

Even though we looked at the Public Meeting Space Policy back in February, things are never static in library land! Our policy was intentionally written in vague terms to hopefully accommodate multiple room types and future possibilities. The current policy is, however somewhat Coldwater-centric and doesn't really address the notion of different sized spaces or virtual options. Increasing usage of the Quiet Pod at the Bronson Branch is leading us to seek some changes to make things more clear to future users.

With summer schedules, we weren't able to have a meeting or email exchange with the Public Services Committee before it was time to get the packet out, so hopefully you won't mind hashing this out at the meeting in Bronson on Monday.

To get the ball rolling, I have a proposed change below. Additions in yellow, deletions show with strikethrough.

The Branch District Library (BDL) provides in-person and virtual public meeting space, when available, for use by individuals and non-profit groups and clubs. Public meeting space is not available for commercial interests such as insurance agents, for-profit tutors, attorneys, or salespeople to meet with clients. Fees may not be charged for attendance.

~~Groups~~ Those wishing to use the meeting ~~room~~ space should check with BDL library staff or the BDL website to make a reservation. In the event of a conflict, BDL- library-sponsored uses will take precedence. Reservations may be made no more than 3 months in advance. Recurring reservations are not permitted. Individuals may reserve the meeting ~~room~~ space for no more than 2 hours per day.

Different meeting spaces have different capacity limits due to size, fire code, or technological limitations. The maximum capacity of each space will be communicated on the online reservation form or by BDL staff and may not be exceeded.

The BDL Code of Conduct Policy remains in effect for any use of public meeting space, whether in person or virtual.

Fines, including but not limited to cleanup costs, may be assessed if there is any damage the meeting space or library equipment.

Some additional things to consider: Do we still want to limit use by for-profit entities? Should we have an age requirement to make a reservation? Do we want to continue to offer the virtual meeting space option?

Submitted by John Rucker