

Cook Memorial Library  
Feedback on draft Strategic Plan  
August 29, 2018

### **1. Community feedback session, August 24, 2018**

Attending: Laura Hodgman, Ned Beecher, Mary Cronin

Suggestions for meeting strategic priorities

For the “develop programs for teens” and “expanded services for older residents”

- Pair elders and teens with younger students (will also support improving reading/math skills)

For “deeper community connections and understanding”

- Program on how to run meetings
- Program/book discussion on how to talk to people you disagree with (possible title *We Need to Talk* by Celeste Headlee)
- A variety of programming can accomplish bringing people together around shared interests
- Any progress on getting a town-wide event calendar?

General programming suggestions

- Plan 4-week circles/workshops, grouped events: brainteasers, drum circle, meditation, etc.
- Movies followed by discussion (Possible source: PBS’s POV series has a program to lend DVDs for library programs)

### **2. Community feedback session, August 28, 2018**

Attending: Susan Ticehurst, Margaret Rieser, Mary Cronin

Suggestions for meeting strategic priorities

For “deeper community connections and understanding”

- Listening sessions a good idea, but precede with program on how to talk/listen to each other, and follow up with conversation focused on issues raised
- Promote a community vision: “Tamworth, the town that listens”

For “expanded services for older residents”

- Home delivery is a great idea
- Oasis already has mentoring/reading support program that pairs adults up with students at K.A. Brett School that is supported by the library (Amy helps adults find books that will engage their students)

### **3. Feedback from staff, FoCML, town boards and committees**

Staff suggested additional info for demographic digest, and improvements to formatting.

Planning Board sent the following comments via email on 8/23/2018:

The planning board took some time at last night's meeting to discuss the effort that the strategic planning committee and trustees made to arrive at Cook Memorial Library Strategic Plan 2018- 2020.

The board is very impressed with this large and time consuming effort. We welcome and encourage this effort and think that everything that you are doing looks great.

It comes at a timely moment, as the planning board will be focusing on how each of the departments in town are doing with the implimentation of the master plan and will be scheduling meetings, department by department, for this review. The CM Library will be a part of this process and your work on the strategic plan will prove to be very valuable in this regard.

Please, a "thank you" to all involved. Well done.

Sheldon, Tamworth Planning Board, Chair

Sue Colten sent the following comments and suggestions via email on 9/3/2018:

I loved the process and think you gained lots of good information  
Some ideas that popped out to me:

We seem to be reaching half the population of Tamworth and would like to reach the others. This seems to be a recurring problem with non-profits as well as with the library. I think you've tried most of these ideas but, maybe another look would be worthwhile

Add literacy programs for adults

Have community outreach conversations take place in 5 villages as well as the library

Increase collection of audio books to reach commuters and those not print literate

Increase connection with schools

Institute welcome wagon type program for new residents (like baby book bags)

Continue the good work. The library is central to the health of Tamworth and is a welcoming, warm place to be. thanks

Sue Colten