**SEYMOUR COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

**SUBJECT: Computer and Internet Use Policy SECTION: Patron Policies**

**BOARD APPROVED: 12/2021**

**POLICY**

**Purpose**

The Seymour Community Library (Sey-CL) endeavors to develop collections, resources and services that meet the cultural, informational, recreational and educational needs of the community. Sey-CL offers public access to the internet for the purposes of information gathering, research, and recreation consistent with the library’s mission and the ALA’s Library Bill of Rights.

Sey-CL is not responsible for the content available on the internet and assumes no responsibility for the use of information obtained this way.

**Responsibilities of the User**

Internet resources are accessible through Sey-CL and provided to all library users. Sey-CL does not act in place of or in the absence of the parent, and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions that a parent or guardian may place on a minor’s use of the internet. Parents and guardians are responsible for the internet information selected and/or accessed by their children.

Users may not:

• Use Sey-CL equipment and/or services, including any Sey-CL-furnished computers, networks or internet for illegal or criminal purposes, including:

o violating any local, state, or federal law; or

o violating U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code), which prohibits the unauthorized reproduction of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by the principles of “fair use.”

• Use Sey-CL equipment and/or services, including any Sey-CL-furnished computers, networks, or internet, to gain access to material that is deemed by applicable laws to be pornographic for minors or otherwise inappropriate for minors, if user is a minor. See Policy 2-657 Internet Safety.

• Use Sey-CL equipment and/or services, including any Sey-CL-furnished computers, networks or internet to:

o gain unauthorized access to Sey-CL’s or any other organization’s networks or computer systems.

o distribute unsolicited advertising.

o invade the privacy of others.

o engage in any activity that is harassing or defamatory.

o engage in any activity that disrupts the normal operations of the Sey-CL network.

o engage in any activity that causes a disturbance in a Sey-CL facility.

• Make any attempt to alter or damage Sey-CL computer hardware, software or cabling.

• Install software on Sey-CL’s computers.

• Copy software that is installed on Sey-CL’s computers.

Users agree to and must abide by current Acceptable Use policies of Sey-CL’s Internet Provider. Sey-CL has established Computer and Internet Use Guidelines and users agree to and must abide by these Guidelines.

Consistent with State and Federal laws, including but not limited to Sections 182.825, 182.827, 573.010, 573.037, 573.040 and 537.060 RSMo and 15 CSR 30-200.030:

1. Sey-CL may restrict minors’ access to materials deemed by applicable laws to be pornographic for minors or otherwise inappropriate for minors; and

2. Sey-CL may restrict other individuals’ access to materials which are illegal or which are being used, shared or displayed in an unlawful manner.

Computer monitors are publicly viewable, and when it reasonably appears to Sey-CL staff that usage is not allowed by this Policy, staff will act to restrict access. Furthermore, violation of this policy may result in loss of access to Sey-CL computers and/or other library privileges. Unlawful activities will be dealt with in an appropriate manner (see Policy 2-660 Code of Conduct).

**Internet Safety**

Individuals, especially minors, accessing the internet using Sey-CL computers are advised of the following:

1. All users should be aware of the dangers of unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

2. All users should exercise care in the use of email, social networking sites and other forms of direct electronic communications.

3. All users are responsible for closing all browser windows and logging out of all programs.

Sey-CL encourages responsible and informed use of internet resources by minors:

1. Parents must give permission for their minor children to use library computers with internet access by signing the child’s application for a library card.

2. Sey-CL staff provides assistance in finding information on the internet.

3. Sey-CL staff provides information for parents and children on how to safely search the web. 4. The Sey-CL web site provides access to recommended resources for children.

Sey-CL assumes no responsibility for any direct, indirect, or consequential damages arising from the use of its connection to internet services or from the use of the information obtained through this connection, Sey-CL computers or other Sey-CL equipment. Sey-CL cannot guarantee confidentiality or safety on the internet or computers, nor can Sey-CL guarantee that filtering software, engines or services will restrict objectionable sites or permit access to all non-objectionable sites. Notwithstanding the installation of a technology protection measure (i.e. internet filter) or monitoring of internet and computer usage, Sey-CL does not guarantee that minors or others will not access materials on computers, or use computers for activities, that may be considered to be inappropriate or unlawful.