

# **Ida Grove Public Library**

## **Request for Reconsideration Policy**

### **Policy**

The Ida Grove Public Library strives to provide access to a wide range of materials representing varying points of view, without promoting a single perspective. We uphold the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read, and the Freedom to View statements. However, we recognize that many materials are controversial and any given item may offend some library users. Therefore, the Ida Grove Public Library Board of Trustees has set forth this Request for Reconsideration Policy as groundwork for individuals to request review or reconsideration of items or materials in the library collection.

### **Policy Statements**

- The Ida Grove Public Library believes in the freedom of information and will not restrict a user's right to read, listen to, or view library materials.
- The library belongs to the whole community, the minority as well as the majority, and it has a responsibility to serve the community in all its variety.
- Library materials will not be marked to show the approval or disapproval of the contents.
- No item will be sequestered except for the express purpose of protecting it from injury or theft.
- The responsibility for the reading, listening, and viewing of library materials by children rests with the parent or legal guardian of said children.
- The Ida Grove Public Library, its board of trustees, and staff welcome comments and criticism of its collection, however, no individual or organization has the right to prevent another from reading a specific book by demanding its removal from the public library shelves.
- The Board of Trustees of the Ida Grove Public Library declares as a matter of principle that no challenged library material shall be removed from this library under any supposed pressure, legal or otherwise, without a court order under well-established principles of law.
- Any item presented for review through a "Request for Reconsideration" will remain available to the public; items will not be removed from the shelves or circulation to the general public during the review process.

### **Request for Reconsideration**

Individuals or organizations wishing to file a complaint concerning material held by the Ida Grove Public Library must use the following procedure:

1. The individual or group wishing to protest the presence of an item in the collection will contact the library director.
2. A "Request for Reconsideration" form will be completed in writing and signed by the concerned individual or individuals.
3. The library director will present the "Request for Reconsideration" to the Ida Grove Library Board of Trustees at the next regularly scheduled meeting for review and consideration.
4. The Ida Grove Library Board of Trustees may choose to remove the item or material from the library collection if they feel the item or material contains dated or inaccurate information; which no longer meets the criteria set by the library's Material Selection and Collection Management Policy.
5. The decision of the Ida Grove Public Library Board of Trustees is final and the library director will respond to the individual or organization who initiated the request for reconsideration after the final decision has been made.
6. All requests for reconsideration will be sent to the Iowa Library Association.