

**Citizens for a Fair Ferndale  
Library Board Candidates Forum  
Sunday, October 23, 2011  
3:00 p.m. (arrive by 2:30)  
Ferndale Public Library**

**Library Board Candidates Questionnaire**

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1. Why of all Boards and Commissions, are you so committed to the Library Board?

*Part of the answer is because a friend was leaving the board and suggested that I'd be a good candidate. This gave me the courage to apply. Plus, our library is really dynamic and changing right now and I want to be a part of the process!*

*I think that I'm like a lot of users who only see the stacks of books, or maybe recognize quality of our music collection. But the more I learn about the resources our library has, I want to help to communicate the treasure we really have.*

2. What, in your opinion, have been the 3 most exciting new options for library patrons since the opening of our new facility?

- *The biggest change I noticed right away was the change in attitude – Much friendlier service!*
- *Second most noticeable change is the access the library can now provide via computers & internet.*
- *Also, I think the creative events and programming that the staff are hosting are super exciting!*

3. What are the next 2 pressing issues for the library?

*Having successfully achieved the goal of partial separation from the City, and the renovation, I see Strategic Planning & Development as the Next Big Thing.*

4. Tax revenues are down, and money from all sources is tighter than ever. Are there any services now given or any new services that should be “re-visited” due to needed belt-tightening?

*To me it seems the library provides an excellent model for not duplicating services. For example, Michigan Libraries pool resources to provide access throughout the area. Plus, I think we actually provide certain services that other state/local agencies are closing down.*

5. How can we get more people to use our library?

*Communication: I think we need a strategy to communicate the resources that potential 'customers' aren't using. We all know that the library has books, computers, and music/video – but there are other resources that our potential clients don't know they can access.*

6. Information retrieval, literacy, reading for pleasure are all important and growing more important daily, no matter if you use traditional books, or new technologies such as iPhones/ iPods/ Kindles. What implications does this have for the future of Ferndale Library?

*My first thought in reading the question is that our Library has EVERYTHING to do with the electronic media listed in the question: all of those require cash to access them. These media are another way that information is controlled and used by only the people who can afford to 'connect'. The library provides resources necessary for ALL in a Free Society.*

7. With whom do you envision the Library collaborating closer? Where do you see the need for more communication between the Library and other groups in our community?

*I'm excited to think about partnerships with local business and the schools!*

8. What makes you the best candidate for the Library Board?

I think I'm a great candidate because I'm coming to the table ready to learn and support our library, to enhance what is already wonderful, not with a particular agenda of my own to change something.