



WASHINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM COMMUNITY FORUM NOTES

July 30, 2015

Forest Lake

The following suggestions and comments were expressed by the attendees at the Forest Lake Community Forum on Thursday, July 30, 2015. Attendees were asked to write down their wishes and desires for the future of the Washington County Library System under the following themes. There was very modest attendance at this community forum.

PROGRAMS (Adults, Teens, Children)

Adults:

- Author programs

Children and Teens:

- More collaboration with schools
- YSB collaboration with teens at the library

COLLECTIONS: Print, Media, Downloadable

- More copies of books for book clubs
- More book bags for book clubs

TECHNOLOGY

- More express library locations (lockers)
- Electronic access to the internet

TRAINING AND CLASSES

Training/Class delivery:

- Provide list of trainers for various topics and technology to support training
- Provide the ability to send class information to those that would like it emailed
- Need availability of training space with technology for volunteer groups

COMMUNITY GATHERING

- More small meeting rooms
- More space for activities
- More meetings rooms
- More small rooms/areas in the library

FUNDING

- MORE: You get what you pay for.
- Cooperation between public entities (schools, city, library) for staff and facilities

STAFFING

- Share program staff with schools and community ed
- Add community outreach/organizer staff position
- More staff
- Community planning/sharing/organization
- More strong staff

VIRTUAL SERVICES

- More training for use of virtual services

OUTREACH

- Show up at the Senior Expo on Aug 13, 2015
- Show up at the YMCA Board meetings
- Support bus services between the library and all Forest Lake schools and the senior center
- Provide transportation services to the library for those unable to drive to the library
- More senior outreach

LOCATION

- Would be great to resolve Lake Elmo situation. It would be a bad precedent to allow them to become an associate branch.

OTHER

- Increased support of volunteer groups such as AARP Tax Aide – room and technology