

Display of Flags, Banners, Signs, and Other Objects

The Skaneateles Library (“Library”) has one flagpole bracket on the front porch of its building at 49 East Genesee Street. The porch is also equipped with hooks from which other flags, banners, or signs can be suspended.

The Library may display signs, banners, or other objects on its property to inform the community of its own programs, projects, services, and initiatives. Signs, banners or other objects provided by other organizations and/or to support downtown events may occasionally be displayed per the Library’s Facility Use Policy from the hooks from which other flags, banners, or signs can be suspended. The flagpole bracket on the front porch of the Library building will only display the flag of the United States.

As a community organization and a member of the downtown neighborhood, it is the Library’s intention to display the United States Flag on Flag Bearing Holidays in conjunction with the efforts of the Skaneateles Lions Club’s Village Flag Mounting Program. The United States Flag may also be displayed on additional days, weather permitting. High winds, rain, sleet, or snow may make it inadvisable to display the United States Flag during winter months.

The Library will follow provisions governing the display of flags found in the United States Code, Title 4 (Flag Code) and New York State Executive Law, Article 19.

From time to time, the board may approve displaying other flags. Any flags approved by the Board of Trustees (“Board”) shall represent an expression of the Library’s official sentiments or the Library’s mission, vision and values as was recognized by the United States Supreme Court in its decision in *Shurtleff et al. v. City of Boston*.

The Library does not display flags, banners, signs or other objects at the request of the public, any organization, or any individual. Use of the library’s building or property is not intended to serve as or create a forum for free expression by the public.

When approving flags to be displayed on Library property, the Board will consider the following:

1. Whether the United States or the State of New York has recognized the flag or cause through statute or proclamation or other official communication, e.g., National Heritage Months or National Awareness Months;
2. Whether the flag represents a national, state, or local interest and is consistent with the Library’s mission, vision, values, or official sentiments;
3. Whether the flag represents a positive interest or value worthy of public recognition and is consistent with the Library’s mission, vision, values, or official sentiments.

The Board will express its approval of flags, banners, signs or other objects on Library property by majority vote of the Board, which will be documented in the minutes of a Board meeting.

Approved: 5/14/2024