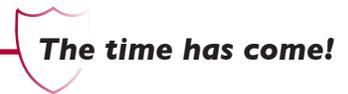




New Glarus Public Library



Frequently Asked Questions

What is our vision for the new library?

To be successful, a library should provide equal, effective and easy access to information and resources for community members of all ages. This includes a collection that is accessible and readily available to all users, an environment in which patrons can work alone or with colleagues, and separate, uniquely designed spaces for children, teens and adults in which they can learn, explore and thrive. The library will be an organization that works collaboratively with the Village, Town and local cultural and community partners. Ultimately, vision for the new library is a building with adequate space and resources to meet all of these goals.

In this age of technology are libraries really needed?

Many people have the impression that the internet has replaced the need for public libraries. The American Library Association has done research that does not support that claim. The most recent survey results from South Central Library System, the State of Wisconsin and national sources show that public libraries are experiencing a dramatic increase in library use, including the amount of materials checked out, library visits, program attendance, and computer use. And with the difficult economic times, local libraries are reporting higher use as people economize on purchases and participate in free local programs for job searches, entertainment and education. User statistics from the New Glarus Library confirm these trends.

How will the library use technology?

The new library will utilize a wide range of technology resources and provide training to help patrons learn how to use the technology. The resources will include computer stations, laptops, readers for E-books, free Wi-Fi, online databases, and collections. It will be designed to be flexible to accommodate the constant changes in technology.

How much will the library cost?

The total cost of the new library is expected to be between \$2,000,000 and \$2,400,000. This is similar to costs in many neighboring communities that are approximately the size of New Glarus. Final costs will be determined after the building is designed and we know the amount raised by the fund raising campaign.

Has the Village committed to the building project and operating costs once the library is open?

The maximum amount of support offered by the Village is \$1,000,000 in borrowing and \$50,000 in existing funds. All additional funds will be raised through private donations. If a suitable facility cannot be constructed for the total of village support, \$1,050,000, plus the amount raised by the fundraising campaign, building will not proceed. Also, the Town and Village are engaged in a joint negotiation process to create an agreement that in part mandates consistent funding of library operations by the Village and a commitment by the Town to operationally support the library through a usage-based revenue sharing formula for the period of the agreement.

Why is a campaign necessary?

A strong library is vital to the overall quality of life in the New Glarus community. However, the Village and Town are unable to fully fund a library that meets the needs of its patrons. The funds raised in the capital campaign are expected

to raise approximately half of the funds needed for the library – \$1,250,000. We will seek gifts at all levels and hope that every resident of New Glarus will want to help make the library a reality. By the end of August 2012, gifts and pledges in excess of \$530,000 had been raised, demonstrating the strong support for the new library by the people of New Glarus.

Are donations to the capital campaign tax deductible?

Yes, all donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Donations are deposited in a pass-through fund specifically designated for the new building at the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, which is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, as designated by the IRS.

How will donors be recognized?

Every gift to the library is important in making this vision for a new library into a reality. We will have a small number of selected naming opportunities for those who can give at a higher level; these gifts can be pledged over five years. We will have many ways to recognize gifts, including bricks, tiles, rooms, paths, etc.... All gifts will be recognized in a prominent place in the library unless requested otherwise.

What will it cost to operate the larger library and how will that be funded?

Because the current library is physically located inside the Village Hall, the only utilities paid are phone and internet. Additionally, due to the compactness of the current space, staffing must be kept to a minimum. Consequently, with the new library, there is an assumption that operating costs will increase. Important factors that will affect the operating costs of a new building include the number of hours the library is open per week, staffing during open hours, size and layout of interior, the number of levels in the building, and building features that promote energy efficiency. Many of these variables are impossible to estimate at this time, as the building design has not been finalized. When it is, it will be made available to the public.

Will the library have public meeting space?

There is a considerable need for public meeting space throughout the New Glarus community. The new library will provide sizeable public meeting space, perhaps with a separate outside entrance, which will allow the space to be used before and after library hours. The space will be designed to accommodate groups of different sizes and ages.

How will the library partner with the Swiss Center of North America and other New Glarus organizations?

With its proximity to the Swiss Center of North America, there's the possibility for planning joint programs and collection sharing opportunities. The Boards of the Swiss Center of North America and the New Glarus Library are discussing potential ways to partner. The Library Board has also reached out to the Swiss Historical Village, New Glarus Home, and the Chalet of the Golden Fleece to discuss ways to partner.

When will the new library be open to the public?

The new library is targeted to be open to the public by 2014. The opening depends on funding, building design, and construction schedule. As soon as there is a projected opening date, it will be made public.