PETITIONING AND SOLICITATION POLICY

Purpose

The North Sioux City Community Library is a city-owned facility established to provide free and equal access to informational, educational, and cultural resources for the community. To preserve an environment conducive to reading, study, and learning, the Library Board of Trustees adopts the following policy concerning petitioning, solicitation, and similar expressive activities on library property.

Policy

1. **Use of Library Property**
   The North Sioux City Community Library is designated as a *limited public forum*. Library facilities and grounds are reserved for activities consistent with the library's mission and purpose.
2. **Petitioning, Solicitation, and Distribution of Materials**
   To maintain the library as a quiet, neutral, and welcoming environment for all patrons:
   - Petitioning, solicitation of signatures, campaigning, or distribution of political or advocacy materials is **not permitted inside the library building or on library grounds**.
   - This restriction applies equally to all individuals and groups, regardless of viewpoint or subject matter.
   - Petitioners may conduct activities on **public sidewalks** or other areas traditionally open for public expression, provided such activities do not obstruct library entrances, driveways, or impede pedestrian access.
3. **Authority**
   This policy is enacted under the authority of **South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) 14-2-47**, which grants library boards the power to make rules and regulations governing the use of library property, and **SDCL 9-38-1**, which authorizes municipalities to regulate the use of public buildings for city purposes.
4. **Enforcement**
   Library staff are authorized to enforce this policy and may request that any person engaged in prohibited activity cease such activity or relocate to an appropriate public area outside library property. Failure to comply may result in referral to law enforcement for trespass or disturbance, as provided by city ordinance.

Public Information Statement

The North Sioux City Community Library welcomes community participation in civic life and values citizens' rights to petition and express opinions. However, because the library's primary purpose is to provide a safe, quiet environment for learning and access to information, petitioning and solicitation are not allowed inside the building or on library grounds.

Citizens may circulate petitions on nearby public sidewalks or other areas that do not block access to library entrances. This rule applies equally to all groups and causes, consistent with the library's nonpartisan and educational mission.

Adopted by the North Sioux City Public Library Board of Trustees
Date: _____3/26_____