

Policy Statement

Public libraries are cornerstones of the communities they serve. Free access to the books, ideas, resources, and information in libraries is imperative for informing, educating, enlightening, and entertaining the people of our community. The Library Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of codifying and making known to the public the ethical principles that guide the work of the profession, library trustees, and employees.

Regulations

1. The foundation of modern librarianship rests on an essential set of core values that define, inform, and guide our professional practice. These values reflect the history and ongoing development of the profession and have been advanced, explained, and refined by numerous policy statements of the American Library Association (ALA). The core values are:
 - Access
 - Confidentiality/Privacy
 - Democracy
 - Diversity
 - Education and Lifelong Learning
 - Intellectual Freedom
 - Preservation
 - The Public Good
 - Professionalism
 - Service
 - Social Responsibility
 - Sustainability
 2. The library trustees and staff will discharge their duties in compliance with the ALA's *Code of Ethics*.
 3. The library supports intellectual freedom and has adopted the ALA's *Library Bill of Rights* and its interpretations including the statements on privacy, meeting rooms, display spaces, and bulletin boards.
 4. Recognizing that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture and is guaranteed by the Constitution, the library endorses the ALA's *Freedom to Read Statement* and the *Freedom to View Statement*.
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Approved: November 9, 2020
Comstock Township Library Board of Trustees