

REED MEMORIAL LIBRARY LONG RANGE PLAN 2021-2026

Background Statement: The Reed Memorial Library has a long history in the Carmel Hamlet. Founded in 1881 as the Literary Union of Carmel, the library operated in various locations during its early years. In 1913 the present library was built by Arietta Crane Reed in memory of her husband William Belden Reed. In 2013 voters approved the establishment of The Reed Memorial Public Library District. The Library is governed by a board of seven elected trustees. The defined service area is the Town of Carmel not in the Mahopac School District. The district has a population of approximately 7,600.

This long range plan is directed by community input gathered through surveys distributed by direct mail, outreach to local civic groups, email requests and through the library's homepage.

This long range plan was written in the eighth month of the COVID-19 pandemic, in a time of great uncertainty about what the next five years will be like. The intent was to develop a long range plan that is responsive to the community's aspirations with enough flexibility to adapt to an uncertain landscape and be adjusted if necessary in response to changes in our environs.

Mission Statement: The Reed Memorial Library will provide the community with free access to cultural, informational, and recreational resources and learning opportunities in a warm, welcoming and historic environment.

Vision Statement: The Reed Memorial Library aspires to be a vibrant center of information and discovery uniting the community.

1.Goal: Foster a genuine sense of community. Inspire acceptance and tolerance in the community.

2.Goal: Provide recreational, cultural and educational opportunities for all ages: children, adolescents, young adults, adults and seniors.

3.Goal: Provide opportunities for families to learn, have fun, interact and contribute to our shared community.

4.Goal: Care for and maintain the library building.

Approved by the Board of Trustees: November 4, 2020