

Newtown Public Library

Gifts to Library Policy

Adopted 06/21/2022 by the Newtown Public Library Board of Trustees

Under the Pennsylvania Library Code, Article IV, Section 416, the Library Board of Trustees may accept donations of “books, money, personal property or real estate” for the benefit of the library. “[I]n the absence of restrictions by the terms of such donation, deed, gift, devise or bequest, the said property shall be controlled and administered by the [Library Board].”

Director’s Authority

The Director shall be the agent and administrator for all donations, deeds, gifts, devices, or bequests accepted by the Newtown Public Library.

Donations, deeds, gifts, devices, or bequests will be accepted providing conditions of such donations, etc., are acceptable to the Library Board.

Gifts of Books and Other Materials

Gifts of books, software, periodicals, or audio-visual materials are sometimes added to the library’s collection. Most such gifts are sold by the Friends of Newtown Public Library to generate funds to aid the library. Disposal of the remaining materials is at the discretion of the Director or Director’s designee. At the time of donation, donors may request a Friends of the Newtown Public Library Donation Receipt for their records.

Special gifts of books or other library materials in memory or honor of individuals or groups may be accepted, and appropriate notation placed on them, at the discretion of the Director.

Limitations of Gifts

The library will not accept donations that are not outright gifts.

The library will not accept special collections of books or other library materials if a condition of the gift is that the materials be kept together as an identifiable physical entity. Gift collections of books and other library materials will be accepted with the understanding that they may or may not be integrated into the general collection.

The Library Board and Director are under no obligation to accept donations, deeds, gifts, etc. if they feel acceptance of such donations, deeds, gifts, etc. will not be of benefit to the library.

Appraisals

The appraising of a gift to the library for tax purposes is the responsibility of the donor.

The acceptance of a gift which has been appraised by a third – and disinterested – party does not in any way imply an endorsement of the appraisal by the library.

Expenditures

Unrestricted gifts to the library may be spent for any expenses designed to enhance its operations.