**Demographics**

Worcester Schenevus Library is located at 170 Main Street in Worcester, NY, in Otsego County. The library serves the residents of Worcester, Schenevus, Decatur, Maryland and Westford.

As of 2019 the populations of these places was: Worcester - 2109, Schenevus - 551, Decatur - 336, Maryland - 1812, Westford - 825.

**Library History**

The Worcester Free Library was chartered in 1909.At first, the library was housed in one room of the Historical Society. In 1910, Helen Wilder Wieting financed the construction of the Wieting Theater, which allocated a small room for the library. In 2013, the library purchased 170 Main Street, using an award from a New York State Construction grant. The building was renovated and it became the library’s new home in 2014.

**The Library Today**

The library is governed by a seven member board. We receive funding from the Worcester and Schenevus school districts. The Friends of the Library run a used bookshop, located next door to the library, at 168 Main Street, Worcester, NY.

Currently the library has three part time employees, plus several active volunteers.

The library is open 33 hours per week.

It offers the public books, magazines, DVDs, and audiobooks. It also provides access to wireless internet and computers.

**Collections / Circulation**

Books 8880

Ebooks 9354

DVDs 1506

Audiobooks 339

Circulation of physical items in 2021 was 5779

Interlibrary loans in 2021 totalled 4337 .

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Worcester Free Library is to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, and strengthen our communities. The Library’s target population includes schools and families in the Towns of Worcester, Maryland, Decatur, and Westford.

**Survey**

In the spring of 2022, the library conducted a survey, in order to measure which potential programs would be best received by our patrons. Respondents indicated that they would like to see History Talks, Storytime, Paint ‘n’ Sips, and Piano Lessons take place at the library in the future.

**Goals**

Each goal will be re-evaluated yearly and appropriately amended.

1. To maintain and improve the facility and provide functional and welcoming spaces for community meetings and individual study.

To meet this goal, the physical plant will be assessed yearly and a list of critical projects will be created. In addition, there will be a yearly audit of furniture, fixtures and equipment. Public and staff spaces will be redesigned in response to evolving needs. A potential outcome is increased usage of the library as a workspace.

1. To offer a range of programs that encourage creativity and foster community

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The library will produce programs that fit our mission and reflect the interests of our patrons, as expressed in the 2022 survey. In the near future, we intend to host an early literacy program that promotes vocabulary acquisition, phonological awareness and letter knowledge. We will also schedule a plethora of creative events. A possible outcome is increased program attendance.

1. To curate dynamic collections in response to public demand

To better understand our patrons’ needs, usage reports were created.The reports showed that our patrons prefer fiction to non-fiction. They also take out a surprising number of DVDs. With regards to interlibrary loans, the majority of books borrowed were either current bestsellers or children’s picture books. Based on usage, the library will purchase more fiction (especially bestsellers), DVDs and children’s picture books. A possible outcome is increased circulation and customer satisfaction.

1. To increase awareness of the library’s services through outreach
2. To improve the skills and increase the knowledge of staff members