

Margaret E. Heggan Library Policy

5/18/16

Revised: 12/13/17

4.1 Reservation of Meeting Room

The Library Board welcomes non-profit organizations, community organizations, and government agencies engaged in educational, cultural, intellectual, or charitable activities to utilize the Library Meeting Rooms, as available. The library meeting rooms may not be used for commercial activities, by for-profit groups, or for personal functions. Use of the Library Meeting Rooms does not constitute Library endorsement of any policies or beliefs of any individual, group, or organization which uses rooms in the Library. Those who do not comply with the Library's policies will be asked to leave the premises.

Conducting Private/Commercial Business on Public Library Premises

The Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library and its public areas are maintained to serve residents who visit to read and borrow library materials, attend Library cultural and educational programs, conduct research with support from Library staff, and utilize library resources and technologies. Students of all ages are encouraged to study quietly. It is critical to the Library's mission that community residents are able to enjoy undisturbed use of Library public areas. Public areas are not available for private business transactions or meetings. The Library cannot be used as a temporary or permanent office for anyone not formally authorized as a current Library employee or volunteer. The Library cannot be used for the solicitation or sale of goods or services.

Permitted Activities

1. The Library's peaceful environment and cultural and educational activities remain of primary importance.
2. The Library permits use of selected Library Rooms and Areas, provided that:
 - a. The Rooms/Areas are not needed for Library programs, and that
 - b. Access to the Library facility and its services will be undisturbed.
3. The Library does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political ideology, creed, ancestry or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, in choosing to make its premises available.
4. Each sponsoring organization is responsible for providing needed ADA accommodations, e.g. special assistive technologies, which are not readily available as a service of the Library.
5. To lessen outside noise, groups shall keep doors closed while their programs are in progress.

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Limitations

1. Use of Library Meeting Rooms is controlled under the authority of the Library Board of Trustees. The Board reserves the right to permit or deny any usage and may limit an Event's frequency, duration or attendance, in the interest of the Library.
2. The Library reserves the right to cancel or relocate any scheduled meeting, if circumstances warrant.
3. The Library may limit or deny usage for groups larger than 121 people due to the space limitations of the meeting rooms.
4. The Library follows Township of Washington Policy in denying the right of any group to hold demonstrations, rallies or do any political fundraising on Washington Township public property or in Washington Township public buildings.
5. The Library does not permit outside groups to stage any "high-profile" media events, e.g. those which may attract news vans & cameras to the Library building and/or parking lot; such events disturb Library access and environment.
6. The Library may terminate any usage if conduct of any member or guest is disruptive or potentially harmful to any Library visitors or staff, or to the Library facility or to Library property.
7. Storage of goods cannot be accommodated.
8. Any infraction of these guidelines may result in the loss of Library Room use privileges.
9. Written Appeals regarding usage issues will be reviewed by the Library Board of Trustees; their decision will be final.

Liability

1. The Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library, Township of Washington, their agents and employees shall not be held responsible for any personal injury or personal property loss or damage, which may result during or due to Library use by a non-Library group.
2. The Library reserves the right to review details of each proposed Event, including but not limited to such aspects as Event safety, security and management, and may amend or deny any proposed use.

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Publicity for Private Events at the Library

1. Proposed print advertisements or invitations, or related online publicity, must be submitted in advance to the Library for approval.
2. Publicity for events may not imply Library sponsorship.
3. Any publicity (print, online, other) which lists the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library name and/or address, must also include the following **easily visible disclaimer: This Event Is Not Sponsored by the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library.**
4. Publicity must include the organization's own contact information, and may not include Library telephone numbers.

Conduct & Supervision

1. Please read the Safety Announcement (Page 5) at your event.
2. Conduct of meetings and events must be respectable and well governed.
3. All groups are expected to leave the room as clean and as they found it.
4. Chairs and tables are provided by the library. Set-up and break-down of tables, chairs, and equipment is the responsibility of the group/organization. The library meeting room can accommodate a maximum of 121 chairs only or 56 tables and chairs when the full space is reserved. When reserving the left side of the meeting room (side with closet and emergency exit door), the space can accommodate 80 chairs only or 37 tables and chairs. When reserving the right side of the meeting room (at end of entrance hallway), the space can accommodate 41 chairs only or 19 tables and chairs.
5. Prohibited at all times: Excessive noise, use of hazardous or illegal materials, and smoking.
6. Food and beverages are permitted, but must be supplied, set-up, and cleaned up by the organization.
7. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted, unless by special advance exception by both the Library Board and Township Mayor and Council.
8. Groups/individuals are responsible for any damages to the Library facility, and agree to pay costs for any extra cleaning or repairs necessary after their Event, through a maintenance fee.

Failure to abide by these rules may result in cancellation and/or denial of future reservations.

