POMFRET LBOT SEPA HEARING AND MEETING 06/23/2020

Hi this is ginger Lusa, we are calling the public hearing on the SEPA compliant Internet safety policy to order at seven o'clock.

20:31

So, I'm going to turn it over to Laurie bell to talk about that policy. Okay, this is Laurie Bell speaking library director at Pomfret Public Library thank you all of us, for joining us at this public hearing. I'm going to present first a little bit of background information regarding the policy, then I will read through the policy as drafted, and then we'll follow that with any public comments learns about the policy background is that the connected State Library offers grants that covering the hardware and installation cost of fiber internet for Connecticut, public libraries excepted that grant in September of 2019. As part of the process we began an application for erase, which is a federal program that subsidizes internet provision to schools and libraries profit will be receiving a 60% discount on our fiber maintenance and operations, through a rate.

21:28

When you accept earache funds for Internet service. The library must comply with the children's internet Protection Act, or SEPA failed referring to as SEPA throughout the rest of the presentation

21:42

by complying that we have to comply with SEPA, we have to use a technology protection measure IE, a filter on all of our library computers. We have to have a written Internet safety policy, and we have to have a public hearing concerning said policy which is what this hearing is this evening.

22:02

And we to write our library policy, we use information that was available through the Connecticut State Library website and we looked at sample policies and and wrote one that would meet the requirements of sefa for profit Public Library.

22:20

I'll now be reading through our computer use and Internet safety policy. The first section is an in an introduction in fulfilling its mission to provide informational educational and cultural enrichment for the profit community offer Public Library

offers free computer and Internet access to all library patrons. The internet is a global and unregulated Information Network. As such, it allows patrons to access information and images, beyond the scope of the library selection criterion, and collection development policies. The library cannot control the information accessible through the internet and is not responsible for its content. The next section of the policy is about computer use. This is our existing computer use policy that we have been using for several years and it deals more with the computers themselves and not with general Internet safety. The library provides computers for Internet access sessions are not typically timed but may be limited to one half hour if there are other patrons waiting wireless internet is provided for us with personal laptops and other devices patrons may not alter any hardware or software configurations of library computers or download files of any type to the hard drive. The library is not responsible for accuracy of information received, or security of private information such

as credit card information. The library assumes no responsibility for loss of data, or for damages sustained by any patron connecting their own flash drives or devices to a library computer, or any liability that may occur from making use the computer or the library's network.

24:03

Parents are expected to supervise their child's internet and computer use see below the computers may not be used for anything illegal unethical or inappropriate, including misrepresentation of identity copyright or internet property violations or the viewing of pornography.

24:21

The next section of the policy is about Internet safety has the language that is needed to be in compliance with inappropriate network usage, to the extent practical steps will be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the library's network when using the internet, including electronic mail chat rooms, instant messaging and other forms of direct electronic communications, specifically as required by the children's internet Protection Act inappropriate network usage includes a unauthorized access, including so called hacking and other unlawful activities. Be unauthorized disclosure use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors. See, dissemination and viewing of

obscene visual depictions child pornography and or other materials harmful to minors. Pursuant to 47 USC section 25487 D definition of harmful to minors.

25:18

Internet filtering in compliance with the children's internet Protection Act SEPA publication, l 106554 and 47 USC 2548. The library filters, all access to the internet through its network and or computers to protect against access to obscene visual depictions child pornography and or other material harmful to minors, as required by law. The term obscene as defined by 18 USC section 1460. The term child pornography is defined in 18 USC section 2256, the term harmful to minors as defined in 47 USC section 254 870, the filter may unintentionally block sites that have legitimate research value and fail to block objectionable content library patrons shouldn't be aware the internet filtering software installed for SEPA compliance did not substitute for individual judgment and or parental involvement and oversight library staff will disable filtered internet access to persons 18 or older who requested for any lawful purpose filters will not be disabled, on the public computers in the children's department.

26:28

Education supervision and monitoring the library affirms and acknowledges the rights and responsibilities of parents and caregivers to monitor and determine their children's access to library materials and resources, including those available through the internet, parents or caregivers are responsible for the intranet information selected and or accessed by their children, and are encouraged to discuss the use of the Internet in relation to boundaries, including the sharing of personal information and images with their children and teens to monitor their children's use of the Internet to assist parents, children and other library patrons the library will provide Internet safety resources, such as those below. And then there's a URL for justice.gov coronavirus backslash keeping children safe online. Stop bullying.gov backslash cyber bullying backslash What is it, and Internet safety 101 dot org. This concludes the reading of the policy.

