Meeting and Study Rooms Policy

Meeting room space is provided in the Jeanne Marie Gaulke Community Meeting Room and study rooms of the Hood River Library in order to promote the Hood River County Library District’s mission to provide access to the power of information and imagination.

Purpose and Scope of the Meeting Room
Meeting room space is reserved primarily for District, Friends of the Library, and Library Foundation activities.

Nonprofit, civic, and community organizations or government entities may use meeting room space without charge for non-commercial uses such as meetings, lectures, or similar activities whenever a conflict does not exist with District or affiliate group activities. Such events must be open to the general public to be eligible for free use of the Meeting Room.

Organizations or individuals may use the Meeting Room for commercial activities or private events - which include selling products or services, fundraising, events where a fee is charged, private parties, or depositions - for $20 per hour, billable in hour increments. The maximum daily cost for using the Meeting Room shall be $160.

Businesses and commercial organizations may use the Meeting Room without charge for educational and informational purposes or for staff meetings and trainings at the discretion of the Library Director.

Meeting Room use does not constitute District endorsement of the beliefs or ideas expressed by users of the space. Events will not be publicized in a manner suggesting library sponsorship or affiliation. The District's name, address, email, or phone number may not be used as the contact information for any event except those sponsored by the District or affiliate groups.

Rules on using the Meeting Room
The Jeanne Marie Gaulke Community Meeting Room is considered a limited public forum and thus is open to all legal content and viewpoints, with the restrictions noted in this policy.

Space is available to the public on a first-come, first-served basis and may be reserved up to six months in advance. In order to allow maximum access to the room, regular weekly bookings are only allowed at the sole discretion of District Staff, taking into account the requested duration of the booking and the foreseeable availability of the room.

Event organizers are responsible for abiding by the terms of this policy, other District policies, any accompanying rules of use, and local, state, and federal laws. Violation of these terms may result in denial of future access to the space per the Library Use Restrictions Policy.

An event organizer wishing to book the room must be a responsible adult over age
seventeen. This person shall assume full responsibility for any injury or damage to District property, building, furnishings, artwork, or equipment that results from the group’s use of the facility. When an event includes people younger than age eighteen, the following number of adults are required for each age group of children, per Oregon regulations regarding childcare:

Ages 0-2: 1 adult per 4 children  
Age 2: 1 adult per 5 children  
Ages 3-4: 1 adult per 10 children  
Ages 5-17: 1 adult per 15 children

People attending events must make their own provisions for childcare and supervision. Ensure children under age 10 be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible caregiver 14 or older. Children 5 and under must always be in close proximity and within sight of the person responsible for their safety.

Users are responsible for setting up chairs or tables. Furniture may not be moved from one room to another without staff approval. All furniture and equipment must be returned to their original locations.

Materials are not to be attached to walls, windows, doors, or furnishings except at the direction of Library Director or designee. Activities which the Library Director determines would adversely impact the facility or furnishings will not be allowed.

Meeting Room users may put up directional signs slightly before and during the event to direct people to it. However, library staff may remove the signs if they interfere with regular District operations or imply District sponsorship. Such signs must be removed promptly after the event is finished.

The District does not assume liability for personal injuries, nor does it assume liability for damage or theft of personal property which occur as a result of the actions of the organizers or participants in events scheduled in District facilities.

Do no possess, sell, distribute or consume any alcoholic beverage, except as a participant at a library event for which alcohol use has been pre-approved.

Unauthorized reproduction or public display of any material in the Meeting Room is prohibited if it is not covered by a public performance license for the District or the event organizer or for which a written waiver of the applicable rights has not first been obtained.

The Meeting Room is open for use at any time. However, certain after-hours usage may require additional approval by the Library Director or designee. When not scheduled, anyone may use the Meeting Room on a first-come, first-served basis, but priority is given to groups over individuals.

Maximum room capacity is 49 people, including organizers/presenters. Meeting organizers are responsible for crowd control. Meetings must be confined to the Jeanne Marie Gaulke Community Meeting Room. Programs must not interfere with District operations.

**Use of Study Rooms**
The District provides the Kimber and Parker rooms in the Hood River Library as study rooms for public use. They can be used on a first-come, first-served; the District does not take reservations for study rooms. Daily use is limited to two hours. A maximum of five people may use a room at one time.

Exceptions to these policies and rules are at the discretion of the Library Director.

Approved by the Board of Directors: July 12, 2011
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