

Request for Reconsideration Policy

As part of our commitment to access and intellectual freedom, the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library offers individuals of all ages many types of resources - including materials, programs, displays, and exhibits - on a broad spectrum of subjects, interests, and points of view. The Library upholds the right of the individual to access information, even though Library resources may be unpopular with some patrons.

An individual who is concerned about the appropriateness of Library resources, programs, exhibits or displays may choose to make a formal request for reconsideration of the resource in question provided they meet requirements of this policy.

Statement of Parental/Guardian Responsibility

The bulk of challenged resources in the United States are challenged on behalf of children. It is ultimately the responsibility of parents/guardians to guide and oversee the information consumption and Library activity of their children, and the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library will not intrude on that relationship. Library resources for youth are intended to broaden their vision, support recreational reading, encourage and facilitate literacy skills, supplement their educational needs, stimulate and widen their interests, lead to recognition and appreciation of media, and respectfully reflect the diversity of our world.

Eligibility

Library patrons requesting reconsideration of library resources must meet the following conditions:

- Be a resident of a municipality named in the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library Joint Library Agreement OR a non-librariated municipality of Vilas, Oneida, Price, Forest, or Iron Counties. Residents' taxes from these areas pay for the resources held by the Library; therefore, only residents may request that a resource be reconsidered.
- Be an established Walter E. Olson Memorial Library card holder.
- Have read/viewed/listened to the material, exhibit, or display in its entirety.
- Have reviewed in full the OML policies and ALA values statements referenced in the "Request for Reconsideration of Library Resources" form.
- Complete and submit a [Request for Reconsideration of Library Services form](#). Only completed forms will be eligible for review and a separate form must be submitted for each resource. The Library does not respond to anonymous phone calls, rumors, or voiced concerns to initiate the reconsideration process; however, alternative formats of the form will be made available upon reasonable request.

Individual resources will only be reviewed once every five years, unless substantial content changes have been made.

Review Process and Resolution

Reconsideration requests will be reviewed and responded to by the Library Director within 30 days of receipt. Resources in question will not be removed/cancelled during the reconsideration process.

If the person requesting reconsideration indicates dissatisfaction with the Director's decision, they may appeal to the Library Board by asking the Director to bring their request to the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. The Library Board will reconsider the decision based on whether or not the particular resource conforms to the criteria outlined in the appropriate policies.

Approved: March 20, 2024