27:27

So this policy. Once approved by the Board of Trustees will be posted on the profit Public Library website. The website will also have links to Internet safety resources, and we will have a printed brochure regarding general Internet safety available here in the library. The actual filter that will be. We will be using is provided by the Connecticut Education Network. The filter is actually on the line, providing internet to the library, not installed on

the computers themselves.

28:02

That concludes my presentation of the OSI.

28:08

Great, thank you. Laurie. This is ginger again. Does anybody have any questions, either from the board or from our public participant

28:20

wakeful in and would love to comment as a citizen or other citizen as Welcome to go first if she has anything to say.

28:32

She muted. Yes, she's muted. Yeah. Thank you.

28:38

I was just so this is again playful and and commenting right now as a citizen. I was just curious as to whether you planned on posting the policy or the highlights in the library itself with this specific.

28:52

Definitely Internet safety brochure.

28:57

Like a flyer or poster that would be maybe on a wall, your computers. Exactly.

29:07

I'm open to that I wasn't necessarily planning to get I think because there really has never been an issue here at the library that I'm aware of, and the other the other, the other measure we do you take the library is that all of the computers are very close to the circulation desk, and anybody who walking past and see what you're doing and I think that that does also deter people from inappropriate use.

29:43

But I think if it ever did seem like it was becoming an issue then definitely we would be open to putting something that it was right there next to the computers, you have any thoughts on that Tim as far as, as far as our responsibility, beyond having it on the website to have the policy visible on this is Tim delaine, um, I mean it wouldn't hurt. I don't know if sefa requires it or not, but certainly even a flyer next to the computers. You know, like a fix to the table the computer is on at the desk the computers on, you know, maybe you own a plastic suitcase or something.

30:31

I would think that would do the trick although I don't know that you have to do it as long as it's posted online, like the current policy is believe it's on the town website under library policies under the, you know, the Library link.

30:53

So I would think that would be sufficient. But, if you want to put a flyer I don't you know the policy I don't see a problem.

31:04

Way cool and and thank you both for your feedback and insight, that's all.

31:09

This is gender. Thank you, Blake for that question. I do think it's an interesting one in case somebody isn't familiar with the policy and hasn't gone, you know, to the town page to look it up it's, it's not a bad idea to have the expectations, right there to refer to.

31:28

So definitely something for us to consider.

31:33

Sally, you have a question, Sally Rogers, I.

31:37

The only question I have about it is if it's not a problem. Having a two page in small print paper up there. I'm not sure that I've said I'm not sure that it's all that useful either.

It ends up being more paper up there I mean, maybe, maybe if you just said something that said, you know, our SEPA policy or, you know, our internet policy is available if you're interested at the front desk something like that because, I mean, to eight and a half by 11 pieces of paper stuck on the wall next to our computers. Number one, most 99.9% of people aren't going to read it. And if somebody really wants to know about it.

32:20

They can ask about it. And that is available. So I myself just not keen on posting posting problems when they aren't one.

32:33

This is Tim delaine that that makes sense to I mean, people. Classically don't read things that say read this, but other things.

32:44

I know that in some states insurance policies have to be printed in a certain size font, or any objection to it may not be buying or any dress to like go through against the insurance company's screens.

33:02

But I don't know if that's true, publicly displayed documents. I really wouldn't know not saying it from a legal standpoint but this human nature, I suppose.

33:18

It might be a little index card, saying, we're obligated by the library policy. And you can see that if you ask something like that, the tray.

33:30

And maybe on the card sort of a dignified version of behavior self.

33:40

This is ginger, it looks like Silvia is raising her hand.

33:44

Silvia Danner if there's some clever way we can just have a little sign. What, what putting the list of information there would is for is to keep people keep it in their, in their, the front of their mind that this is not the place for that kind of thing. So, can you just have a little three by five card that says keep it clean. So that's something to remind them that this is in fact a place where that is not appropriate.

34:18

This is, this is Laurie responding and I, you know, again it would be correcting people before mistake has been before it has become an issue. I don't know if that's if it's necessary to post people telling us something like not to do something that no one does it best of my knowledge has done.

34:43

But I. The thing that's coming to my mind is a possible good solution. Did that if we have a printed brochure that is just in general about Internet safety to maybe, including on that brochure.

34:57

Something about the library being in compliance with children's internet Protection Act, and to find the details of that policy online and have the URL there.

35:08

That makes a lot of sense. With the bigger. This is ginger. Yeah, I think that makes a lot of sense too and I'm going to bring it back to the actual policy for a minute and does anybody have any questions about what was in the policy or are we ready to close that public hearing part and move into our board meeting.

