Connecting Locally

New Jersey Public Library Directors' Summit New Jersey State Library and LibraryLinkNJ October 24, 2017, East Windsor, NJ

Presentation by: Susan Quinn, Library Director
Ocean County Library
Toms River, NJ

Advice for New Library Directors: Finance



Ocean County Library Finance 2016

County Dedicated Tax: \$35.4 million

Salaries & Wages: \$16.5 million

Fringe Benefits: \$9.5 million

Collection: \$3.5 million

Technology: \$1.3 million

Programs: 148,000

Advice for New Library Directors: Finance



Ocean County Library Finance 2016: The Services

Registered Borrowers: 238,889

Collection Size: 1.3 Million

Circulation: 4.2 million

Number of Library Programs: 12,663

Program Attendance: 238,892

Visitor Count: 2.3 million

Reference Questions Answered: 1.2 million

Online Catalog Use: 1.3 million

Public Computer Use: 793,594

Meeting Room Use by the Public 2,936

Connecting Locally: Development



Development = Relational

Connecting Locally: Development



- Development is the building, over time, of a continuous, powerful and life-long connection between someone and your library.
- The development process includes extended research and cultivation, thorough education, and attentive planning and care.



- County Library Director reports to either:
 - Library Commission (Board of Directors)
 - County Administrator.
- County Library Directors will work with:
 - Library Board
 - Freeholders
 - County Administrators
 - Mayors and Council People
 - State Legislators
 - The Press

- Unions
- Friends of the Library
- Library Foundation
- Donors
- Community Partners
- Library Staff
- The Public!



Elected Board of Chosen Freeholders: Runs the Business of the County

- Elected by voters from <u>all</u> municipalities in the county.
- Work with residents and municipal elected officials (mayors, council members, etc.).
- Work with County Constitutional Officers who are elected by residents in all municipalities in the County: County Clerk, County Sheriff, and County Surrogate.
- Work with state elected officials who represent the County in the New Jersey State Senate and Assembly



Elected Board of Chosen Freeholders: Runs the Business of the County

- Each Freeholder serves as liaison to a county department and/or independent county agency.
 - An independent agency has its own governing board of directors.
- Appoint a County Administrator to lead the County's departments and day-to-day operations on a budget approved by the board of freeholders.
 - Atlantic, Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Mercer, have a separately elected county executive.



Elected Board of Chosen Freeholders: Runs the Business of the County

Examples of County Departments and Independent Agencies:

Buildings & Grounds
Business Development
& Tourism

Consumer Affairs

County College & Vo-Tech

Courthouse

Engineering Department

Finance

Health Department

Human Resources

Human Services

Information Technology

Jail

Library

Management & Budget

Parks and Recreation

Planning Department

Public Information

Public Safety

Roads Department

Senior Services

Social Services

Solid Waste Management

Veterans Services



- Get to know your County's Department Heads and Professional Staff!
- Remember, people like to work with people they know.
 - Get to know them on a first name basis.
 - Show them how the Library can partner with their departments to help the County provide excellent service to residents.



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Leslie Knope (Amy Poehler)



Tammy the Librarian (Megan Mullally)

"Pawnee's library department are the most diabolical, ruthless bunch of bureaucrats I've ever seen. They're like a biker gang, but instead of shotguns and crystal meth, they use political savvy and shushing."

--Leslie Knope, Director, Pawnee Parks & Recreation



- Always remain professional.
 - > Try to see their point of view.
 - Maybe they are just doing their job.
 - Maybe there is a good reason that they said "No."
- You don't have to like someone to work with someone effectively.



Most people will help you.



"I know you've heard it a thousand times before. But it's true--hard work pays off. If you want to be good, you have to practice, practice, practice. If you don't love something, then don't do it."

--Ray Bradbury

Advice for New Library Directors: Final Words

The End