open hours. No after hours meetings will be scheduled due to lack of staffing to stay and secure the building. Should a library key holder (staff or Library Trustee) be a meeting attendee, and is willing to take on the responsibility of locking and securing the building, an afterhours meeting may be permitted.
7. No commercial businesses functions or private parties will be booked for this room. No goods or services may be sold or solicited for profit.
8. All programs serving children under age 18 must have at least one adult chaperone in the room at all times.

9. All organizations will meet posted fire codes; the current room has a maximum occupancy of 30 people.
10. Programs may not discriminate according to gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, race, handicapped status, or any other protected category under the law.
11. No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed and no nails, tacks, or other items may be used on walls, doors, or windows. No lit flames are allowed including candles and sterno fuel.
12. The library is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
13. All setup (including pulling chairs out of the closet and putting them away) is the responsibility of the user. All cleanup of the kitchenette, if used, is also the responsibility of the user. All food and supplies must be supplied by the group and all food must be kept in the meeting room. All trash must be picked up and the floor swept by the user if crumbs, dirt, or other debris is left behind by the attendees. Food and paper goods in the kitchenette are for library sponsored programs only and may not be utilized by other users.
14. No room in the refrigerator is supplied due to space issues. The Keurig may be used by meeting attendees for the posted fees per cup of coffee.
15. Tutors may not reserve this room due to the commercial nature of their business; quiet study carrels and tables are located to the rear of the library for public use.
16. The TV may be used to view movies (G, PG, or PG-13) in the meeting room area. A cardholder must check out the film, taking responsibility for it until it is returned in the indoor drop box. It is the responsibility of the patron to remove the movie from the DVD Player and get it safely back to the drop box. If the item is left in the DVD player or in the meeting room, a \$1.00 fine will be assessed to their card. All movies viewed in the meeting room must be covered by the library public viewing license; this should be confirmed with a staff member as not all studios are covered under this agreement.
17. No program may be televised or broadcast from the library meeting room without the express permission of the Board of Trustees.
18. The library can provide A/V equipment upon request. The library staff can set up a the TV, LCD Projector, and/or a laptop for use by the group IF the library is notified at least one week in advance of the required items. The user is responsible for making sure any USB devices or disks will be compatible with the LCD Projector or laptop used with the TV provided, and that the person giving the talk understands how to access their own files. If there is any question about compatibility, the user must request a trial run BEFORE the room use. It is not staff's responsibility to troubleshoot computer issues the night of the meeting and they may not make changes to any computer brought in by the group due to liability issues. The LCD Projector owned by the library is PC compatible; MAC users may have to make alternate arrangements, although the library has a MAC adapter cable which may work with some MACS. The LCD Projector & screen may be checked out to local groups who wish to meet elsewhere but require that equipment. The laptop is NOT available for checkout. Staff will not be available to make copies or assist in presentations.
19. The user will be held responsible for any damage or loss caused by their use of the room, its contents, or the equipment contained in the room. Groups may not store items at the library.
20. Repeated cancellations or no-shows may result in room reservation revocation so others may use the area.
21. The meeting room must be cleaned and all participants ready to leave at closing time. If the meeting is scheduled during day time hours, the room must be cleaned up and available for the public no more than 15 minutes after the stated end-time of the meeting.
22. All users must sign the attached form agreeing to these rules; the form must be signed by a responsible contact person at least one week prior to the first scheduled meeting.
23. A MINIMUM of -8 or more regular attendees is needed to reserve the meeting room. If your group is smaller than that, the two large tables which seat 8 at the rear of the library may be used by the group instead. If the group is below -8people, but requires space for crafting supplies, etc., an exception may be made if no other larger group needs the room. Dispensation may also be given should discussion content warrant a need for privacy.
24. Government agencies seeking space to interview or test job candidates may also utilize this space upon request, depending upon availability.
25. Sale of merchandise is strictly prohibited except for library-sponsored presenters who are allowed, with pre-approval, to sell merchandise related to their program.

Meeting Room User Agreement

Please Print Clearly

Organization: _____

This group is a: (Check One)

Non-Profit Group (501 C-3) ___ Barrington or Other Government Entity _____

Non-business related club or group comprised mostly of Barrington residents _____ Educational Entity _____ NH Non-Profit _____ (Proof of status may be requested)

Address: _____

Contact Name (Must be 18 or over): _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Expected Number of Attendees: _____

Expected Age of attendees: ___ Adults ___ Teens ___ Children

Number of Adult Chaperones, if teens or children: _____

Nature of the Meeting:

Fees to Cover Costs: \$ _____ (Please attach a detailed outline of fees with proof of supplies/instructor costs)

Check One: One Time Meeting _____ Weekly Meeting _____ Monthly Meeting _____

Dates and Times Requested: (Room is ONLY available during open library Hours)

_____ I agree to abide by all rules outlined in the meeting room use policy

_____ I will not hold the library liable for any injuries, damages, or losses which may occur during our use of the library facility.

_____ I understand that as the person signing this contract, I am taking financial responsibility for any damages which may occur during meeting room use and that I am the primary contact for library closures.

_____ I understand that failure to follow the meeting room use policy may result in loss of privileges.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Staff Area:

Application Taken In By: _____

Date: _____ Approved: _____ Not Approved: _____

Reason: _____

Forms should be submitted to: director@barringtonlibrary.com