35:31

I'm sorry it's Lisa del terrio I do have a question now that it was raised and thank you, Tim for putting or shining the light this way, but from an insurance perspective, what liability does the library or the town actually have if someone misuses those resources unknowingly or without knowing what the actual policy is.

36:02

This is gender, that's a good question. Laurie is that's part of the policy.

It's Lisa again it's spelled it in the policy but if someone walks in off the street and they haven't seen your website and they aren't aware that this policy is in place. Uh huh. Does that allow them some.

Right, no I hear what you're saying. Yes. Does that allow them some deniability.

This is the old saw ignorance of the law is no excuse. Although how legally binding that is I don't know, but there is a, there are a couple of disclaimers in the policy on as to security private information, and at the last clause of the fifth point under computer use.

Since the library assumes no responsibility for loss of data so on and so forth. In the last clauses and for any liability that may occur from patron uses the computer or the library's

network.

So, yeah, this is ginger again and I think that Lisa's point is that if someone hasn't read that policy, um, you know, then they, they don't know that they haven't read that so we might want to think as a board, and maybe come back to it but think as a board about if we want to post something what we think that that should say or make available as Laurie said, in some kind of a little pamphlet or at the library's desk, but maybe some reference, you know, to the expectations is something we could consider doing.

Thank you.

This is, this is Laurie. One thing I'm thinking is that we may want to post something letting people know that their computers are filtered for SEPA compliance, and that they can request the filter turned off for any lawful purpose that sort of that sort of

raises the, you know, for any lawful purpose, and ideally, because of the filter someone would not be able to come in and use the library computers for unlawful purposes.

38:29

But there may still be something that would say this was sorry. This is Tim Delaney, I know that they're back, years ago, there were instances of filters, stopping people from say looking up a picture of Michelangelo's statue of David, or you know The Birth of Venus or anything along those lines anything innocent like that but it would fall under the filters so some of the things in the filter, of course, but it's probably important to let people know that, say if they're doing legitimate research

39:13

that you know there there is a way to do that, it's open to them if they're an adult.

39:24

Yes, I guess I agree, I think it's something that we should definitely consider our wording on Sally are you raising your hand. Yeah, the Sally Rogers I agree with Tim, I think that's more important that piece of information that you can have the filter turned off as is more important to our library than, then, then, you know, raising the red flag that it's there.

39:47

I for one have been in many schools where they've been real strong filters on the, on the computers and I've been trying to do research on slugs for example and you can't couldn't get into certain websites because they were filtered out and yet they would have been very useful. So, particularly for somebody who's doing legitimate research I think we need to let people know that there is a filter on and that it can be turned off with that. I think that's important.

40:19

Okay, this is ginger again, I think, unless anybody has something to add. We've probably covered the public hearing portion of our meeting.

40:36

Everybody thumbs up if you're feeling comfortable with. Yes. Okay.

40:43

Fine, I didn't. This is Tim, you know wasn't saying anything from a legal standpoint because I can't yeah of course yes we're not holding you to a legal opinion.

40:53

No, average citizen basis so to speak.

40:59

Yes, this is ginger and we are not holding you to a legal opinion. Oh no.

41:06

Yeah no good. No. All right, then I think we're going to close the public hearing, and we're going to stay in this meeting for our pretty brief. Next part of our agenda. So we are closing the public hearing at 721.

41:25

Thanks for everybody's comments. And we're going to go into our.

41:32

It's our regular meeting although we met three weeks ago so our agenda is very short.

41:39

And I think we've probably pretty much taken care of the new business item on the agenda with this whole conversation so I'm going to call the regular meeting to order at 722.

41:56

And the first thing up is the Treasurer's Report so Blake Are you able to share that we pull in is sharing the Treasurer's Report.

42:08

Give me just a second here please and I should be able to rotate this There we go. Good. so we don't have to tilt our computers.

42:22

Excellent. There you go.

42:26

This is Laurie Bell speaking this Cartier our Treasurer is not able to be at this meeting.

42:33

So I will just say briefly that this budget looks pretty much on unknown on track.

42:42

The budget period is from is through the end of the month, but we have not yet reached the end of the month so the June payroll is not reflected on here and some supply order that I did, and book purchases for the month of June, are not yet reflected so I think once those things are are added in that we will come out pretty, pretty close to our goal for the year.

43:12

Thank you, Laurie This is ginger does anybody have any questions or comments on this budget.

43:19

I know we looked at it a few weeks ago so.

43:23

Not sure if anybody has any

43:28

questions.

43:32

Personally my old eyes are struggling a little bit to read the numbers.

