

STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY JULY 2009- JUNE 2012 LONG RANGE PLAN

STILLWATER COMMUNITY

Founded after the first land run into Oklahoma Territory on April 22, 1889, Stillwater is a micropolitan of 78,280 people (46,976 city)¹ located halfway between Oklahoma City and Tulsa in north central Oklahoma. The mission of Count Stillwater, a campaign for the 2010 Census, is to have a complete count of all residents, including students from Oklahoma State University, to raise the city population to 50,000.

Demographics Daily Online Magazine ranks Stillwater as “Dream Town, USA - #6 Best Small City in America!”; *Safe Communities in America*, ranks Stillwater as “one of America’s 100 Safest Cities”; and *Oklahoma Living Magazine* named Stillwater “Oklahoma’s Friendliest City”.²

Stillwater is known as “Oklahoma’s Premier Education Community” and is home to Oklahoma State University, Meridian Technology Center, Northern Oklahoma College at Stillwater, and state offices of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education. The Stillwater Public School system with 10 schools has been ranked by *Offspring* magazine as one of the “Top 100” districts in the United States and *Expansion Management Magazine* gives Stillwater High School its highest “Gold Medal” rating for workforce preparation.³ 91.6% of Stillwater residents have a high school diploma and 48% have a college degree, with nearly one in four with post-graduate degrees⁴.

STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Stillwater Public Library was founded in 1922 by the Stillwater Woman’s Club. A year later the club opened Stillwater’s first public library in the former parsonage of the United Brethren Church. Later that same year, the City of Stillwater agreed to assume financial responsibility for the public library by hiring a part-time librarian and establishing a library board and building fund. In 1926, the W. T. Keys home, located at the corner of 6th Avenue and Husband, was purchased for \$10,500 to house the Library. In 1937, Stillwater voters approved the construction of a 12,000 square foot library at the same location. The Library at 206 West 6th Avenue was formally opened on October 16, 1938 and featured an auditorium, shelving for 22,000 books, and seating for 100 people in the reading room. During the 1960s and 1970s, the Library underwent a number of renovations including conversion of the basement auditorium into a children’s department, addition of a mezzanine, and expansion of parking facilities.

¹ Payne County Quick Facts website: quickfacts.census.gov

² Stillwater Chamber of Commerce website: www.stillwaterchamber.org

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

On November 20, 1990 Stillwater voters passed a \$4.98 million bond issue for the construction of a new public library at 1107 S. Duck. The new facility included the renovation of the existing Stillwater South High School and construction of a new 27,500 square foot building giving the Library a grand total of 50,400 square feet. The Library opened its new doors to the public on April 8, 1994.

Today, the Stillwater Public Library provides the latest technological services while maintaining its traditional, core collections. The library provides free wireless service and twenty three internet accessible computers equipped with the Microsoft Office Suite. Extensive online services and resources are available including full text journals, e-books, account management, and reference services. The library's core collection numbers over 90,000 volumes and includes books, audio books, music CDs, DVDs, videos magazines and newspapers. Special collections include Multi-Language, Graphic Novels, Genealogy, and Local government and historical documents. An Outreach Program delivers library materials to homebound patrons, assisted living facilities and daycares. Programs for children, teens and adults are available throughout the year, including an extensive summer reading program. Unique to the Stillwater Public Library is an exceptional meeting room facility designed to meet a variety of meeting and events needs.

LONG RANGE PLANNING PROCESS

The 2009-2012 Stillwater Public Library Long Range planning committee included Lynda Reynolds, Library Director, Jay Criswell, Technical Services Librarian, Sue Busch, Children's Services Librarian, Carla Hickey, Circulation Services Librarian, Stacy DeLano, Reference Librarian, Andrea Kane, Reference Librarian, Carline Talent, Circulation Clerk and Dotty Brawley, Circulation Clerk.

The committee agreed to keep the current Stillwater Public Library Vision and Mission statements and to concentrate its efforts on developing goals and objectives that would best address anticipated needs of the community for the next three years. Goals selected focus on economic conditions, community and city partnerships, and reaching out beyond the physical walls of the library. Objectives outline how these goals will be met and provide a timeline for meeting each objective.

STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY VISION STATEMENT

The Stillwater Public Library will serve our community's needs by providing:

- ◆ a strong relationship between the community and the public library for opportunities that benefit Stillwater's citizens,
- ◆ diverse social and recreational opportunities which will enhance the quality of life for the community, and
- ◆ support for a life-long pursuit of knowledge.

STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

Uniting our community to create a world of imagination and wisdom

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1. To help improve the economic conditions of Stillwater, the Stillwater Public Library will provide services to the community that advance job searches, careers, financial conditions, and business opportunities.**

Objective 1:

By June 30, 2010, the Stillwater Public Library will survey at least 50% of businesses located in the Stillwater Business Improvement District Area #1 to determine their needs. (See Appendix A for BID map)

Objective 2:

By June 30, 2011, the Stillwater Public Library will have implemented, at minimum, monthly programs on career and personal finance topics that will meet the needs of 85% of library customers surveyed.

Objective 3:

By June 30, 2012, the Stillwater Public Library will have developed and implemented at least 5 appropriate library services for the businesses in the Stillwater Business Improvement District Area #1.

- 2. To help foster city-wide cooperation that maximizes the use and distribution of community resources, the Stillwater Public Library will provide information, opportunities, and services to local organizations and City of Stillwater Departments that promote partnerships with the public library.**

Objective 1:

On a monthly basis beginning October 2009, the Stillwater Public Library will feature at least one local organization or City of Stillwater Department and provide information to that organization to promote the Stillwater Public Library.

Objective 2:

By June 30, 2010, the Stillwater Public Library and its Boards will create a Speaker's Bureau and promote it to at least 50 organizations and City of Stillwater Departments.

Objective 3:

By June 30, 2011, the Stillwater Public Library will have met with 3 local educational institutions to promote opportunities for cooperation and partnerships.

Objective 4:

By June 30, 2012, the Speaker's Bureau will have given 10 presentations to organizations and City of Stillwater Departments.

- 3. To ensure community access to library resources, the Stillwater Public Library will provide information and services to citizens outside of the library with an emphasis on those who are underserved.**

Objective 1:

By June 30, 2010, the Stillwater Public Library will have identified at least 5 underserved community groups, and at least 5 appropriate existing library services to reach a wide range of groups.

Objective 2:

By June 30, 2011, the Stillwater Public Library will have implemented and evaluated at least 5 appropriate services for the identified underserved community groups.

OBJECTIVES BY FISCAL YEAR

July 1, 2009- June 30, 2010

On a monthly basis beginning October 2009, the Stillwater Public Library will feature at least one local organization or City of Stillwater Department and provide information to that organization to promote the Stillwater Public Library.

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Appendix A

