Social Media Policy

(Adopted February 2016; revised July 2017)

The Stickney-Forest View Public Library strives to provide a gateway to information. By striking a balance between traditional resources and emerging technologies, the Library endeavors to enrich our community by creating an environment that supports life-long learning, personal enrichment, and entertainment. To help achieve this goal, the Library carefully selects social media tools as an important enhancement to communication, collaboration, and information exchange between staff, library users, and the general public.

Social media, as it relates to this policy, is any website or application which allows users to generate and share content. The Library recognizes that new tools will emerge which may have useful application in the Library setting; thus, this policy addresses social media in general.

Library social media offerings are intended to create a welcoming and inviting online space where Library users will find useful and entertaining information. The Library is not responsible for or liable for the content of postings by third parties on any Library sponsored social media site, and all postings, unless specifically designated otherwise, do not necessarily reflect the opinions or positions of the Library, its employees, or Board of Trustees.

Comments, posts, and messages by the public are welcome and encouraged. Such postings will be monitored regularly by Library staff for content and relevancy. Any postings containing inappropriate content will be removed. Examples of inappropriate content include:

- Obscene, sexist, or racist content
- Personal attacks, insults or threatening language
- Potentially libelous and slanderous statements
- Plagiarized material
- Private, personal information published without permission
- Comments, postings, or hyperlinks not related to the content of the forum
- Photos or other images that fall into any of the above categories

The Library reserves the right to edit or modify any postings or comments for space or content, while retaining the intent of the original post. The Library shall also be granted the right to reproduce comments, posts, and messages in other public venues. For example, a response to a YouTube book review may be quoted in a newspaper or on the Library website. Identifying information, other than first name, will be removed unless prior approval is granted by the user.

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