43:40

A big Can you make that weak point and is able This is the size. Okay, that's great. Thank you.

Sorry. No, that's okay.

Yeah, this is Dave, I don't seem to be able to see what lake is sharing he just says that he is sharing screen but I don't see what you're sharing my the only one that problem.

I can, I this is ginger I can see it.

That's strange mustering I apologize, let me see if I spotlight myself I'll be able to

still nothing.

No just has the text, Blake lannon has started screen sharing but I don't actually see.

Well now I see you do.

Every one of you that.

Well, I'm not sharing my screen now am I know,

get by, so I just put mine back up. Yeah, I don't know what's going on.

That's all right.

Okay. Trust Laurie. I did also email this to everyone.

Yeah. My feeling is that it looks very similar to the budget that we looked at a few weeks ago, I'm sure there are some small adjustments, but I think given sorry this is ginger. I think given Laurie's explanation, it, it makes sense that there's still some money in the budget balance, and that we'll expect to see that gone in the next week or so.

This is ginger, are there any other comments or should we move on from the Treasurer's Report.

Do we need to accept this move to accept it or anything of that sort. I don't feel like we've ever really voted on it before. Okay. But,

cuz it is what it is like we don't really have a choice not to accept it. I'm sorry.

All right then, um, the only other thing on our agenda is a librarians report which, again, probably not a lot to add, since we met a few weeks ago. So, this is Laurie Bell library

director I have just a couple things add that I'm just letting everyone know that the library is still on schedule for phase two of reopening on Tuesday June 30. There'll be special discussing protocols the children's room will be open by appointment. And we have decided to continue providing curbside service for anyone who might prefer that.

And at this point, as of today all of the library staff are resuming their usual working hours. And I have just started talking to people to schedule a couple of summer events they will be groups of having no more than 10 and meeting outside on the deck.

Talking to Christine Kyle office about doing a Storytelling Workshop, and I've been talking to Nora Robbins about doing an art, an art workshop.

That's adult programs and then we have our summer reading program that we have been working on for a while now, and when it seems appropriate I think Heather will probably have a couple of programs also outside the deck for small groups.

And

that's all I could think of to add since it's been only a couple of weeks since we talk but if anyone has any questions about anything here.

How does the curbside pickup business increased started.

Yeah, it's been kind of steady, you know, what's interesting is that it follows very much our usual cycle of being quiet on Wednesday and busier on Thursday and Thursday and and you know it's obviously not as many people as come in on the library's just open for business, because there's extra effort involved in in using it but um, people have been using have been appreciative and some may still just prefer to pick up. We have been talking about what services we've been providing that we will continue going forward. The book valet service has been fun for half in patrons have been enjoying that too so continue with that. That's where the patrons give us a list of books they've

enjoyed, and we use that list, as the springboard to pick out some more books for them, and then send them a list of recommended titles.

49:19

That's been fun.

49:25

This is ginger That sounds great Laurie. Um. Does anybody else have anything to add before we adjourn.

49:34

We have to accept the policy first. Oh, I forgot. Sorry.

49:40

That would be bad. Thank you, Sally Rogers for that reminder we had so much conversation about it.

49:47

Okay, so let's move on to new business, which is our SEPA compliant Internet safety policy.

49:54

We have a lot of discussion about it during our public hearing. Does somebody want to make a motion to accept that policy and move the Sally Rogers I move that we accept

that policy, the super policy.

50:09

Great, so we could do now or I can, I second.

50:13

Okay. All in favor, we have a bit of discussion, Tim. This is Laurie Bell Tim earlier did send me a note, just about a stray quotation marks. So the final version will have that quotation mark removed.

50:32

This is gender Thank you, Laurie for that. Okay, so we, so it will accurate. So the motion will Sally, can you restate that motion with the correction.

50:46

I move to accept the SEPA compliant Internet safety policy with the correction of a removed quotation mark.

50:56

And second, Silvia. Second.

51:00

Okay. All in favor. Aye. Aye. Aye. Any opposed.

51:09

Motion carries. We have a policy. Good job. Thank you to the board members that contributed to that. Thank you to Blake for hosting us. Thank you to our public citizen well to public citizens, for coming and asking questions and voicing suggestions.

51:32

I, our next meeting is not until September 22.

51:37

So, I hope everybody has a great summer, and I'm going to adjourn the meeting at 732, that might be a record for us move to adjourn it.

51:51

Do we have to move to adjourn it, we'd have to go rusty after I am rusty after this whole move to adjourn the

second. I'll second it. Okay. All in favor a journey. Aye. Aye. Aye. All right. We are out at 730 to enjoy you, everyone. Thanks for joining.