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Children's/Young Adult Events

1. Youth Events (with attendees under 18 years old) must have an adult sponsor complete and sign the application.
2. During Youth Events, at least one (1) adult supervisor for every 15 children must be present in the room at all times.

Guest Capacity/ Maximum Seating per event/ individual meeting:

Full Meeting Room:	Maximum Capacity = 121 people/maximum seating = 121 people
Left Half Meeting Room:	Maximum Capacity = 80 people/maximum seating = 80 people
Right Half Meeting Room:	Maximum Capacity = 41 people/maximum seating = 41 people

Hours

Meetings and events may be scheduled between these hours:

Monday-Thursday	10 AM - 8:30 PM
Friday	10 AM – 4:30 PM
Saturday	10 AM - 4:30 PM
Sunday	1 PM - 4:30 PM

Reservations

1. Library rooms may be scheduled up to 60 days in advance. Reservations are limited to once every 30 days by any one organization.
2. Reservations will be considered upon receipt of the completed application, then approved based on Library criteria and schedule and confirmed, according to date and time submitted (first-come, first-serve basis).
3. The Library requests notification of cancellations at least 5 days before the scheduled reservation.
4. Non-Profit Organizations must provide proof of current non-profit status. Documentation of non-profit status must be resubmitted every three years.

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SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT—REQUIRED BY LAW

Please read this message to the occupants of each event held in the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library Meeting Room prior to your program start.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the interest of safety I would ask you to note the position of and access to exits from this room.

Meeting Room: Point out the two (2) exits

In the event of an emergency please walk quickly to the nearest exit and make your way outside. Follow the red Fire Exit signs and the instructions of staff members.

Do not delay and do not re-enter the Library unless you are advised that it is safe to do so. Now please enjoy yourself in comfort and in safety. *Thankyou!*

LIBRARY SPACE USAGE CHECKLIST

Please read all Guidelines for Use of Library Space

- Complete the **APPLICATION FOR USAGE OF LIBRARY SPACE**.
- Complete the **HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT** Form.
- Deliver, mail, or email completed Usage Application and Hold Harmless Agreement to:

Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library
606 Delsea Drive
Sewell, NJ 08080

OR

meetingroom@hegganlibrary.org

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HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

Between the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library and
(Name of Organization using facility)

Address:

Telephone Number:

Type of Organization:

- Washington Township Government
- Washington Township Public School
- Non-Profit Organization

In consideration of the use of the Library Meeting Room on the following date, _____, for the purpose of _____, the undersigned agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and provide a defense to the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library and the Township of Washington and their officers, agents and employees from any and all liability, claims, costs, and/or attorney's fees arising out of the use of the property referred to above.

We understand that this Hold Harmless Agreement also requires that the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library and the Township of Washington be indemnified from and defended against any losses or damages resulting from the acts or omissions from any guest, participant, visitor or other person attending the event referred to herein. In order to induce the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library and the Township of Washington to accept this Hold Harmless Agreement, the following information concerning the intended use of the premises is furnished on the Application for Use of Library Space.

The person signing the Agreement on behalf of the named organization has the authority to do so as set forth on the attached special meeting of the organization so designating.

This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for any continued, additional or postponed date for the event indicated.

The Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library reserves the right to cancel or interrupt the event if the representations set forth in the original Application are not satisfied, found to be inaccurate, or are not adhered to, or if the Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library or the Township of Washington determines that the event may lead to a circumstance or situation that would result in personal injury, property damage or violation of law.

Signed the _____ day of _____, 20____ as the binding act in deed of

(Name of organization using facility)

Authorized Signature: _____

Print Authorized Name and Title:

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FOR STAFF USE ONLY
Date Received: _____
By: _____

Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library
Application for Usage of Library Space

Before completing this form, please read attached Library Usage Guidelines and complete all requested information. Due to scheduling constraints and Library operations, it is important that you reserve enough time for **all** aspects of your event.

Please indicate Room Size: Full Meeting Room Left Half Room Right Half Room

Program Date: _____ Day of Week: _____

Event Actual Start Time: AM PM Actual End Time: AM PM

Arrival Time for Set-up: _____ Departure Time After Take-Down: _____

Purpose/Type of Program: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: Day – _____ Night – _____

E-mail: _____

Estimate # of Attendees: _____ Open to the Public: Yes No

Admittance Charge: Yes No Please Specify Amount: \$ _____

For Children’s Programs (Under 18): Age Range: _____ Number of Supervising Adults: _____

Refreshments: Yes No

Please Describe: _____

If requested use is granted, we hereby agree to comply strictly with the Library’s Usage Guidelines. We acknowledge receipt and understanding of the guidelines put forth in the Policy for Usage of Meeting Rooms.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Authorization to use the Library’s Meeting Room Facilities does not imply Library endorsement, approval or sponsorship to any individual, group or activity.

Completed forms and/or questions regarding the meeting room can be emailed to: meetingroom@hegganlibrary.org